

nursing homes and other elder-care facilities. However, while HUD requires these applicants to submit their latest quality ratings, which is a one-star to five-star rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, or CMS, the quality rating is not a deciding factor.

This has allowed nursing homes that provide routinely poor care to receive repeated taxpayer insurance loans. Among others, this is seen in the rise in the number and volume of one-star facilities that received HUD insurance each year from 2009 to 2012 but, also, in reports over two decades from GAO's and HUD's inspectors general.

Clearly, HUD's steps haven't gone far enough to provide real reform to ensure that taxpayer dollars do not go to nursing homes that consistently provide poor care to our seniors and to our needy. We must ensure that taxpayer support is going to nursing homes that provide quality care for their residents, not to facilities that provide continually deficient care.

By linking CMS' quality ratings to loan eligibility, the Nursing Home Accountability Act ensures that new federally backed loans go to nursing homes with a demonstrated commitment to quality care for their residents.

Bottom line, what my bill states is this:

Under CMS' Five-Star Quality Rating System, if a nursing home receives a rating of two stars or less for 30 consecutive months, the nursing home will then be ineligible for any future section 232 loans.

After a nursing home becomes ineligible for future section 232 loans under this Act, it can become eligible once more for future loans if the facility maintains a rating of three stars or more for 30 months.

Regarding ratings, all nursing homes receive a blank slate when this law is enacted, and HUD is allowed to continue to service previously issued loans under this law.

I would also like to say thanks to our local FOX affiliate for researching the gross mismanagement of Federal funds and bringing a greater awareness of this important matter.

Overall, I look forward to opening the national conversation of how we can better focus this program on the quality of care provided to our seniors and to the needy.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK) at 2 p.m.

PRAAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

As the Members return, we ask Your blessing on all those who are discerning significant options about leadership here in the people's House. May a spirit of freedom and public responsibility prevail among the other voices competing for ascendancy in the conversations and debates that ensue.

Bless all Members with wisdom in good measure—pressed down, shaken together, and running over—that the legacy of great legislators of our history might be carried on with integrity for the benefit of all.

May all that is done in the people's House be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

SOUTH CAROLINIANS ARE AN INSPIRATION

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the past 2 weeks in South Carolina have been inspiring as I learned and saw spontaneous acts of thoughtfulness and compassion for flood victims.

The thousand-year rain event was a disastrous collision of a weather front from the west meeting a moisture-laden trough from the east caused by Hurricane Joaquin bypassing the State, dumping 11 trillion gallons of water, inundating communities with rainfalls up to 26 inches overnight. The volume was equal to filling the Rose Bowl over 130,000 times.

Governor Nikki Haley and National Guard Adjutant General Bob Livingston, backed up by the State Guard, have continued to lead dedicated personnel for safety and recovery. Colonel Kevin Shwedo will be the recovery coordinator.

Individual acts of heroism arise daily, such as the courage of Frank

Roddey, Ryan Truluck, Drew Bozard, and Zack Hudson, who were cited by The State for rescuing, by boat, neighbors from their submerged Lake Katherine homes. Every church and school has energized volunteers and relief efforts for families.

The Salvation Army thanked Mary and J.T. Gandalfo with Rich O'Dell for raising over \$141,000 in a WLTX telethon, with Columbia Rotary Club members receiving the calls.

Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson deserves praise for his dedicated FEMA personnel and SBA representatives implementing Federal assistance.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and the President by his actions should never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

NATIONAL FOREST PRODUCTS WEEK

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of National Forest Products Week.

The forestry and wood product manufacturing industry support over 44,000 jobs in the State of Georgia.

Over the past several years, many architects around the world have demonstrated the successful application of next-generation lumber and mass-timber technologies. These new technologies are providing a new, sustainable solution for building safe, cost effective, and high-performing buildings, most of the time in densely populated cities around the world.

By making forests sustainable and promoting wood product innovation, we can ensure that the wood product industry will continue to be a significant employer throughout the United States. I encourage continued support of forest lands and support for strong wood product markets so we can keep this industry healthy for future generations.

I thank those in the forest product industry for your continued contributions to our local economy, the State of Georgia, and the entire Nation.

CONGRATULATING STUDENTS AT MARVIN WARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the students and faculty at Marvin Ward Elementary School in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

With news of the destructive flooding in South Carolina on their minds, this title I school conducted an informal collection of supplies for those impacted by the devastation. In just 24 hours, the school community had come together for the people of South Carolina and collected clothing, blankets,

towels, pillows, baby supplies, toiletries, pet food, and over 60 cases of water.

In addition to reading, writing, and arithmetic, it is clear that the administration and faculty have also been teaching important lessons in compassion and generosity, which I am sure went along very well with the lessons being learned by these students from their families.

Ward Elementary met the call for assistance with extraordinary result. Its students should be commended for their giving spirit and commitment to helping others.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER,
Washington, DC, October 16, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with two grand jury subpoenas for documents issued by the United States District Court for the Central District of Illinois.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with one of the subpoenas is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House. After further consultation with counsel, I will make the determinations required by Rule VIII with respect to the second subpoena.

Sincerely,

ED CASSIDY.

COMMUNICATION FROM DIRECTOR OF APPROPRIATIONS, THE HONORABLE CHAKA FATTAH, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Michelle Anderson-Lee, Director of Appropriations, the Honorable CHAKA FATTAH, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
October 16, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a subpoena, issued by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, for testimony in a criminal case.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

MICHELLE ANDERSON-LEE,
Director of Appropriations,
Office of Congressman Chaka Fattah.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HULTGREN) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

JUDICIAL REDRESS ACT OF 2015

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1428) to extend Privacy Act remedies to citizens of certified states, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1428

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Judicial Redress Act of 2015".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF PRIVACY ACT REMEDIES TO CITIZENS OF DESIGNATED COUNTRIES.

(a) CIVIL ACTION; CIVIL REMEDIES.—With respect to covered records, a covered person may bring a civil action against an agency and obtain civil remedies, in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same limitations, including exemptions and exceptions, as an individual may bring and obtain with respect to records under—

(1) section 552a(g)(1)(D) of title 5, United States Code, but only with respect to disclosures intentionally or willfully made in violation of section 552a(b) of such title; and

(2) subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 552a(g)(1) of title 5, United States Code, but such an action may only be brought against a designated Federal agency or component.

(b) EXCLUSIVE REMEDIES.—The remedies set forth in subsection (a) are the exclusive remedies available to a covered person under this section.

(c) APPLICATION OF THE PRIVACY ACT WITH RESPECT TO A COVERED PERSON.—For purposes of a civil action described in subsection (a), a covered person shall have the same rights, and be subject to the same limitations, including exemptions and exceptions, as an individual has and is subject to under section 552a of title 5, United States Code, when pursuing the civil remedies described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a).

(d) DESIGNATION OF COVERED COUNTRY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Secretary of Homeland Security, designate a foreign country or regional economic integration organization, or member country of such organization, as a "covered country" for purposes of this section if—

(A) the country or regional economic integration organization, or member country of such organization, has entered into an agreement with the United States that provides for appropriate privacy protections for information shared for the purpose of preventing, investigating, detecting, or prosecuting criminal offenses; or

(B) the Attorney General has determined that the country or regional economic integration organization, or member country of such organization, has effectively shared information with the United States for the purpose of preventing, investigating, detecting, or prosecuting criminal offenses and has appropriate privacy protections for such shared information.

(2) REMOVAL OF DESIGNATION.—The Attorney General may, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Secretary of Homeland Security, revoke the designation of a foreign country or regional economic integration organization, or member country of such organization, as a "covered country" if the Attorney General determines that such designated "covered country"—

(A) is not complying with the agreement described under paragraph (1)(A);

(B) no longer meets the requirements for designation under paragraph (1)(B); or

(C) impedes the transfer of information (for purposes of reporting or preventing unlawful activity) to the United States by a private entity or person.

(e) DESIGNATION OF DESIGNATED FEDERAL AGENCY OR COMPONENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall determine whether an agency or component thereof is a "designated Federal agency or component" for purposes of this section. The Attorney General shall not designate any agency or component thereof other than the Department of Justice or a component of the Department of Justice without the concurrence of the head of the relevant agency, or of the agency to which the component belongs.

(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR DESIGNATION.—The Attorney General may determine that an agency or component of an agency is a "designated Federal agency or component" for purposes of this section, if—

(A) the Attorney General determines that information exchanged by such agency with a covered country is within the scope of an agreement referred to in subsection (d)(1)(A); or

(B) with respect to a country or regional economic integration organization, or member country of such organization, that has been designated as a "covered country" under subsection (d)(1)(B), the Attorney General determines that designating such agency or component thereof is in the law enforcement interests of the United States.

(f) FEDERAL REGISTER REQUIREMENT; NON-REVIEWABLE DETERMINATION.—The Attorney General shall publish each determination made under subsections (d) and (e). Such determination shall not be subject to judicial or administrative review.

(g) JURISDICTION.—The United States District Court for the District of Columbia shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any claim arising under this section.

(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

(1) AGENCY.—The term "agency" has the meaning given that term in section 552(f) of title 5, United States Code.