STEM EDUCATION ACT OF 2015

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1020) to define STEM education to include computer science, and to support existing STEM education programs at the National Science Foundation, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

Abraham

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 412, nays 8, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 88] YEAS-412

Graham

Connolly

Adams Convers Granger Aderholt Cook Graves (GA) Cooper Graves (LA) Aguilar Allen Costa Graves (MO) Amodei Costello (PA) Gravson Green, Al Ashford Courtney Babin Green, Gene Cramer Barletta Crawford Griffith Crenshaw Grijalva Barr Grothman Barton Crowley Bass Cuellar Guinta Beatty Culberson Guthrie Becerra Cummings Gutiérrez Benishek Curbelo (FL) Hahn Bera Davis (CA) Hanna Beyer Davis, Danny Hardy Bilirakis Davis, Rodney Harper Bishop (GA) DeFazio Harris Bishop (MI) DeGette Hartzler Delanev Hastings Bishop (UT) DeLauro Heck (NV) Black Blackburn Del Bene Heck (WA) Blum Denham Hensarling Blumenauer Herrera Beutler DeSantis Bonamici Hice, Jody B. DeSaulnier Higgins Bost Boustany DesJarlais Bovle, Brendan Deutch Himes Diaz-Balart Holding Brady (PA) Honda Dingell Brady (TX) Doggett Hover Hudson Bridenstine Dold Brooks (AL) Doyle, Michael Huelskamp Brooks (IN) F. Huffman Huizenga (MI) Duckworth Brown (FL) Brownley (CA) Duffy Hultgren Duncan (TN) Buchanan Hunter Hurd (TX) Bucshon Edwards Burgess Ellison Hurt (VA) Ellmers (NC) Israel Bustos Issa Butterfield Emmer (MN) Calvert Engel Jackson Lee Jeffries Capps Eshoo Jenkins (KS) Capuano Esty Farenthold Cárdenas Jenkins (WV) Johnson (GA) Carnev Farr Carson (IN) Fattah Johnson (OH) Carter (GA) Fincher Johnson, E. B. Carter (TX) Fitzpatrick Johnson, Sam Cartwright Fleischmann Jolly Castor (FL) Fleming Jones Castro (TX) Jordan Flores Forbes Chabot Joyce Chaffetz Fortenberry Kaptur Chu, Judy Foster Katko Cicilline Clark (MA) Foxx Keating Frankel (FL) Kelly (IL) Clarke (NY) Franks (AZ) Kelly (PA) Clawson (FL) Frelinghuysen Kennedy Clay Fudge Kildee Gabbard Cleaver Kilmer Clyburn Gallego Kind King (NY) Garamendi Coffman Cohen Gibbs Kinzinger (IL) Cole Gibson Kirkpatrick Collins (GA) Gohmert Kline Collins (NY) Goodlatte Knight Comstock Gosar Kuster Gowdy Labrador Conaway

LaMalfa Nunes Sherman Lamborn O'Rourke Shimkus Olson Shuster Lance Langevin Palazzo Simpson Larsen (WA) Pallone Sinema Larson (CT) Palmer Sires Latta Pascrell Slaughter Lawrence Paulsen Smith (MO) Levin Payne Smith (NE) Lewis Pearce Smith (NJ) Lieu, Ted Pelosi Smith (TX) Perlmutter Lipinski Smith (WA) Perry LoBiondo Stefanik Loebsack Peters Stewart Lofgren Peterson Stivers Loudermilk Pingree Stutzman Love Pittenger Swalwell (CA) Lowenthal Pitts Takai Lowey Pocan Takano Lucas Poe (TX) Thompson (CA) Luetkemeyer Poliquin Thompson (MS) Luian Grisham Polis Thompson (PA) (NM) Pompeo Thornberry Luján, Ben Ray Posey Tiberi Price (NC) (NM) Tipton Lummis Price, Tom Titus Quigley Lynch Tonko MacArthur Ratcliffe Torres Maloney, Reed Trott Reichert Carolyn Tsongas Maloney, Sean Renacci Turner Marchant Ribble Upton Rice (SC) Marino Valadao Richmond Massie Van Hollen Matsui Rigell Vargas McCarthy Roby Veasey Rogers (AL) McCaul Vela McCollum Rogers (KY) Velázquez McDermott Rohrabacher Visclosky McGovern Rokita. Rooney (FL) Wagner McHenry Walberg McKinley Ros-Lehtinen Walden McMorris Roskam Walker Rodgers Ross Walorski McSally Rothfus Walters, Mimi Meadows Rouzer Walz Meehan Roybal-Allard Wasserman Meeks Rovce Schultz Meng Ruiz Waters, Maxine Messer Ruppersberger Watson Coleman Mica Rush Weber (TX) Miller (FL) Russell Webster (FL) Ryan (OH) Miller (MI) Welch Ryan (WI) Moolenaar Mooney (WV) Wenstrup Salmon Sanchez, Loretta Westerman Moore Whitfield Moulton Sarbanes Williams Mullin Scalise Wilson (SC) Mulvanev Schakowsky Murphy (FL) Wittman Schiff Murphy (PA) Schock Womack Nadler Schrader Woodall Napolitano Yarmuth Schweikert Yoder Neal Scott (VA) Neugebauer Scott, Austin Yoho Young (AK) Newhouse Scott David Young (IA) Sensenbrenner Noem Young (IN) Nolan Serrano Norcross Sessions Zeldin

NAYS-8

Zinke

Sewell (AL)

Nugent

Amash Duncan (SC) Sanford Brat Garrett Westmoreland Buck McClintock

NOT VOTING-12

Byrne McNerney Sánchez, Linda Hinojosa Rangel T. King (IA) Rice (NY) Speier Lee Roe (TN) Wilson (FL) Long

□ 1429

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REQUESTING UNANIMOUS CON-SENT TO CALL UP H.R. 861, DE-PARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECU-RITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the House now bring up H.R. 861, the clean Department of Homeland Security funding bill to protect America that would keep the Department open so that we can carry out its mission of keeping the American people safe and, as well, protecting our national security over political security.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under guidelines consistently issued by successive Speakers, as recorded in section 956 of the House Rules and Manual, the Chair is constrained not to entertain the request unless it has been cleared by the bipartisan floor and committee leaderships.

SECTION 529 COLLEGE SAVINGS PLANS AMENDMENTS

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 121, I call up the bill (H.R. 529) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve 529 plans, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 121, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means, printed in the bill, shall be considered as adopted, and the bill, as amended, shall be considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 529

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

- (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:
- (1) When the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 became law, the tax treatment of section 529 college savings plans was changed so that qualified distributions were no longer taxed as income. The favorable tax treatment of college savings plans was made permanent with the passage of the Pension Protection Act of 2006.
- (2) Section 529 college savings plans empower middle-class families to accumulate savings to offset the rising costs of attending college.
- (3) The latest data from the College Savings Plan Network shows that there are 11.83 million 529 accounts open throughout all 50 states, which represent \$244.5 billion in total assets. The average 529 account size is \$20,671.
- (4) States that sponsor 529 college savings plans have taken steps to ensure these plans are a tool that all families can use to save for college, including setting minimum contributions as low as \$25 per month to encourage participation by families of all income levels.
- (5) The President's fiscal year 2016 Budget proposes raising taxes by taxing certain future distributions made from 529 college savings plans.
- (6) The tax proposed by the President would discourage the use of 529 college savings plans, requiring families and students to take on more debt.
- (7) Purchase of a computer represents a significant higher education expense and therefore

should be eligible for qualified distributions under 529 college savings plans.

(b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act

(1) enact policies that strengthen 529 college savings plans, and

(2) make 529 plans more modern, consumerfriendly, and responsive to the realities faced by students today.

SEC. 2. COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIP-MENT PERMANENTLY ALLOWED AS A QUALIFIED HIGHER EDUCATION EX-PENSE FOR SECTION 529 ACCOUNTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 529(e)(3)(A)(iii) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

"(iii) expenses for the purchase of computer or peripheral equipment (as defined in section 168(i)(2)(B)), computer software (as defined in section 197(e)(3)(B)), or Internet access and related services, if such equipment, software, or services are to be used primarily by the beneficiary during any of the years the beneficiary is enrolled at an eligible educational institution."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2014.

SEC. 3. ELIMINATION OF DISTRIBUTION AGGRE-GATION REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 529(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking subparagraph (D).
(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to distributions after December 31, 2014.

SEC. 4. RECONTRIBUTION OF REFUNDED AMOUNTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 529(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by section 3, is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(D) SPECIAL RULE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS OF RE-FUNDED AMOUNTS.—In the case of a beneficiary who receives a refund of any qualified higher education expenses from an eligible educational institution, subparagraph (A) shall not apply to that portion of any distribution for the taxable year which is recontributed to a qualified tuition program of which such individual is a beneficiary, but only to the extent such recontribution is made not later than 60 days after the date of such refund and does not exceed the refunded amount."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) In GENERAL.—The amendment made by this section shall apply with respect to refunds of qualified higher education expenses after December 31, 2014.

(2) TRANSITION RULE.—In the case of a refund of qualified higher education expenses received after December 31, 2014, and before the date of the enactment of this Act, section 529(c)(3)(D) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by this section) shall be applied by substituting "not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this subparagraph" for "not later than 60 days after the date of such refund".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. Jenkins) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Danny K. Davis) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Kansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 529, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve 529 plans.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Kansas?

There was no objection.

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman RYAN for his leadership on this critical and timely issue and my colleague Congressman KIND of Wisconsin for 4 years of bipartisan efforts to encourage families to invest for their children's future.

I rise today in support of H.R. 529, my legislation that reaffirms Congress' commitment to not only preserving, but strengthening, expanding, and modernizing 529 college savings plans.

Currently, there are nearly 12 million 529 accounts open in all 50 States. Considering there were only 1 million accounts open in 2001, the growth in popularity of these accounts is truly remarkable and is still on an upward trajectory.

The popularity of 529 accounts among American families is no mystery. Higher education costs across the country are rising at a pace that exceeds the rate of inflation, and folks are looking for ways to plan responsibly for the future.

A 2014 Gallup Poll of America's top financial concerns showed that among adults between the ages of 30 and 49, "not having enough money to pay for your children's college" is a top concern for families, trailing only retirement concerns.

It is natural that folks would turn toward 529 savings accounts. These accounts are easy to set up and use and accountholders can make a monthly contribution as small as \$10 to invest to their children's future on a tax-deferred basis.

The 12 million 529 accounts today have an average balance of around \$20,000, which will go a long way toward helping families offset college costs and helping students to begin their careers with a lighter debt burden

When the President proposed a plan in his 2016 budget to tax future distributions from 529 savings accounts, Members on both sides of the aisle were appalled.

His billion-dollar tax proposal on families saving for college would have completely eliminated the purpose of saving responsibly for higher education in the first place and would have inevitably moved more students toward student loans and other sources of financial aid.

We fundamentally disagree with the direction of the President's policy proposal, and instead, we want to make 529 college savings plans more consumer friendly and reflective of the realities faced by students today.

This legislation will make computer purchases with 529 plans a qualified expense. Computers are an essential part of higher education, and the law should be updated to reflect that.

A Pew Research Center report in 2011 found that a vast majority of undergraduate, graduate, and community

college students use some sort of computer to participate in a college experience that now features online courses, class work, and e-textbooks. I believe this is a commonsense modernization measure.

The bill will also remove distribution aggregation requirements, which are an outdated burden on 529 plan administrators and States. When 529 college savings plans were originated back in 1996, the funds were taxed before they were deposited into the account and then taxed a second time when they were used to pay for higher education expenses.

At that time, it made sense for plan administrators to aggregate accounts for beneficiaries with multiple 529 accounts in order to determine the taxable dollars dispersed among the accounts.

However, the law was changed back in 2001 so that 529 savings are only taxed once now, before they are put into the 529 account. The only taxable funds at disbursement are for non-qualified expenses. According to a GAO report from 2012 that has the most recent data on the topic, nonqualified distributions from 529 plans only made up 5.3 percent of total distributions in 2010.

Because of the past changes to tax treatment of 529s, it no longer makes sense for plan administrators to aggregate these accounts for tax purposes. It represents an undue burden, which could potentially raise the administrative cost for operating these plans. This is why this legislation will remove these requirements.

Finally, the bill will allow a student who receives a refund on any 529 qualified expenses to redeposit those funds into their 529 without penalty.

Refunds of 529 dollars could happen for any number of reasons: a student may withdraw from a certain course, may receive a scholarship offer or other financial aid after their 529 plans have already been used, or may have to withdraw from school because of an illness.

Whatever the reasons, subjecting these funds to a penalty works against the spirit of 529 college savings plans, and this bill will correct that.

These are sensible yet important improvements to 529 college savings plans that should receive resounding support from both sides of the aisle. As we continue our work in the House to empower hardworking families with bottoms-up solutions, I urge my colleagues to support the passage of this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time. Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am a strong supporter of 529 college savings plans. When I cochaired the Education and Family Tax Working Group with Representative DIANE BLACK from Tennessee during the 113th Congress, we heard from education stakeholders that education tax benefits should reflect a three-legged stool

with one leg helping families save for college, one leg helping families pay for college, and one leg helping families repay college.

College is, indeed, expensive, and it is a wise public investment to use Federal incentives to encourage families to save for college.

H.R. 529 makes three important improvements to 529 accounts: one, it makes computer technology an allowable expense; two, it improves the calculation for taxing distributions to better reflect one's earnings; and, three, it allows distributions that are refunded by a college upon a student's withdrawal to be reinvested in 529 accounts within 60 days without being subject to a tax.

I support these important improvements to 529 education plans. In addition, I hope that the Republican leadership will advance the bill's sister bill, the Savings Enhancement for Education in College Act, which was H.R. 529 in the last Congress and also championed by Representatives JENKINS and KIND.

This former H.R. 529 bill includes the two substantive improvements to 529s that advocates explain would best help middle-income families save more for college.

We know that low- and moderate-income families have a harder time saving for college because they have less extra cash available to put away in a savings account.

The Savings Enhancement for Education in College Act would substantially help low- and middle-income families save by allowing low-income taxpayers to take advantage of the saver's credit and allowing employers to match up to \$600 a year in 529 contributions

I think that these provisions are excellent. The saver's credit currently helps offset part of the first \$2,000 that low-income workers voluntarily contribute to IRA and 401(k) plans. Extending this tax benefit for 529 plans is a commonsense way to help increase college savings by low- and moderate-income families.

Further, I think that the employer match is an especially promising tool to improve college savings by lower-income Americans because it adds \$600 a family didn't have for college before that can grow and support education over time.

These two improvements are needed because the savings data show that 529 savings have dropped tremendously since 2009. From 2005 to 2009, around 60 percent of the accounts saw contributions; however, in the last few years, the account contributions have been closer to 45 percent.

I am a bit surprised that these substantive improvements are not included in the bill before us today, and I truly hope that Republican leadership will advance these 529 provisions that would tremendously improve savings for lower- and middle-income Americans.

In the interest of fairness, I also hope that we make computer technology an allowable expense for the American opportunity tax credit.

Currently, computers and software are not qualified expenses for the AOTC, and I think that the definition of qualified expenses should be uniform across 529s and AOTC benefits. These are all great improvements that have, in fact, been made.

I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1445

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN), the chair of the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it won't be all that much time. I just simply want to congratulate the gentlelady from Kansas on bringing this legislation forward. We brought this out of committee. We had no resistance because this is just a commonsense bill.

This upgrades the law to reflect the realities of a college education. You ought to be able to buy a computer. You ought to be able to buy software with your college savings dollars because it is an essential ingredient to your education.

More importantly, if a person gets a refund if they cancel a class, if for some reason the college rebates money to you, you ought to be able to put it back into your savings plan. These are commonsense ideas that make this important vehicle for savings more workable and reflects the common problems that people have in this 21st century.

It is essential that we give people and families the ability to save for education. This bill also sends a signal: we believe in the 529 plans; 529 plans are going to stay; they are a good thing; we are not going to attack them; we are going to develop and grow them.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND), who is a cosponsor of this legislation and a tireless advocate for education.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Illinois for yielding me this time.

I want to thank my partner in crafting this legislation, Representative Jenkins. This has been the product of a few years of hard work, of listening to various outside groups and trying to understand the difficulty of saving for higher education that many working families are experiencing today.

The legislation before us, H.R. 529, as the chairman of the committee just pointed out, is a commonsense proposal with some reasonable technical corrections to the 529 savings plans that already exist in all 50 States, allowing for the qualification expense for computers and software, which is a new learning tool that sometimes is required in the classroom for higher edu-

cation. It allows for the refund of tuition and expenses if you had to withdraw from college for some reason, and it also reduces and minimizes the unnecessary bureaucratic and administrative paperwork. In that respect, there are some commonsense steps that we can do to modernize the 529 program and make sure that it is working for more families.

I do agree with my colleague from Illinois that we have a challenge of trying to democratize these programs a lot more. We have roughly 3 percent participation rate in 529s throughout the entire Nation. We have got to figure out a way to do a better job of increasing those savings opportunities for more families, but especially lower income families that don't have the disposable income right now in order to participate in these programs, whether it is the tax credit that Representative DAVIS was talking about, employer matches, by thinking creatively of how we can democratize these so more families can take advantage of them. That is going to be crucial.

In Wisconsin alone, we have got roughly 257,000 accounts in the State Edvest program and Tomorrow's Scholar 529 plans. The families have saved about \$3.7 billion for college or their technical schools, reducing the need for greater student loans, helping them access college. These programs not only encourage savings for college but help middle class families get in the habit of saving for other important life events, such as retirement, that we have to do a better job at.

I also think, given that the Congressional Budget Office has a cost associated with it, which is roughly \$5 million a year—not a lot in Federal budget terms—that there is no reason at all why we couldn't have brought this legislation to the floor today with an acceptable pay-for so we are not adding any deficit to future generations.

In fact, again, Representative DAVIS offered, during the committee markup. a responsible amendment that would have done a better job of means testing the 529 contributions and cutting it off to families that earn up to \$3 million. Now, to put this in perspective, the top 1 percent of income earners in Wisconsin earn less than \$1 million. So it was still a very generous, high threshold, but it was enough money to pay for the \$51 million expense over the next 10 years that the Congressional Budget Office scored this at. There is no reason why we can't be making these type of tough decisions as well when it comes to policy changes that make sense for working families and act in a more fiscally responsible man-

I think these 529 accounts have been established. They do work well for those who can participate. And this is especially important for a State like Wisconsin today, whose Governor just submitted a budget proposal calling for a cut of over \$300 million out of our university system, a university system

that is really the pride and joy of the State of Wisconsin, has given us a competitive advantage, not only in the upper Midwest, but throughout the Nation and the world, where we had some of the top scholars and researchers wanting to come there to do their work, students wanting to stay in the State so they can participate in these UW system colleges and universities that we have.

Obviously, the Governor wants to take it in a different direction; \$300 million worth of cuts gets into the bone. So, again, we have got to think creatively of how we can make it affordable for families to be able to send their kids on to school. This is one way to do it: savings in 529s.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

We ought not also ignore other important financial aid programs that especially speak to the needs of low-income children: the Pell grant program, work-study opportunities on and off campus, the GEAR UP and TRIO programs. This, too, helps many students-including myself, who is the first generation that went on to school-to be able to afford higher education so we are not driving these kids deeper and deeper into debt. The average undergrad in Wisconsin, by the time they graduate, has \$28,000 worth of debt. It is the second largest debt in the Nation behind mortgages. At \$1.2 trillion, it exceeds all credit card debt.

So the 529 is another vehicle to try to alleviate that student indebtedness issue that is affecting more and more kids and families throughout the Nation. We ought to fix it by making a pay-for. This is a good first step, necessary policy changes. I encourage my colleagues to support the legislation.

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Roskam), an esteemed member of the House Committee on Ways and Means and subcommittee chair of the Subcommittee on Oversight.

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlelady for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, do you notice something? Did you notice that, as Speaker and the person who is presiding over this Chamber today, oftentimes you hear a great deal of difficulty between the two parties and a lot of wrangling and a lot of different positions and so forth that manifests itself in arguing and so forth, but did you notice something? You are hearing both sides of the aisle coming before you and coming before this House and saying the same thing, and that is we ought to move H.R. 529.

There is a recognition, and I think my constituency in suburban Chicago is breathing a collective sigh of relief

right now because they are saying: Hey, people are paying attention to things that matter to me and matter to my future and matter to my children, that is, they are taking a bill or a provision in the law that has been successful and they are improving it. They are bringing it up to date under the leadership of the gentlelady from Kansas (Ms. Jenkins), and she is joined by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS), and everybody is coming together around that idea that says 529s need to be protected and defended. And we need to make sure that they are kept up to date, because back home this makes all the difference in the world. I think this is one of these types of moments that is very significant and that we can build on.

I thank the gentlelady for her leadership. I thank Mr. DAVIS for his, and I rise in strong support of this measure.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. Jackson Lee).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois, I thank the gentlelady, and I thank the Speaker.

It is good news to be able to come on the floor of the House and be able to speak to hardworking parents and the basis of all of our joy when we are giving an opportunity for our young people to be able to participate in higher learning, in this instance, college education. The 529 fix, if you will, deals with the savings accounts and tax-free disbursements for the purpose of paying for college tuition, purchasing college credits, and other qualified educational expenses.

I do want to join my colleague from Wisconsin and add that the idea of other equipment dealing with the new technology special needs services is crucial.

I want to thank Mr. DAVIS for his astute work in the committee, looking to make this a little bit more balanced. Certainly we are appreciative of those who have been successful and have achieved financial success. I enjoy that. But I do think with our concern about a deficit—which, by the way, has been reduced substantially under President Barack Obama—that this idea that Mr. DAVIS had would have been a worthy inclusion into this legislation.

However, I am grateful, again, that we are now high tech and the 529 accounts include computers and software as qualified educational expenses. It would also allow for refunded tuition, educational expenses, particularly if a student withdraws due to illness.

I was talking to one of my young people, college students, and also my husband is a part of the team of higher education and sees it all the time where youngsters leave because they are ill and fail to let the professor know, and all of a sudden they are running up a bill.

I do want to say that this fix is urgent because we need to help people

save, but it is also urgent, Mr. Speaker, that we immediately move to put the Homeland Security funding on the floor of the House. I had asked yesterday for it to be immediately put on the floor of the House last night or today in order to do our duty, and our duty is to ensure the safety and security of this Nation.

It is sad for me to note that those like Border Patrol agents and ICE agents and TSOs whom we pass by every day will be some of those who will be unpaid. They are essential, and we will go past them and thank them for their services—I often do in airports across America—but yet we will stand here and not have a resolution and a solution to pay them their salary.

We had a hearing today in Judiciary. I was very glad to note that I think the weight was on the side of the President that he had constitutional authority, that he is not rendering any immigration status, that he is doing what he is allowed under the law; the Attorney General is allowed to have discretion as to employment status; no benefits will be conveyed on these individuals; and, frankly, we have an emergency and we need to pass that bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. I yield an additional 2 minutes to the gentlelady from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. I won't take that. I thank the gentleman for his kindness.

Let me just say that I think we appropriately are on the floor dealing with H.R. 529. I again thank the work of the Committee on Ways and Means ranking members and, as well, the ranking member and chairman of the full committee.

But as we frame the work that this Congress must do, I don't know how we stand here on Wednesday, 24 to 48 hours out from a collapse of the Department of Homeland Security, no funding, and actually are here and looking out at the face of first responders and those who are on the front lines of borders, airports, FAA, ICE officers, and we would stand and hold hostage these hardworking Americans who, in this climate when we are looking to malls or we are hearing, seeing videos and various charges of those who want to do harm, that we would not want an orderly process for 5 million people who have about 14 items-14 items-that they must comply with to even be eligible, but 5 million people who simply want us to know that they are here and they are here to do good and not to do harm. That is an orderly process for knowing how to secure this Nation.

Again, I thank the gentleman from Illinois.

With that, I ask for a vote for H.R. 529 and H.R. 5 and the funding of Homeland Security.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded not to traffic the

well while another Member is under recognition.

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. McCarthy), our majority leader.

□ 1500

Mr. McCARTHY. I want to thank the gentlewoman for yielding and for her work on 529 and bringing this bill to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, during the President's speech on the State of the Union, he presented what he called "middle class economics." It didn't take long for people to realize that the President's plan meant taxing the middle class to pay for bigger government and pipe dream projects. Nothing demonstrated this anti-middle class agenda more than the President's plan to attack education opportunity for middle class families by taxing 529 saving accounts. Now, after families cried out against the President's plan, he dropped it, and I am happy about that. The President has rightly chosen to not do harm, but now he should work with the House to do some positive good.

My wife and I have two children-Connor and Meghan. Connor is in college today, and Meghan is a senior about to enter college. When we found out, with joy, that we were to have children, we didn't have much great wealth, but we started putting away \$50 a month. Why? Because we dreamt like every other American. It was no longer what you could become but what opportunities your children will have.

Education has been the great equalizer in this country, and there is no greater way to do that than by allowing those who may not have great wealth but who have a great opportunity with their children to have a 529 account. But, like anything, we should modernize it because education as technology has changes just changed.

Could you imagine today sending your children to college but telling them to learn without having a computer? Isn't that a part of the education system, too? That is what this 529 account will also expand to. So, today, when we talk on the floor, it is really about the future, but it is about the future of every single family from every walk of life.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I differ with the President on many issues, and I would say the majority of this House differs with the President in that he would tax every parent or every grandparent who wanted to put away for a brighter future for their child or grandchild. Luckily, he turned back. Today is a chance to work with us, to work with us on a greater America with something that is stronger. What that means today is that we can all join so the 21st century can be even stronger, and we can keep the promise we made to every American—that every generation will improve on the generation before him. That is the opportunity that this 529 account gives us.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

I agree with my colleague from Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM) that this is, indeed, a bipartisan piece of legislation and that it is good for higher education and for those who are attempting to access

I want to commend Ms. Jenkins and Mr. KIND for their leadership in developing it. I agree with its purpose, and I urge its passage.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker. I vield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for engaging in this informative and productive debate. If America is going to remain competitive, I cannot imagine a more important thing than maintaining the affordability of higher education. There is much to be done, but today's vote is a critical and simple step that Congress should take to empower folks to save for higher education and, ultimately, to make it more attainable for more hardworking Americans.

I hope that Congress passes this legislation today with the broad support that it deserves so that we can give American families an improved way to invest in their 529 college savings plans.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, as a supporter of 529 college savings plans-including the College Savings Plans of Maryland—I am pleased to support today's legislation, which makes three common sense technical changes to these valuable savings tools.

First, HR 529 makes the purchase of a computer and internet access a qualified expense for 529 accounts, reflecting the reality that computers and the internet are a modern necessity for today's college students. Second, the bill allows students who receive refunds from colleges to reinvest those refunds back into their 529 accounts, provided that reinvestment occurs within 60 days of a student leaving college. And finally, the bill eliminates the existing aggregation requirement for purposes of calculating distributions that are includible in a beneficiary's taxable income.

Mr. Speaker, unlike other tax bills that have come before us recently, today's legislation does not seek to permanently extend temporary provisions of the code without paying for that permanence—and it does not add tens of billions of dollars to the national debt. Rather, HR 529 makes several modest improvements to a program already permanently authorized in law-and it does so at a much lower cost

Accordingly, I will cast a yes vote.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I will vote for H.R. 529, a bill that would expand section 529 college savings plans, when it passed the House today. I strongly believe in improving access to higher education, and encouraging families to save for college is a critical part of

this in an era of rising tuition costs and deepening student debt. Since 1996, 529 plans have saved American families more than \$225 billion, H.R. 529 makes several changes to update 529 plans, including removing penalties for students who are forced to withdraw from college and expanding the eligible uses. While I will vote for this bill, I wish this Congress would do more. The cost of higher education continues to increase and millions of American students carry non-dischargeable debt that totals over \$1 trillion. At the same time, my Republican colleagues have slashed Pell grants, refused to provide students with the low interest rates granted to America's biggest banks, and continue to support predatory, for-profit institutions that shortchange our most vulnerable students. I support the modest improvements in H.R. 529, but I urge my colleagues to take up further measures to improve access to college and reduce student loan debt.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 121, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. TED LIEU of California. I am opposed to it in its current form.

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I reserve a point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. A point of order is reserved.

The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Ted Lieu of California moves to recommit the bill H.R. 529 to the Committee on Ways and Means with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

Add at the end the following:

SEC. 5. PARENTS' RIGHT TO KNOW COST OF BRO-KERAGE FEES AND IMPACT ON LONG-TERM SAVINGS.

Section 529(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—
(1) by striking "REPORTS.—Each officer"

- and inserting the following: "REPORTS.-
- "(1) IN GENERAL.—Each officer", and
- (2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:
- "(2) FEES.—Each such officer or employee shall make an annual report to each designated beneficiary of an account under such program-
- "(A) disclosing the type and amount of fees with respect to such account,
- "(B) demonstrating the impact of such fees on the investment returns of such account over a 10-year and 20-year period, and
- "(C) disclosing the range of fees for investments available to accounts under such program.".

SEC. 6. RATES OF RETURN AND LOW FEES.

Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(g) RATES OF RETURN AND LOW FEES .-Each officer or employee having control of

Norcross

the qualified tuition program shall take such steps as are necessary to ensure, to the extent practicable, high rates of return and low fees under such program.".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes in support of his motion.

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, this is a final amendment to the bill which will not kill the bill or send it back to committee. If adopted, the bill will immediately proceed to final passage, as amended.

Let me start by thanking my Republican colleagues for introducing this bill. It makes changes to 529 plans that many on my side of the aisle have also been calling on for years. I support 529 plans, as do many of my constituents. It helps people plan and pay for college, and my wife and I currently invest in 529 plans.

There is one amendment to this bill that, I believe, will make it far better, and that is disclosure. The motion to recommit would put in an amendment that says that there has to be a separate report that talks about the types and numbers of fees and how much these fees are and how they impact the performance of the product over 10 to 20 years.

Prior to entering politics, I served as a corporate vice president at a financial services company, and it is clear that the foundation upon which Wall Street rests is disclosure. It is the social compact that Wall Street has with Main Street. It is the compact that they have with investors in that they will describe a product-how it works, the fees on that product, and how it performs. By having a separate report that parents can see, one that talks about the fees on these products and how these fees impact the performance, it will allow middle class families to better gauge for themselves how their investments are doing and which investments to select. Does this makes a difference? Yes, it does. Let me give you an example.

Savingforcollege.com offers this scenario:

If an annual return for a 529 account is 7 percent and if one account charges 20 basis points and another charges 40 basis points, here is the difference on an investment of \$5,000: over the course of 18 years, the 529 plan charging the lower fees will save the investor \$542. The underlying bill would change existing law to allow 529 funds to be used to purchase a laptop computer for school, and \$542 would allow you to buy a laptop.

Right now, every State has different rules for disclosure, and they have different fees. For example, in my State of California, we have relatively low fees that range between \$142 to \$154 over 10 years, but then you have States like Montana and Arkansas, which have some of the highest low-end fees, which could range between \$1,100 to \$1,200 over 10 years. That makes a huge difference to middle class families.

I urge my colleagues to support this motion to recommit, which merely provides disclosure to middle class families so they can better understand their 529 plans.

I yield back the balance of my time. Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of a point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The reservation of the point of order is withdrawn.

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I claim the time in opposition to the gentleman's motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the motion to recommit.

This motion would do the exact opposite of what this legislation is trying to accomplish. This bill is attempting to simplify 529s, but this motion would add unneeded complexity, leading to fewer people saving for a college education. It would burden all families who are saving as well as burden States and plan administrators with more red tape. As the former State treasurer of Kansas, I believe I can offer a unique insight from my experiences with 529 plan administration.

This simply adds an undo administrative burden. It increases the costs, which would leave less money for students to spend on their higher education costs. It seems to mandate the increase of rates of return, and Congress should not be in the business of setting the risk of a personal investment. It increases administrative expenses, and it goes in the opposite direction of the underlying bill. I urge my colleagues to defeat this motion to recommit.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 and clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the motion to recommit will be followed by 5-minute votes on passage of the bill, if ordered; and agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 176, nays 243, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 89] YEAS—176

Adams Bera Boyle, Brendan Aguilar Beyer Brady (PA) Ashford Bishop (GA) Brown (FL) Bass Blumenauer Reatty Brownley (CA) Bonamici Becerra Bustos

Butterfield Capps Capuano Cárdenas Carnev Carson (IN) Cartwright Castor (FL) Castro (TX) Chu, Judy Cicilline Clark (MA) Clarke (NY) Clay Cleaver Clyburn Cohen Connolly Convers Cooper Courtney Crowley Cuellar Cummines Davis (CA) Davis, Danny DeFazio DeGette Delaney DeLauro DelBene DeSaulnier Deutch Dingell Doggett Doyle, Michael Duckworth Edwards Ellison Engel Eshoo Esty Farr Fattah Frankel (FL) Fudge Gabbard Gallego Garamendi Graham Gravson Green, Al Green, Gene

Grijalya Gutiérrez Hastings Heck (WA) Higgins Himes Honda Hoyer Huffman Israel Jackson Lee Jeffries Johnson (GA) Johnson, E. B. Jones Kaptur Keating Kelly (IL) Kennedy Kildee Kilmer Kirkpatrick Kuster Langevin Larsen (WA) Larson (CT) Lawrence Levin Lewis Lieu, Ted Lipinski Loebsack Lofgren Lowenthal Lowey Lujan Grisham (NM) Luián. Ben Ray (NM) Malonev Carolyn Maloney, Sean Matsui McCollum McDermott McGovern Meeks Meng Moore Moulton Nadler Napolitano Neal Nolan

O'Rourke Pallone Pascrell Pavne Pelosi Perlmutter Peters Peterson Pingree Pocan Polis Price (NC) Quigley Rangel Richmond Rovbal-Allard Ruiz Ruppersberger Ryan (OH) Sanchez, Loretta Sarbanes Schakowsky Schiff Schrader Scott (VA) Scott, David Serrano Sewell (AL) Sherman Sires Slaughter Smith (WA) Swalwell (CA) Takai Takano Thompson (CA) Thompson (MS) Titus Tonko Torres Tsongas Van Hollen Vargas Veasey Velázquez Visclosky Walz Wasserman Schultz Waters, Maxine Watson Coleman Welch Yarmuth

NAYS—243

Crawford Abraham Aderholt Crenshaw Allen Culberson Curbelo (FL) Amash Amodei Davis, Rodney BabinDenham Barletta Dent Barr DeSantis Barton DesJarlais Benishek Diaz-Balart Bilirakis Dold Bishop (MI) Duffy Duncan (SC) Bishop (UT) Black Duncan (TN) Blackburn Ellmers (NC) Blum Emmer (MN) Bost Farenthold Boustany Fincher Brady (TX) Fitzpatrick Brat Fleischmann Bridenstine Fleming Brooks (AL) Flores Brooks (IN) Forbes Buchanan Fortenberry Buck Foxx Bucshon Franks (AZ) Burgess Frelinghuysen Calvert Garrett Carter (GA) Gibbs Carter (TX) Gibson Chabot Gohmert Chaffetz Goodlatte Clawson (FL) Gosar Coffman Gowdy Cole Granger Collins (GA) Graves (GA) Collins (NY) Graves (LA) Comstock Graves (MO) Griffith Conaway Cook Grothman Costello (PA) Guinta

Guthrie

Cramer

Hanna. Hardy Harper Harris Hartzler Heck (NV) Hensarling Herrera Beutler Hice, Jody B. Hill Holding Hudson Huelskamp Huizenga (MI) Hultgren Hunter Hurd (TX) Hurt (VA) Issa Jenkins (KS) Jenkins (WV) Johnson (OH) Johnson, Sam Jolly Jordan Joyce Katko Kelly (PA) Kind King (IA) King (NY) Kinzinger (IL) Kline Knight Labrador LaMalfa Lamborn Lance Latta LoBiondo Loudermilk

Love

Poe (TX) Smith (NJ) Lucas Luetkemeyer Poliquin Smith (TX) Lummis Pompeo Stefanik MacArthur Posey Price, Tom Stewart Marchant Stivers Marino Ratcliffe Stutzman Massie Reed Thompson (PA) McCarthy Reichert Thornberry McCaul Renacci Tiberi McClintock Ribble Tipton Rice (SC) McHenry Trott McKinley Rigell Turner McMorris Roby Upton Rogers (AL) Rodgers Valadao McSally Rogers (KY) Wagner Rohrabacher Meadows Meehan Rokita Walberg Rooney (FL) Messer Walden Ros-Lehtinen Walker Mica Miller (FL) Roskam Walorski Miller (MI) Ross Walters, Mimi Rothfus Moolenaar Weber (TX) Mooney (WV) Rouzer Webster (FL) Mullin Royce Wenstrup Mulvaney Russell Westerman Murphy (FL) Ryan (WI) Westmoreland Murphy (PA) Salmon Whitfield Neugebauer Sanford Williams Newhouse Scalise Wilson (SC) Noem Schock Wittman Nugent Schweikert Womack Nunes Scott, Austin Woodall Olson Sensenbrenner Yoder Palazzo Sessions Yoho Palmer Shimkus Young (AK) Paulsen Shuster Young (IA) Pearce Simpson Perry Sinema Young (IN) Smith (MO) Zeldin Pittenger

NOT VOTING-13

Zinke

Smith (NE)

Pitts

 Byrne
 Lynch
 Sánchez, Linda

 Costa
 McNerney
 T.

 Hinojosa
 Rice (NY)
 Speier

 Lee
 Roe (TN)
 Wilson (FL)

 Long
 Rush

□ 1541

BLACKBURN, Messrs. LAB-Mrs. RADOR, ISSA, SANFORD, Ms. SINEMA, Messrs. DUFFY, WALDEN, HERRERA FLORES and Ms. BEUTLER changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi changed his vote from "nay" to "yea." So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair wishes to reiterate the announcement of March 25, 2014, concerning floor practice.

Members should periodically rededicate themselves to the core principles of proper parliamentary practice that are so essential in maintaining order and deliberacy here in the House. The Chair believes that a few of these principles bear emphasis today.

Members should refrain from trafficking in the well when another, including the presiding officer, is addressing the House.

Members should wear appropriate business attire during all sittings of the House, however brief their appearance on the floor may be.

Members should refrain from engaging in still photography or audio or video recording in the Chamber. Taking unofficial photographs detracts from the dignity of the proceedings and presents security and privacy challenges for the House.

Members who wish to speak on the floor should respectfully seek and ob-

tain recognition from the presiding officer, taking the time to do so in proper form, including 1-minutes. The proper form would be to ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute.

□ 1545

Members should take care to yield and reclaim time in an orderly fashion, bearing in mind that the Official Reporters of Debate cannot properly transcribe two Members simultaneously.

Members should address their remarks in debate to the presiding officer and not to others in the second person or to some perceived viewing audience.

Members should not embellish the offering of a motion, the entry of a request, the making of a point of order, or the entry of an appeal with any statement of motive or other commentary, and should be aware that such utterances could render the motion, request, point of order, or appeal untimely.

Members should attempt to come to the floor within the 15-minute period as prescribed by the first ringing of the bells. This has been an ongoing problem and Members should make every attempt to be here within the prescribed 15 minutes. Members should be advised that if they are in the Chamber attempting to vote, the Chair will try to accommodate them. But as a point of courtesy to each of your colleagues, voting within the allotted time would help with the maintenance of the institution.

Following these basic standards of practice will foster an atmosphere of mutual and institutional respect. It will ensure against personal confrontation, among individual Members or between Members and the presiding officer. It will facilitate Members' comprehension of, and participation in, the business of the House. It will enable accurate transcriptions of proceedings. In sum, it will ensure the comity that elevates spirited deliberations above mere argument.

The Chair appreciates the attention of the Members to these matters.

Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 401, noes 20, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 90]

AYES-401

Abraham Aderholt Allen Adams Aguilar Amash

Ashford Babin Barletta Barr Barton Beatty Becerra Benishek Bera Rever Bilirakis Bishop (GA) Bishop (MI) Bishop (UT) Black Blackburn Blum Blumenauer Bonamici Bost Boustany Boyle, Brendan F. Brady (PA) Brady (TX) Bridenstine Brooks (AL) Brooks (IN) Brown (FL) Brownley (CA) Buchanan Buck Bucshon Burgess Bustos Butterfield Calvert Capps Capuano Cárdenas Carney Carson (IN) Carter (GA) Carter (TX) Cartwright Castor (FL) Castro (TX) Chabot Chaffetz Chu, Judy Cicilline Clark (MA) Clawson (FL) Clay Cleaver Clyburn Coffman Cohen Cole Collins (GA) Collins (NY) Comstock Conaway Connolly Convers Cook Cooper Costello (PA) Courtney Cramer Crawford Crenshaw Crowley Cuellar Culberson Cummings Curbelo (FL) Davis (CA) Davis, Danny Davis, Rodney DeFazio DeGette Delanev DeLauro DelBene Denham Dent DeSantis DeSaulnier DesJarlais Deutch Diaz-Balart Dingell Doggett

Dold

Knight Doyle, Michael Kuster Duckworth Labrador Duffy La.Ma.lfa. Duncan (SC) Lamborn Duncan (TN) Lance Edwards Langevin Ellmers (NC) Larsen (WA) Emmer (MN Larson (CT) Engel LattaEshoo Lawrence Esty Levin Farenthold Lewis Lieu, Ted Farr Fattah Lipinski Fincher LoBiondo Fitzpatrick Loebsack Fleischmann Lofgren Fleming Loudermilk Flores Love Forbes Lowenthal Fortenberry Lowey Foster Lucas Foxx Luetkemever Frankel (FL) Lujan Grisham Franks (AZ) (NM) Luián, Ben Ray Frelinghuysen (NM) Gabbard Gallego Lummis Garamendi Lynch Garrett MacArthur Gibbs Maloney, Gibson Carolyn Maloney, Sean Gohmert Goodlatte Marchant Gosar Marino Massie Gowdy Matsui Graham Granger McCarthy Graves (GA) McCaul McClintock Graves (LA) Graves (MO) McDermott McGovern Gravson Green, Al McHenry Green, Gene McKinley Griffith McMorris Grothman Rodgers Guinta McSally Guthrie Meadows Gutiérrez Meehan Meeks Hahn Hanna Meng Messer Hardy Harper Mica Miller (FL) Harris Hartzler Miller (MI) Heck (NV) Moolenaa Mooney (WV) Heck (WA) Hensarling Moore Herrera Beutler Moulton Hice Jody B Mullin Higgins Mulvaney Murphy (FL) Hill Himes Murphy (PA) Holding Nadler Honda Neal Neugebauer Hudson Huelskamp Newhouse Noem Huffman Huizenga (MI) Nolan Hultgren Norcross Hunter Hurd (TX) Nugent Nunes Hurt (VA) O'Rourke Israel Olson Palazzo Issa Jackson Lee Pallone Jeffries Palmer Jenkins (KS) Pascrell Jenkins (WV) Paulsen Johnson (GA) Payne Johnson (OH) Pearce Johnson, Sam Pelosi Jolly Perlmutter Jordan Perry Joyce Peters Katko Peterson Keating Pingree Kelly (IL) Pittenger Kelly (PA) Pitts Poe (TX) Kennedy Kildee Poliquin Kilmer Polis Kind Pompeo King (IA) Posey Price (NC) King (NY) Kinzinger (IL) Price, Tom Kirkpatrick Quigley Kline Rangel

Ratcliffe Van Hollen Scott, David Reed Sensenbrenner Vargas Reichert Serrano Veasev Renacci Sessions Vela Ribble Sewell (AL) Velázquez Rice (SC) Sherman Wagner Rigel1 Shimkus Walberg Shuster Roby Walden Rogers (AL) Simpson Walker Rogers (KY) Sinema Walorski Rohrabacher Sires Walters, Mimi Slaughter Rokita. Walz Rooney (FL) Smith (MO) Wasserman Ros-Lehtinen Smith (NE) Schultz Roskam Smith (NJ) Weber (TX) Smith (TX) Ross Rothfus Smith (WA) Webster (FL) Rouzer Stefanik Welch Roybal-Allard Wenstrup Stewart Royce Stivers Westerman Ruiz Stutzman Westmoreland Swalwell (CA) Ruppersberger Whitfield Russell Takai Williams Rvan (OH) Takano Wilson (SC) Ryan (WI) Thompson (PA) Wittman Salmon Thornberry Womack Sanchez, Loretta Tiberi Woodall Sanford Tipton Yarmuth Sarbanes Titus Yoder Tonko Scalise Yoho Schakowsky Torres Young (AK) Schiff Trott Young (IA) Schock Tsongas Young (IN) Schweikert Turner Zeldin Scott (VA) Upton Scott, Austin Valadao

NOES-20

Clarke (NY) Jones Schrader Ellison Kaptur Thompson (CA) McCollum Fudge Thompson (MS) Grijalva Napolitano Visclosky Waters, Maxine Hastings Pocan Hoyer Richmond Watson Coleman Johnson, E. B. Rush

NOT VOTING-11

 Byrne
 Long
 Sánchez, Linda

 Costa
 McNerney
 T.

 Hinojosa
 Rice (NY)
 Speier

 Lee
 Roe (TN)
 Wilson (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Poe of Texas) (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1552

Ms. BASS changed her vote from "no" to "ave."

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote today because of a serious illness in my family. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 84, "yea" on rollcall No. 85, "yea" on rollcall No. 86, "yea" on rollcall No. 87, "yea" on rollcall No. 88, "no" on rollcall No. 89, and "yea" on rollcall No. 90.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 124

Resolved, That the following named Members be and are hereby elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

- (1) COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES.—Mrs. Capps and Mr. Polis.
- (2) COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY.—Mr. Takano and Mr. Foster.
- (3) Committee on small business.—Ms. Clarke of New York.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

STUDENT SUCCESS ACT

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 121 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill. H.R. 5.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from New York (Mr. COLLINS) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1558

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 5) to support State and local accountability for public education, protect State and local authority, inform parents of the performance of their children's schools, and for other purposes, with Mr. Collins of New York in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time. The gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. KLINE) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota.

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5, the Student Success Act. This week, we have an opportunity to advance bold reforms that will strengthen K-12 education for children across America.

A great education can be the great equalizer. It can open doors to unlimited possibilities and provide students the tools they need to succeed in life. Every child in every school deserves an excellent education, yet, Mr. Chairman, we are failing to provide every child that opportunity.

Today, approximately one out of five students drops out of high school, and many who do graduate are going to college or entering the workforce with a subpar education. The number of students proficient in reading and math is abysmal. The achievement gap separating minority students from their peers is appalling. Parents have little to no options to rescue their children from failing schools.

A broken education system has plagued families for decades. Year after year, policymakers lament the problems and talk about solutions, and once in a while, a law is enacted that promises to improve our education system.

Unfortunately, past efforts have largely failed because they are based on the idea that Washington knows what is best for children. We have doubled down on this approach repeatedly, and it is not working.

Federal mandates dictate how to gauge student achievement, how to define qualified teachers, how to spend money at the State and local levels, and how to improve underperforming schools. And now, thanks to the unprecedented overreach of the current administration, the Department of Education is dictating policies concerning teacher evaluations, academic standards, and more.

No one questions whether parents, teachers, and local education leaders are committed to their students, yet there are some who question whether they are capable of making the best decisions for their students.

Success in school should be determined by those who teach inside our classrooms, by administrators who understand the challenges facing their communities, by parents who know better than anyone the needs of their children. If every child is going to receive a quality education, then we need to place less faith—less faith—in the Secretary of Education and more faith in parents, teachers, and State and local leaders. That is why I am a proud sponsor of the Student Success Act.

By reducing the Federal footprint, restoring local control, and empowering parents and education leaders, this commonsense bill will move our country in a better direction.

□ 1600

The Student Success Act provides States and school districts more flexibility to fund local priorities, not Washington's priorities. The legislation eliminates dozens of ineffective or duplicative programs so that each dollar makes a direct, meaningful, and lasting impact in classrooms. The bill strengthens accountability by replacing the current national scheme with State-led accountability systems, returning to States the responsibility to