

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the unemployment rate for our veterans is 7.2%, which is roughly 573,000 unemployed veterans nationally.

A study commissioned by the Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration found that in 2008, delays at POEs at the U.S.-Mexico border cost the U.S. economy 26,000 jobs, \$600 million in lost tax revenue, and \$5.8 billion in lost economic output.

According to CBP, 2,000 additional CBPOs will lead to the creation of approximately 66,000 new jobs and increase the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the U.S. by up to \$4 billion.

The bill will ensure that:

CBP officials will be at recruiting events and jobs fairs for armed service members; Partnerships are fostered between military bases in regions where CBP Officers work;

Opportunities for the expedited hiring of certain service members with qualifications needed by CBP are prioritized; and

Transfers of relevant background investigations and security clearances are streamlined to facilitate transitions from military life to employment at the CBP.

Mr. Speaker, I introduced H.R. 76, the "Helping to Encourage Real Opportunity for Veterans Transitioning from Battlespace to Workplace Act of 2015," the HEROS Act, which is very similar to spirit to the bill before the House.

Studies have shown that more than 80% of veterans transitioning from military service to the civilian sector regard employer-provided Veterans support programs as "critical" or "important" to their success.

The "HERO Transitioning from Battlespace to Workplace Act of 2014" addressed these problems by providing strong incentives for employers to hire, retain, and employ veterans in positions that take maximum advantage of their skills and experience.

Nearly 90% of veterans believe they have the general skills needed to land their ideal job such as problem solving, leadership, ethics, and time management and most believe they possess specific marketable skills, such as information technology, health care, mechanical, and aviation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2835, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

MANDATORY PRICE REPORTING ACT OF 2015

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2051) to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to extend the livestock mandatory price reporting requirements, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) *SHORT TITLE*.—This Act may be cited as the "Agriculture Reauthorizations Act of 2015".

(b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS*.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—MANDATORY PRICE REPORTING

Sec. 101. Extension of livestock mandatory reporting.

Sec. 102. Swine reporting.

Sec. 103. Lamb reporting.

Sec. 104. Study on livestock mandatory reporting.

TITLE II—NATIONAL FOREST FOUNDATION ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Sec. 201. National Forest Foundation Act reauthorization.

TITLE III—UNITED STATES GRAIN STANDARDS ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Sec. 301. Reauthorization of United States Grain Standards Act.

Sec. 302. Report on disruption in Federal inspection of grain exports.

Sec. 303. Report on policy barriers to grain producers.

TITLE I—MANDATORY PRICE REPORTING

SEC. 101. EXTENSION OF LIVESTOCK MANDATORY REPORTING.

(a) *EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY*.—Section 260 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1636i) is amended by striking "September 30, 2015" and inserting "September 30, 2020".

(b) *CONFORMING AMENDMENT*.—Section 942 of the Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act of 1999 (7 U.S.C. 1635 note; Public Law 106-78) is amended by striking "September 30, 2015" and inserting "September 30, 2020".

SEC. 102. SWINE REPORTING.

(a) *DEFINITIONS*.—Section 231 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1635i) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (9) through (22) as paragraphs (10) through (23), respectively;

(2) by inserting after paragraph (8) the following:

"(9) *NEGOTIATED FORMULA PURCHASE*.—The term 'negotiated formula purchase' means a swine or pork market formula purchase under which—

"(A) the formula is determined by negotiation on a lot-by-lot basis; and

"(B) the swine are scheduled for delivery to the packer not later than 14 days after the date on which the formula is negotiated and swine are committed to the packer.";

(3) in paragraph (12)(A) (as so redesignated), by inserting "negotiated formula purchase," after "pork market formula purchase,"; and

(4) in paragraph (23) (as so redesignated)—

(A) in subparagraph (C), by striking "and" at the end;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (E); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following:

"(D) a negotiated formula purchase; and".

(b) *DAILY REPORTING*.—Section 232(c) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1635j(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(D), by striking clause (ii) and inserting the following:

"(ii) *PRICE DISTRIBUTIONS*.—The information published by the Secretary under clause (i) shall include—

"(I) a distribution of net prices in the range between and including the lowest net price and the highest net price reported;

"(II) a delineation of the number of barrows and gilts at each reported price level or, at the option of the Secretary, the number of barrows and gilts within each of a series of reasonable price bands within the range of prices; and

"(III) the total number and weighted average price of barrows and gilts purchased through negotiated purchases and negotiated formula purchases.";

(2) in paragraph (3), by adding at the end the following:

"(C) *LATE IN THE DAY REPORT INFORMATION*.—The Secretary shall include in the morning report and the afternoon report for the following day any information required to be reported under subparagraph (A) that is obtained after the time of the reporting day specified in that subparagraph."

SEC. 103. LAMB REPORTING.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall revise section 59.300 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, so that—

(1) the definition of the term "importer"—

(A) includes only those importers that imported an average of 1,000 metric tons of lamb meat products per year during the immediately preceding 4 calendar years; and

(B) may include any person that does not meet the requirement referred to in subparagraph (A), if the Secretary determines that the person should be considered an importer based on their volume of lamb imports; and

(2) the definition of the term "packer"—

(A) applies to any entity with 50 percent or more ownership in a facility;

(B) includes a federally inspected lamb processing plant which slaughtered or processed the equivalent of an average of 35,000 head of lambs per year during the immediately preceding 5 calendar years; and

(C) may include any other lamb processing plant that does not meet the requirement referred to in subparagraph (B), if the Secretary determines that the processing plant should be considered a packer after considering the capacity of the processing plant.

SEC. 104. STUDY ON LIVESTOCK MANDATORY REPORTING.

(a) *STUDY REQUIRED*.—

(1) *IN GENERAL*.—The Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Agricultural Marketing Service in conjunction with the Office of the Chief Economist and in consultation with cattle, swine, and lamb producers, packers, and other market participants, shall conduct a study on the program of information regarding the marketing of cattle, swine, lambs, and products of such livestock under subtitle B of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1635 et seq.).

(2) *REQUIREMENTS*.—The study shall—

(A) analyze current marketing practices in the cattle, swine, and lamb markets;

(B) identify legislative or regulatory recommendations made by cattle, swine, and lamb producers, packers, and other market participants to ensure that information provided under the program—

(i) can be readily understood by producers, packers, and other market participants;

(ii) reflects current marketing practices; and

(iii) is relevant and useful to producers, packers, and other market participants;

(C) analyze the price and supply information reporting services of the Department of Agriculture related to cattle, swine, and lamb; and

(D) address any other issues that the Secretary considers appropriate.

(b) *REPORT*.—Not later than March 1, 2018, the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report containing the findings of the study conducted under subsection (a).

TITLE II—NATIONAL FOREST FOUNDATION ACT REAUTHORIZATION
SEC. 201. NATIONAL FOREST FOUNDATION ACT REAUTHORIZATION.

(a) **EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE MATCHING FUNDS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROJECT EXPENSES.**—Section 405(b) of the National Forest Foundation Act (16 U.S.C. 583j-3(b)) is amended by striking “for a period of five years beginning October 1, 1992” and inserting “during fiscal years 2016 through 2018”.

(b) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—Section 410(b) of the National Forest Foundation Act (16 U.S.C. 583j-8(b)) is amended by striking “during the five-year period” and all that follows through “\$1,000,000 annually” and inserting “there are authorized to be appropriated \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2018”.

(c) **TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.**—

(1) **AGENT.**—Section 404 of the National Forest Foundation Act (16 U.S.C. 583j-2) is amended—
 (A) in subsection (a)(4), by inserting “notice or” after “authorized to accept”; and

(B) in subsection (b), by striking “under this paragraph” and inserting “by subsection (a)(4)”.

(2) **ANNUAL REPORT.**—Section 407(b) of the National Forest Foundation Act (16 U.S.C. 583j-5(b)) is amended by striking the comma after “The Foundation shall”.

TITLE III—UNITED STATES GRAIN STANDARDS ACT REAUTHORIZATION
SEC. 301. REAUTHORIZATION OF UNITED STATES GRAIN STANDARDS ACT.

(a) **OFFICIAL INSPECTION AND WEIGHING REQUIREMENTS.**—

(1) **DISCRETIONARY WAIVER AUTHORITY.**—Section 5(a)(1) of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 77(a)(1)) is amended in the first proviso by striking “may waive the foregoing requirement in emergency or other circumstances which would not impair the objectives of this Act” and inserting “shall waive the foregoing requirement in emergency or other circumstances that would not impair the objectives of this Act whenever the parties to a contract for such shipment mutually agree to the waiver and documentation of such agreement is provided to the Secretary prior to shipment”.

(2) **WEIGHING REQUIREMENTS AT EXPORT ELEVATORS.**—Section 5(a)(2) of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 77(a)(2)) is amended in the proviso by striking “intracompany shipments of grain into an export elevator by any mode of transportation, grain transferred into an export elevator by transportation modes other than barge,” and inserting “shipments of grain into an export elevator by any mode of transportation”.

(3) **DISRUPTION IN GRAIN INSPECTION OR WEIGHING.**—Section 5 of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 77) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) **DISRUPTION IN GRAIN INSPECTION OR WEIGHING.**—In the case of a disruption in official grain inspections or weighings, including if the Secretary waives the requirement for official inspection due to an emergency under subsection (a)(1), the Secretary shall—

“(1) immediately take such actions as are necessary to address the disruption and resume inspections or weighings;

“(2) not later than 24 hours after the start of the disruption in inspection or weighing, submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes—

“(A) the disruption; and

“(B) any actions necessary to address the concerns of the Secretary relating to the disruption so that inspections or weighings may resume; and

“(3) once the initial report in paragraph (2) has been made, provide daily updates until official inspection or weighing services at the site of disruption have resumed.”.

(b) **OFFICIAL INSPECTION AUTHORITY AND FUNDING.**—

(1) **DELEGATION OF OFFICIAL INSPECTION AUTHORITY.**—Section 7(e)(2) of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 79(e)(2)) is amended—

(A) by striking “(2) If the Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(2) **DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO STATE AGENCIES.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—If the Secretary”;

(B) in the first sentence—

(i) by striking “and (A)” and inserting “and (i)”;

(ii) by striking “or (B)(i)” and inserting “or (ii)(I)”;

(iii) by striking “(ii)” and inserting “(II)”;

(iv) by striking “(iii)” and inserting “(III)”;

and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) **CERTIFICATION.**—

“(i) **IN GENERAL.**—Every 5 years, the Secretary shall certify that each State agency with a delegation of authority is meeting the criteria described in subsection (f)(1)(A).

“(ii) **PROCESS.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Agriculture Reauthorizations Act of 2015, the Secretary shall establish a process for certification under which the Secretary shall—

“(I) publish in the Federal Register notice of intent to certify a State agency and provide a 30-day period for public comment;

“(II) evaluate the public comments received and, in accordance with paragraph (3), conduct an investigation to determine whether the State agency is qualified;

“(III) make findings based on the public comments received and investigation conducted; and

“(IV) publish in the Federal Register a notice announcing whether the certification has been granted and describing the basis on which the Secretary made the decision.

“(C) **STATE AGENCY REQUIREMENTS.**—

“(i) **IN GENERAL.**—If a State agency that has been delegated authority under this paragraph intends to temporarily discontinue official inspection or weighing services for any reason, except in the case of a major disaster, the State agency shall notify the Secretary in writing of the intention of the State agency to do so at least 72 hours in advance of the discontinuation date.

“(ii) **SECRETARIAL CONSIDERATION.**—The Secretary shall consider receipt of a notice described in clause (i) as a factor in administering the delegation of authority under this paragraph.”.

(2) **CONSULTATION.**—Section 7(f)(1) of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 79(f)(1)) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(xi), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) the Secretary—

“(i) periodically conducts a consultation with the customers of the applicant, in a manner that provides opportunity for protection of the identity of the customer if desired by the customer, to review the performance of the applicant with regard to the provision of official inspection services and other requirements of this Act; and

“(ii) works with the applicant to address any concerns identified during the consultation process.”.

(3) **GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES FOR OFFICIAL AGENCIES.**—

(A) **OFFICIAL INSPECTION AUTHORITY.**—Section 7(f)(2) of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 79(f)(2)) is amended by striking “the Secretary may” and all that follows through the end of the paragraph and inserting the following: “the Secretary shall allow a designated official agency to cross boundary lines to carry out inspections in another geographic area if—

“(A) the current designated official agency for that geographic area is unable to provide inspection services in a timely manner;

“(B) a person requesting inspection services in that geographic area requests a probe inspection on a barge-lot basis; or

“(C) the current official agency for that geographic area agrees in writing with the adjacent official agency to waive the current geographic area restriction at the request of the applicant for service.”.

(B) **WEIGHING AUTHORITY.**—Section 7A(i)(2) of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 79a(i)(2)) is amended by striking “the Secretary may” and all that follows through the end of the paragraph and inserting the following: “the Secretary shall allow a designated official agency to cross boundary lines to carry out weighing in another geographic area if—

“(A) the current designated official agency for that geographic area is unable to provide weighing services in a timely manner; or

“(B) the current official agency for that geographic area agrees in writing with the adjacent official agency to waive the current geographic area restriction at the request of the applicant for service.”.

(4) **DURATION OF DESIGNATION AUTHORITY.**—Section 7(g)(1) of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 79(g)(1)) is amended by striking “triennially” and inserting “every 5 years”.

(5) **FEES.**—Section 7(j) of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 79(j)(1)) is amended—

(A) by striking “(j)(1) The Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(j) **FEES.**—

“(1) **INSPECTION FEES.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) the second sentence, by striking “The fees” and inserting the following:

“(B) **AMOUNT OF FEES.**—The fees”;

(ii) in the third sentence, by striking “Such fees” and inserting the following:

“(C) **USE OF FEES.**—Fees described in this paragraph”;

and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) **EXPORT TONNAGE FEES.**—For an official inspection at an export facility performed by the Secretary, the portion of the fees based on export tonnage shall be based on the rolling 5-year average of export tonnage volumes.”;

(C) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5);

(D) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

“(4) **ADJUSTMENT OF FEES.**—In order to maintain an operating reserve of not less than 3 and not more than 6 months, the Secretary shall adjust the fees described in paragraphs (1) and (2) not less frequently than annually.”; and

(E) in paragraph (5) (as redesignated by subparagraph (C)), in the first sentence, by striking “2015” and inserting “2020”.

(c) **WEIGHING AUTHORITY.**—Section 7A of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 79a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(2), in the last sentence, by striking “subsection (g) of section 7” and inserting “subsections (e) and (g) of section 7”; and

(2) in subsection (l)—

(A) by striking “(l)(1) The Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(l) **FEES.**—

“(1) **WEIGHING FEES.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) the second sentence, by striking “The fees” and inserting the following:

“(B) **AMOUNT OF FEES.**—The fees”;

(ii) in the third sentence, by striking “Such fees” and inserting the following:

“(C) **USE OF FEES.**—Fees described in this paragraph”;

and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) **EXPORT TONNAGE FEES.**—For an official weighing at an export facility performed by the

Secretary, the portion of the fees based on export tonnage shall be based on the rolling 5-year average of export tonnage volumes.”;

(C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4);

(D) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) ADJUSTMENT OF FEES.—In order to maintain an operating reserve of not less than 3 and not more than 6 months, the Secretary shall adjust the fees described in paragraphs (1) and (2) not less frequently than annually.”; and

(E) in paragraph (4) (as redesignated by subparagraph (C)), in the first sentence, by striking “2015” and inserting “2020”.

(d) LIMITATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPERVISORY COSTS.—Section 7D of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 79d) is amended by striking “2015” and inserting “2020”.

(e) ISSUANCE OF AUTHORIZATION.—Section 8(b) of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 84(b)) is amended by striking “triennially” and inserting “every 5 years”.

(f) APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 19 of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 87h) is amended by striking “2015” and inserting “2020”.

(g) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—Section 21(e) of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 87j(e)) is amended by striking “2015” and inserting “2020”.

SEC. 302. REPORT ON DISRUPTION IN FEDERAL INSPECTION OF GRAIN EXPORTS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives, the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, and the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report that describes—

(1) the specific factors that led to disruption in Federal inspection of grain exports at the Port of Vancouver in the summer of 2014;

(2) any factors that contributed to the disruption referred to in paragraph (1) that were unique to the Port of Vancouver, including a description of the port facility, security needs and available resources for that purpose, and any other significant factors as determined by the Secretary; and

(3) any changes in policy that the Secretary has implemented to ensure that a similar disruption in Federal inspection of grain exports at the Port of Vancouver or any other location does not occur in the future.

SEC. 303. REPORT ON POLICY BARRIERS TO GRAIN PRODUCERS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with the United States Trade Representative, shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives a report that describes—

(1) the policy barriers to United States grain producers in countries the grain of which receives official grading in the United States but which do not offer official grading for United States grain or provide only the lowest designation for United States grain, including an analysis of possible inconsistencies with trade obligations; and

(2) any actions the Executive Branch is taking to remedy the policy barriers so as to put United States grain producers on equal footing with grain producers in countries imposing the barriers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Texas (Mr. CONAWAY) and the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PETERSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 2051, the Agriculture Reauthorizations Act of 2015.

Mr. Speaker, on June 9, the House passed three individual bills: the Mandatory Price Reporting Act of 2015; the United States Grain Standards Reauthorization Act of 2015; and the National Forest Foundation Reauthorization Act of 2015. For each of these, the Committee on Agriculture held hearings and business meetings, and the House acted in a timely manner to ensure the continuation of these critical programs.

I am proud of the fact that the House worked its will in a bipartisan manner following regular order throughout. Just last week the other body worked its will, combining these three bills into a single bill before us.

Though modifications were made that I do not agree with, it is imperative that the House pass this legislation in advance of the authority for price reporting and grain inspection expiring on Wednesday evening. Failure to enact this legislation today will have devastating impacts on our Nation's meat industries and grain exporters.

I urge the House to adopt this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2051, a bill to reauthorize the Mandatory Price Reporting Act, the United States Grain Standards Act, and the National Forest Foundation Act. Legislative language to reauthorize each of these was introduced, reported by the House Agriculture Committee, and passed by the House on voice vote as standalone measures on June 10th of this year. The first two, the Mandatory Price Reporting Act and the Grain Standards Act authorities are set to expire in just a few days.

As passed by the House, each of these measures enjoyed wide bipartisan support from Members as well as support from each of the impacted industries. Unfortunately, after passing through the other chamber, we are left with bill language that is somewhat less than ideal, but at least maintains these critical program authorities for 5 more years.

In the development of the Mandatory Price Reporting Act and with each of its subsequent reauthorizations, we have asked the impacted industries to work together in a cooperative spirit to develop their legislative proposals and submit only those that are unanimously supported. The meat and livestock industries did just that this past spring. Those proposals

were reviewed in a hearing in the Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture on April 22nd, bill language was introduced in the House, a business meeting was held, and the House unanimously passed the bill. Unfortunately, a demand was made in the other body that the bill be modified to remove language of critical importance to our constituents. Thus, we have before us today a bill that is less than what our constituents requested. Yet if we fail to act, a program of critical importance to the meat and livestock industries would expire leaving these industries in a quandary. It is a shame that politics must interfere with policy on even the simplest measures, but we must move forward.

The United States Grain Standards Act reauthorization faced similar challenges in the other body. As my colleagues will recall, last summer amid an ongoing labor dispute, the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) discontinued mandatory grain weighing and grading services.

In statements issued at the time, WSDA acknowledged that they withheld inspection services because of their belief that the “continued provision of inspections services appears to have been unhelpful in leading to any foreseeable resolution” of the labor dispute.

Instead of fulfilling their statutory obligation, the leadership of the U.S. Department of Agriculture politicized this situation when the agency declined to fulfill its statutory responsibility to resume inspection and weighing services. Services were eventually restored, but not before significant costs accrued to all parties involved.

We have worked hard to gain access to overseas markets. We are shooting ourselves in the foot when we cannot ship our products to these markets because State and Federal agencies are unable or unwilling to comply with their obligations. To not be able to ship our grain because there are no inspectors at a facility does a disservice to our farmers, and it harms our economy.

To address this situation, the House could have been punitive. In fact, there were some in the industry that would have preferred that. But that is not what we were interested in doing. We simply wanted to develop a safeguard mechanism to avoid this situation being repeated. To do that, we worked with the Washington State delegation, the Washington State Department of Agriculture, labor unions, industry and even the USDA. What we developed was bipartisan consensus on a workable safeguard provision. Nevertheless, the bill as adopted in the other body provides little safeguard against future abuses of discretion. I cannot emphasize this enough—it is imperative that these inspection and weighing services are provided in a reliable, uninterrupted, consistent and cost-effective manner. To ensure that we fulfill this obligation, we must learn the lessons of history or it is doomed to repeat itself.

To this end, the Secretary of Agriculture is instructed to take prompt action to provide for restoration of official grain inspection service as soon as he receives notice or otherwise learns about the impending disruption from a delegated State agency. In this regard, as a way of not allowing the Secretary to sit on his hands after learning that a disruption in official service was imminent, the Secretary is required to:

1. Immediately take such actions as are necessary to address the disruption and resume inspection and weighing services; and

2. Not later than 24 hours after receiving notice or otherwise learning of the impending disruption of such inspection or weighing, or after the start of such disruption in official service, whichever is earlier, submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes the disruptions and any actions necessary to address the concerns of the Secretary relating to the disruption so that inspections or weighings may resume.

On a positive note, another critical element of the House bill was retained wherein the Secretary will be obligated to waive official weighing and inspection requirements in both cases of emergency as well as other circumstances as long as the waiver does not impair the underlying objectives of the statute and the buyers and sellers agree and provide documentation of the agreement to the Secretary. This waiver requirement is intended to provide certainty to trading partners as well as U.S. suppliers.

Since its charter in 1993, the National Forest Foundation provides the ability to leverage private and federal dollars to support our Nation's great forests in a variety of ways. In recent years, the Foundation has leveraged funds at over a 4 to 1 ratio and plans to continue on this success to raise at least \$125 million for forest restoration activities. Simply put, the National Forest Foundation works, and this is a common-sense reauthorization.

While I recognize that concessions were made resulting in less than ideal bill text, at the end of the day, H.R. 2051 provides certainty to American agriculture, and I would urge my colleagues to support it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PETERSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2051. This bipartisan legislation reauthorizes the Mandatory Price Reporting Act, the National Forest Foundation Act, and the U.S. Grain Standards Act. This bill continues the tradition of bipartisan, bicameral work done by the Agriculture Committees.

Important livestock price reporting programs will be continued under the bill's mandatory price reporting provisions. Producers rely on access to transparent, accurate, and timely market information, and H.R. 2051 will provide that certainty.

The National Forest Foundation Act is the type of public-private collaboration we should all be able to support, giving private groups and stakeholders a chance to help in the stewardship and management of our national forests and grasslands. H.R. 2051 will ensure that this partnership can continue.

Finally, the U.S. Grain Standards Reauthorization Act will allow the Federal Grain Inspection Service to continue official weighing and inspection services. Both grain buyers and sellers rely on a gold standard quality assurance, backed by the Federal Government, when conducting business.

Again, this is good, commonsense legislation, a bipartisan bill. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes."

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to thank my colleague, my ranking member, COLLIN PETERSON. Throughout this work, he and all the Members on both sides of the aisle of the committee worked well together. It is a tribute to the way bipartisan work ought to be done in the House, and I am proud of the work the Agriculture Committee has done.

I urge Members to join me in support of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 2051.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 28 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BLACK) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3495, WOMEN'S PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT, AND WAIVING A REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Ms. FOXX, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114-269) on the resolution (H. Res. 444) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3495) to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow for greater State flexibility with respect to excluding providers who are involved in abortions, and waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 2835, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 2786, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The second

electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

BORDER JOBS FOR VETERANS 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. 2835) to actively recruit members of the Armed Forces who are separating from military service to serve as Customs and Border Protection officers, as amended, 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 gentlewoman from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 410, nays 0, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 519]

YEAS—410

Abraham	Clarke (NY)	Fitzpatrick
Adams	Clawson (FL)	Fleischmann
Aderholt	Clay	Fleming
Aguilar	Clyburn	Flores
Allen	Coffman	Forbes
Amash	Cohen	Fortenberry
Amodel	Cole	Foster
Ashford	Collins (GA)	Fox
Babin	Collins (NY)	Frankel (FL)
Barletta	Comstock	Franks (AZ)
Barr	Conaway	Frelinghuysen
Barton	Connolly	Fudge
Bass	Cook	Gabbard
Beatty	Cooper	Gallego
Becerra	Costa	Garamendi
Benishek	Costello (PA)	Garrett
Bera	Courtney	Gibbs
Beyer	Cramer	Gibson
Billirakis	Crawford	Gohmert
Bishop (GA)	Crenshaw	Goodlatte
Bishop (MI)	Crowley	Gosar
Bishop (UT)	Cuellar	Gowdy
Black	Culberson	Graham
Blackburn	Cummings	Granger
Blum	Curbelo (FL)	Graves (GA)
Bonamici	Davis (CA)	Graves (LA)
Bost	Davis, Danny	Graves (MO)
Boustany	Davis, Rodney	Grayson
Boyle, Brendan	DeFazio	Green, Gene
F.	DeGette	Griffith
Brady (PA)	Delaney	Grijalva
Brady (TX)	DeLauro	Grothman
Brat	DelBene	Guinta
Brooks (AL)	Denham	Guthrie
Brooks (IN)	Dent	Hahn
Brown (FL)	DeSantis	Hanna
Brownley (CA)	DeSaulnier	Hardy
Buchanan	DesJarlais	Harper
Buck	Diaz-Balart	Harris
Bucshon	Dingell	Hastings
Burgess	Doggett	Heck (NV)
Bustos	Dold	Heck (WA)
Butterfield	Donovan	Hensarling
Byrne	Doyle, Michael	Herrera Beutler
Calvert	F.	Hice, Jody B.
Capps	Duckworth	Higgins
Capuano	Duffy	Hill
Cárdenas	Duncan (SC)	Himes
Carney	Duncan (TN)	Hinojosa
Carson (IN)	Edwards	Holding
Carter (GA)	Ellison	Honda
Carter (TX)	Elmers (NC)	Hoyer
Cartwright	Emmer (MN)	Huelskamp
Castor (FL)	Engel	Huffman
Castro (TX)	Eshoo	Huizenga (MI)
Chabot	Esty	Hultgren
Chaffetz	Farenthold	Hunter
Chu, Judy	Farr	Hurd (TX)
Ciçilline	Fattah	Hurt (VA)
Clark (MA)	Fincher	Israel