

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2576, TSCA MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2015, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 897, REDUCING REGULATORY BURDENS ACT OF 2015

Mr. WOODALL, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114-590) on the resolution (H. Res. 742) providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2576) to modernize the Toxic Substances Control Act, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 897) to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify Congressional intent regarding the regulation of the use of pesticides in or near navigable waters, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5055, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Mr. WOODALL, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114-591) on the resolution (H. Res. 743) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5055) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS REFORM AND SAVINGS ACT OF 2016

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4487) to reduce costs of Federal real estate, improve building security, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4487

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 "Public Buildings Reform and Savings Act of 2016".

SEC. 2. STREAMLINED LEASING PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) **EXECUTION OF LEASES.**—The Administrator of General Services shall establish and conduct a pilot program to execute lease agreements pursuant to authority provided under section 585 of title 40, United States Code, using alternative procedures.

(b) **ADOPTION.**—The Administrator shall prescribe alternative procedures to enter into lease agreements in accordance with section 585 of title 40, United States Code, pursuant to the provisions of this section.

(c) **GOALS OF PROCEDURES.**—The goals of the alternative procedures are—

(1) reducing the costs to the Federal Government of leased space, including—

(A) executing long-term leases with firm terms of 10 years or more and reducing cost-

ly holdover and short-term lease extensions, including short firm term leases;

(B) improving office space utilization rates of Federal tenants; and

(C) streamlining and simplifying the leasing process to take advantage of real estate markets; and

(2) significantly reducing or eliminating the backlog of expiring leases over the next 5 years.

(d) **LEASEHOLD INTERESTS IN REAL PROPERTY.**—

(1) **SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURES.**—Notwithstanding section 3305(b) of title 41, United States Code, but otherwise in accordance with such section, the Administrator shall provide special simplified procedures for acquisitions of leasehold interests in real property at rental rates that do not exceed the simplified lease acquisition threshold, as defined in paragraph (2). The rental rate under a multiyear lease does not exceed the simplified lease acquisition threshold if the average annual amount of the rent payable for the period of the lease does not exceed the simplified lease acquisition threshold.

(2) **ACQUISITION THRESHOLD.**—For purposes of this section, the simplified lease acquisition threshold is \$500,000.

(e) **CONSOLIDATED LEASE PROSPECTUSES.**—The Administrator may, when acquiring leasehold interests subject to section 3307 of title 40, United States Code, transmit, pursuant to subsection (b) of such section, to the committees designated in such section for approval a prospectus to acquire leased space, and waive the requirements pursuant to paragraphs (3) and (6) of section 3307(b), subject to the following requirements:

(1) **COST PER SQUARE FOOTAGE.**—The cost per square footage does not exceed the maximum proposed rental rate designated for the respective geographical area.

(2) **SPACE UTILIZATION.**—The Administrator ensures the overall space utilization rate is 170 usable square feet per person or better based on actual agency staffing levels when occupied.

(3) **LEASE TERM.**—The lease term, including the firm term, is not less than 10 years.

(4) **GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION.**—The geographical location is identified as having a large amount of square footage of Federal office space and lease turnover and will likely result in providing for the ability, on a timely basis, of the agency to consolidate space effectively or meet any requirements for temporary or interim space required for planned consolidations.

(f) **CONSOLIDATIONS GENERALLY.**—The Administrator may consolidate more than 1 project into a single prospectus submitted pursuant to section 3307(b), title 40, United States Code, if such consolidation will facilitate efficiencies and reductions in overall space and improved utilization rates.

(g) **WAIVER AUTHORITY.**—The Administrator may—

(1) waive notice and comment rulemaking, if the Administrator determines the waiver is necessary to implement this section expeditiously; and

(2) carry out the alternative procedures under this section as a pilot program.

(h) **REPORTS.**—

(1) **ANNUAL REPORTS.**—During the period in which the pilot program is conducted under this section, the Administrator shall submit, annually, to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate a progress report that provides updates on the number and square footage of leases expiring in the 5-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, by agency and region, and which shall include for the expiring leases—

(A) an average of the lease terms, including firm terms, for leases executed; and

(B) the percentage of leases managed in-house or through the use of commercial real estate leasing services.

(2) **FINAL REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after termination of the pilot program, the Administrator shall submit a final report to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate. The final report shall include—

(A) a review and evaluation of the lease agreements executed under the alternative procedures established pursuant to this section in comparison to those agreements not executed pursuant to the alternative procedures;

(B) recommendations on any permanent changes to the General Services Administration's leasing authority; and

(C) a progress evaluation in meeting the goals described in subsection (c).

(i) **TERMINATION.**—The authorities under this section shall terminate on December 31, 2021.

SEC. 3. EXCHANGE AUTHORITY.

(a) **LIMITATION ON EXCHANGE AUTHORITY.**—Section 3307(a) of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting "(including by exchange)" after "acquire"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(4) An appropriation for any costs and expenses associated with administering an acquisition by exchange involving real property or in-kind consideration, including services, with a fair market value of \$2,850,000 or more."

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall not apply to projects in which a procurement has already begun.

SEC. 4. FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE.

(a) Section 1315 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(h) **CONTRACT SECURITY PERSONNEL.**—

"(1) **AUTHORITIES FOR CONTRACT SECURITY PERSONNEL.**—

"(A) **CARRYING OF FIREARMS.**—The Secretary may authorize contract security personnel engaged in the protection of buildings and grounds that are owned, occupied, or secured by the General Services Administration Public Buildings Service to carry firearms to carry out their official duties.

"(B) **DETENTION WITHOUT A WARRANT.**—A person authorized to carry a firearm under this subsection may, while in the performance of, and in connection with, official duties, detain an individual without a warrant for any offense against the United States committed in that person's presence or for any felony cognizable under the laws of the United States if that person has reasonable grounds to believe that the individual to be detained has committed or is committing such felony. The detention authority conferred by this paragraph is in addition to any detention authority provided under other laws.

"(2) **LIMITATIONS.**—The following limitations apply:

"(A) **DETENTION.**—Contract security personnel authorized to carry firearms under this section may detain an individual only if the individual to be detained is within, or in direct flight from, the area of such offense.

"(B) **ENFORCEMENT OF CERTAIN LAWS.**—A person granted authority to detain under this section may exercise such authority only to enforce laws regarding any building and grounds and all property located in or on that building and grounds that are owned, occupied, or secured by the General Services Administration Public Buildings Service.

“(3) GUIDANCE.—The Secretary, with the approval of the Attorney General, shall issue guidelines to implement this section.”.

(b) Section 1315(b) of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting “and” at the end of subparagraph (D);

(2) by striking “; and” at the end of subparagraph (E) and inserting a period; and

(3) by striking subparagraph (F).

(c) Section 1315(b) of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(3) MINIMUM TRAINING STANDARDS.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Director of the Federal Protective Service and in accordance with guidelines issued by the Attorney General, shall establish minimum and uniform training standards for any employee designated as an officer or agent to carry out and exercise authority pursuant to this section. Such minimum standards shall include ongoing training certified by the Director of the Federal Protective Service.

“(4) NOTIFICATION OF DESIGNATIONS AND DELEGATIONS.—The Secretary shall submit written notification of any approved designations or delegations of any authority provided under this section, including the purposes and scope of such designations or delegations, not within the Federal Protective Service, to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, including the purpose for such designations or delegations, oversight protocols established to ensure compliance with any requirements, including compliance with training requirements, and other specifics regarding such designations and delegations.”.

SEC. 5. EVALUATION OF FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE PERSONNEL NEEDS.

(a) PERSONNEL AND FUNDING NEEDS OF FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act and after review by a qualified consultant pursuant to paragraph (2), the Secretary shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees on the personnel needs of the Federal Protective Service that includes recommendations on the numbers of Federal Protective Service law enforcement officers and the workforce composition of the Federal Protective Service needed to carry out the mission of such Service during the 10-fiscal-year period beginning after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) REVIEW AND COMMENT.—The Secretary shall provide the report prepared under this section to a qualified consultant for review and comment before submitting the report to the appropriate congressional committees. The Secretary shall provide the comments of the qualified consultant to the appropriate congressional committee with the report.

(3) CONTENTS.—The report under this section shall include an evaluation of—

(A) the option of posting a full-time equivalent Federal Protective Service law enforcement officer at each level 3 or 4 Federal facility, as determined by the Interagency Security Committee, that on the date of enactment of this Act has a protective security officer stationed at the facility;

(B) the potential increase in security of any option evaluated under subparagraph (A);

(C) the immediate and projected costs of any option evaluated under such subparagraph; and

(D) the immediate and projected costs of maintaining the current level of protective security officers and full-time Federal Protective Service law enforcement officers.

(b) REPORT ON FUNDING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the best method of funding for the Federal Protective Service, which shall include recommendations regarding whether the Federal Protective Service should—

(1) continue to be funded by a collection of fees and security charges;

(2) be funded by appropriations; or

(3) be funded by a combination of fees, security charges, and appropriations.

SEC. 6. ZERO-BASED SPACE JUSTIFICATION.

Section 3307(b) of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (5), by inserting before the semicolon the following: “including a cost comparison between leasing space or constructing space”;

(2) in paragraph (6) by striking “and” at the end;

(3) in paragraph (7) by striking the period and inserting “; and”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(8) with respect to any prospectus, including for replacement space, lease renewal, or lease extension, the Administrator shall include a justification for such space, including an explanation of why such space could not be consolidated or colocated into other owned or leased space.”.

SEC. 7. ELIMINATING PROJECT ESCALATIONS.

Section 3307(c) of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following: “The Administrator shall notify, in writing, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate of any increase of more than 5 percent of an estimated maximum cost or of any increase or decrease in the scope or size of a project of 5 or more percent. Such notification shall include an explanation regarding any such increase or decrease. The scope or size of a project shall not increase or decrease by more than 10 percent unless an amended prospectus is submitted and approved pursuant to this section.”.

SEC. 8. LIMITATION ON AUTHORIZATIONS.

Section 3307 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(1) EXPIRATION OF COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS.—Unless a lease is executed or a construction, alteration, repair, design, or acquisition project is initiated not later than 5 years after the resolution approvals adopted by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives or the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate pursuant to subsection (a), such resolutions shall be deemed expired. This subsection shall only apply to resolutions approved after the date of enactment of this subsection.”.

SEC. 9. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY HEADQUARTERS REPLACEMENT.

(a) SALE OF CERTAIN PROPERTY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of General Services is directed to sell, exchange, or some combination thereof, a portion of the Forrestal Complex necessary to generate the funds necessary to construct a new Department of Energy headquarters on Government-owned land in a manner consistent with the SW Ecodistrict Plan if the Administrator determines that the new Department of Energy headquarters can be constructed with no net costs to the Government.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(A) DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FORRESTAL COMPLEX.—The term “Forrestal Complex”

means the land, including the buildings and other improvements thereon, that—

(i) subject to survey and as determined by the Administrator, is—

(I) located in the District of Columbia;

(II) generally bounded by Independence Avenue, Southwest, 12th Street, Southwest, Maryland Avenue, Southwest, and 9th Street, Southwest; and

(III) generally consisting of Squares 351-N, 351, 383, 384, and 385 and portions of Squares 325 and 352; and

(ii) is under the jurisdiction and control of the General Services Administration.

(B) SW ECODISTRICT PLAN.—The term “SW Ecodistrict Plan” means the plan of the National Capital Planning Commission titled “The SW Ecodistrict: A Vision Plan For A More Sustainable Future” and dated January 2013.

(b) REPLACEMENT OF HEADQUARTERS.—Not later than 2 years after the disposal of the necessary portions of the Forrestal Complex, the Administrator shall replace the Department of Energy headquarters located on the Forrestal Complex in a Government-owned building on Government-owned land.

(c) CERTAIN PROHIBITIONS.—The Administrator shall not lease a new Department of Energy headquarters or engage in a lease-back of the current headquarters.

(d) SALE.—If the Administrator is unable to meet the conditions of subsection (a), the Administrator shall sell any underutilized or vacant property on the Forrestal Complex for cash.

(e) NET PROCEEDS.—Any net proceeds received, exceeding the expenses of implementing subsection (b) or (d), shall be paid into an account in the Federal Buildings Fund established under section 592 of title 40, United States Code. Upon deposit, the net proceeds from the sale may only be expended subject to a specific future appropriation.

SEC. 10. LIMITATION ON DISCOUNTED PURCHASE OPTIONS.

Section 585 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) Any bargain-price option to purchase at less than fair market value contained in any lease agreement entered into on or after January 1, 2016, pursuant to this section may be exercised only to the extent specifically provided for in subsequent appropriation Acts or other Acts of Congress.”.

SEC. 11. ENERGY SAVINGS.

To the extent practicable and when cost effective, the Administrator of General Services shall consider the direct purchase of energy and other utilities in bulk or otherwise for leased facilities.

SEC. 12. SIMPLIFIED REFORMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of section 863 of Public Law 110-417, an individual acquisition for commercial leasing services shall not be construed as a purchase of property or services if such individual acquisition is made on a no cost basis and pursuant to a multiple award contract awarded in accordance with requirements for full and open competition.

(b) AUDIT.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) conduct biennial audits of the General Services Administration National Broker Contract to determine—

(A) whether brokers selected under the program provide lower lease rental rates than rates negotiated by General Services Administration staff; and

(B) the impact of the program on the length of time of lease procurements;

(2) conduct a review of whether the application of section 863 of Public Law 110-417 to acquisitions for commercial leasing services

resulted in rental cost savings for the Government during the years in which such section was applicable prior to the date of enactment of this section; and

(3) not later than September 30, 2018, and September 30, 2020, submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate a report that—

(A) summarizes the results of the audit and review required by paragraphs (1) and (2);

(B) includes an assessment of whether the National Broker Contract provides greater efficiencies and savings than the use of General Services Administration staff; and

(C) includes recommendations for improving General Services Administration lease procurements.

(c) **TERMINATION.**—This section shall terminate on December 31, 2021.

SEC. 13. NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION RENTAL RATES.

Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of General Services shall submit a report to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate justifying the use of 3 lease rental caps per fiscal year and their impacts in the National Capital Region. The Administrator shall also evaluate and make recommendations related to whether the current rental caps adequately provide for maximum competition for build-to-suit leased space.

SEC. 14. REDUCTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS ON CERTAIN PROGRAMS.

Section 601(d)(2) of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, as amended (42 U.S.C. 3211), is amended—

(1) by striking “(2) RELEASE.—” and inserting the following:

“(2) RELEASE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) **REVOLVING LOAN FUND PROGRAM.**—The Secretary may release, subject to terms and conditions the Secretary determines appropriate, the Federal Government's interest in connection with a grant under section 209(d) not less than 7 years after final disbursement of the grant, if—

“(i) the recipient has carried out the terms of the award in a satisfactory manner;

“(ii) any proceeds realized from the release of the Federal Government's interest will be used for one or more activities that continue to carry out the economic development purposes of this Act; and

“(iii) the recipient shall provide adequate assurance to the Secretary that at all times after release of the Federal Government's interest in connection with the grant, the recipient will be responsible for continued compliance with the requirements of section 602 in the same manner it was responsible prior to release of the Federal Government's interest and that the recipient's failure to comply shall result in the Secretary taking appropriate action, including, but not limited to, rescission of the release and recovery of the Federal share of the grant.”.

SEC. 15. LACTATION ROOM IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

(a) **LACTATION ROOM IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS.**—Chapter 33 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§ 3317. Lactation room in public buildings

“(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section the following definitions apply:

“(1) **APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY.**—The term ‘appropriate authority’ means the head of a Federal agency, the Architect of the Capitol,

or other official authority responsible for the operation of a public building.

“(2) **COVERED PUBLIC BUILDING.**—The term ‘covered public building’ means a public building (as defined in section 3301) that is open to the public and contains a public restroom, and includes a building listed in section 6301 or 5101.

“(3) **LACTATION ROOM.**—The term ‘lactation room’ means a hygienic place, other than a bathroom, that—

“(A) is shielded from view;

“(B) is free from intrusion; and

“(C) contains a chair, a working surface, and, if the public building is otherwise supplied with electricity, an electrical outlet.

“(b) **LACTATION ROOM REQUIRED.**—Except as provided in subsection (c), the appropriate authority of a covered public building shall ensure that the building contains a lactation room that is made available for use by members of the public to express breast milk.

“(c) **EXCEPTIONS.**—A covered public building may be excluded from the requirement in subsection (b) at the discretion of the appropriate authority if—

“(1) the public building—

“(A) does not contain a lactation room for employees who work in the building; and

“(B) does not have a room that could be repurposed as a lactation room or a space that could be made private using portable materials, at a reasonable cost; or

“(2) new construction would be required to create a lactation room in the public building and the cost of such construction is unfeasible.

“(d) **NO UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY.**—Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize an individual to enter a public building or portion thereof that the individual is not otherwise authorized to enter.”.

(b) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 33 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item related to section 3316 the following new item:

“3317. Lactation room in public buildings.”.

(c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall take effect one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 16. USE OF RECLAIMED REFRIGERANTS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of General Services shall issue a report examining the feasibility of giving preference to the use of reclaimed refrigerants to service existing equipment of Federal buildings.

SEC. 17. SALES AND SAVINGS.

(a) **DEFINITION.**—In this section, the term “property” means the following:

(1) The property located in the District of Columbia, subject to survey and as determined by the Administrator of General Services, generally consisting of Squares 325 and 326 and a portion of Square 351 and generally bounded by 12th Street, Independence Avenue, C Street, and the James Forrestal Building, all in Southwest Washington, District of Columbia, including all associated air rights, improvements thereon, and appurtenances thereto.

(2) The property located in the District of Columbia, subject to survey and as determined by the Administrator, generally consisting of Square 326 south of C Street, including the building known as the Cotton Annex.

(b) **SALE.**—Not later than December 31, 2018, the Administrator shall sell the property at fair market value at highest and best use.

(c) **NET PROCEEDS.**—Any net proceeds of a sale under subsection (b) shall be paid into an account in the Federal Buildings Fund established under section 592 of title 40, United

States Code. Upon deposit, the net proceeds from the sale may be expended only subject to a specific future appropriation.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CARSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BARLETTA. 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. 4487, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BARLETTA. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4487, as amended, includes reforms that will reduce the cost of Federal real estate and improve Federal building security. I am pleased to be the sponsor of this important legislation. I want to thank Chairman SHUSTER and Ranking Member DEFAZIO of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and our subcommittee Ranking Member CARSON for working with me on crafting this important legislation.

The Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management held a series of hearings, roundtables, and listening sessions to examine the General Services Administration's lease portfolio. What we found was, within 5 years, half of all GSA leases will expire.

To give some perspective on how much space that represents, that is 100 million square feet of space or 32 new World Trade Centers in New York. More than half of GSA's total real estate inventory is in commercial leased space, costing the taxpayer more than \$5.5 billion each year.

How we replace these leases has a huge impact on the costs to the taxpayer. For larger leases and projects requiring committee authorization, we have already taken steps to reduce the cost of Federal real estate to the taxpayer.

Since last Congress, the committee has worked with GSA to reduce the Federal footprint through consolidating space and improving space utilization. Through those efforts, we have saved the taxpayer more than \$3 billion in avoided lease costs. Those are real savings.

When we reduce the amount of office space agencies are leasing, it directly reduces the cost to the taxpayer. With the large number of leases expiring in the near future, we now have a ripe opportunity to save even more by negotiating better rental rates and concessions.

To take advantage of this opportunity, the Public Buildings Reform and Savings Act establishes a leasing pilot program. This pilot program will

allow GSA to streamline the leasing process to work through expiring leases more quickly and lock in good deals for the long term. The legislation gives GSA flexible pilot authority to address roadblocks to reducing costs so that space acquisition can be based on the best deal and not on arbitrary factors like unusually high ceiling heights that reduce competition.

The legislation could result in a 20 percent reduction in lease costs and save taxpayers more than \$500 million annually, without even accounting for savings through reduction in space. The legislation also includes language that will give GSA a better ability, where appropriate, to use public-private partnerships to meet space needs, leveraging private dollars to offset costs.

In addition to these reforms, H.R. 4487, as amended, includes provisions that will improve building security by clarifying requirements related to the training and accountability of the Federal Protective Service. H.R. 4487, as amended, also includes other provisions that will improve Congress' oversight of public building projects to ensure building projects make sense and stay within budget and on time.

I urge my colleagues to support the passage of this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 23, 2016.

Hon. BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SHUSTER: I am writing to you concerning the jurisdictional interest of the Committee on Homeland Security in H.R. 4487, the "Public Buildings Reform and Savings Act of 2016." The bill contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Homeland Security.

I recognize and appreciate the desire to bring this legislation before the House of Representatives in an expeditious manner, and accordingly, the Committee on Homeland Security will forego action on this bill. The Committee takes this action with the mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 4487 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that our Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues in our jurisdiction.

The waiver is also given with the understanding that the Committee on Homeland Security expressly reserves its authority to seek conferees on any provision within its jurisdiction during any House-Senate conference that may be convened on this or any similar legislation, and requests your support for such a request.

I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 4487, and ask that a copy of this letter and your response be included in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House floor.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REP-
RESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, May 23, 2016.

Hon. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 4487, the Public Buildings Reform and Savings Act of 2016. I appreciate your willingness to support expediting the consideration of this legislation on the House Floor.

I acknowledge that by waiving consideration of this bill, the Committee on Homeland Security does not waive any future valid jurisdictional claim it may have to provisions in this or similar legislation. In addition, should a conference on the bill be necessary, I would cooperate as you seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving provisions within this legislation on which the Committee on Homeland Security has demonstrated a valid jurisdictional claim.

I will include our letters on H.R. 4487 in the Congressional Record during House floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation.

Sincerely,

BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman BARLETTA, Chairman SHUSTER, and Ranking Member DEFAZIO.

I rise in support of H.R. 4487, the Public Buildings Reform and Savings Act of 2016.

Mr. Speaker, this bill begins the process of reforming GSA, Public Buildings Service, and the Federal Protective Service. I would like to thank my colleagues, again, for being a partner in developing this very important piece of legislation directing GSA to improve the management of Federal real estate. The GAO has consistently listed the management of Federal real property an area of high risk.

The provisions contained in today's legislation will address many of the concerns that GAO has documented. Specifically, the bill will direct GSA to reform the leasing process and tighten oversight of the construction program.

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The centerpiece of this legislation is a 5-year pilot program designed to streamline the GSA leasing procurement process. Mr. Speaker, by raising the threshold for simplified lease acquisitions, I believe GSA will be able to reduce their workload on smaller leases and focus their staff on the execution of larger leases that can provide even more savings to taxpayers.

While owning is often the most cost-effective option for housing Federal agencies, there will also be a need for the Federal Government to lease space. The pilot program, and the GAO reports authorized by this bill, is expected to provide the Committee on Transportation with definitive data about the most efficient way to lease Federal office space. The interim reports on the pilot program and the effectiveness of GSA's use of commercial

brokers will be instructive as to which new authorities Congress should let expire in 5 years and which we should keep.

I am also pleased that today's bill includes several reforms authored in H.R. 1850, the Federal Protective Service Improvement Act of 2015. Mr. Speaker, in the aftermath of the 1995 Murrah Building bombing in Oklahoma City, the Department of Justice, or DOJ, assessed the vulnerability of Federal buildings in the United States, particularly related to acts of terrorism and other forms of violence.

The Department of Justice made several recommendations, including upgrading the Federal Protective Service and bringing each Federal facility up to higher minimum standards for its security levels.

The reforms in today's legislation include creating a national framework for the 13,000 contract guards who protect Federal buildings, employees, and visitors each and every day. It mandates a minimum level of training for Protective Service Officers, or PSOs, while at the same time providing authority for PSOs to carry firearms and detain suspects accused of a felony on Federal property. As a former police officer, I can't overstate the importance of a strong training standard for security personnel at every Federal facility across our great Nation.

The bill also requires the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to study whether it has a sufficient number of law enforcement officers and inspectors necessary to regularly conduct security assessments of Federal facilities. Another provision requires a study of whether FPS' fee structure is sufficient to fund the strong law enforcement presence needed today. Mr. Speaker, I expect that when these reports are completed, they will help guide the Committee's efforts to address FPS' long-term funding and staffing issues.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is critically important that we do everything possible to protect the millions of Federal workers and daily visitors to Federal buildings. With increased oversight and additional legislative authority, I believe the FPS can fulfill its mission.

I hope, in closing, that we can continue to work in a bipartisan manner on these matters. I thank the chair and ranking member of the full committee, who both cosponsored and supported this important piece of legislation. Together, we can put forth commonsense reforms that allow both GSA and FPS to be good stewards of our Nation's public buildings.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON), who is an American icon and legend.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend for his overly generous introduction, and I thank my friend from Pennsylvania and my friend from Indiana for this bill.

This bill, which I strongly support, the Public Buildings Reform and Savings Act of 2016, may seem quite technical to those who have heard it described, but I do want to congratulate my friends, the chairman and the ranking member, for a bill that will have great substantive impact on the way that GSA does its business. I particularly appreciate the bipartisan way in which both of them have always performed. I also thank them both for accepting my amendments: one, in keeping with both this bill and the prior bill, for a new, federal footprint here, and a smaller Department of Energy; and then an amendment that is not related to any of this, for lactation space for visitors to Federal buildings.

I appreciate the acceptance of an amendment that allows the GSA to sell or exchange the Department of Energy Forrestal Complex that is right in the heart of The Mall area, at 1000 Independence Avenue, in accordance with the so-called Southwest Ecodistrict Plan, which means that all the appropriate planning has been done, given where this location is and how important it is to official Washington.

My amendment has two purposes. Because the DOE building is larger than necessary and results in wasteful spending, we now require a smaller footprint. It allows the Cotton Annex, close to the Department of Energy on The Mall, to be sold, and gives the GSA what a developer needs—that is what GSA is, a developer—the flexibility to develop this priceless land and assures that development will occur soon—GSA has to come back by June, and we are almost there—with a process for disposing of the Cotton Annex.

I want to thank both gentlemen for agreeing to my amendment that I call the “motherhood” bill. GSA already requires that employees be given lactation space, but we discovered that some employees at the Smithsonian were not getting it. When I called the Smithsonian, they immediately provided the regional space. It is not new space, only existing space for a mother to pump or to nurse a baby, if she is a Federal employee. I simply added visitors and guests to Federal facilities as those that can use this space.

The Nation’s capital is a tourist mecca, so there will be some nursing mothers.

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

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentlewoman an additional 3 minutes.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, the benefits of breastfeeding are well documented. Children’s immune systems build up. Studies have shown that even risks of asthma, diabetes, and the like are reduced in breastfed babies. There are benefits also to nursing mothers as well. The risk of diabetes and cancer are reduced.

This bill isn’t very much related to the important substance of the underlying bill, but the relationship is clear

enough. I very much thank my two good friends for accepting these two amendments to the underlying bill. I strongly support the underlying bill this evening.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ZINKE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4487, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REMEMBERING JUDGE EDMUND V. LUDWIG

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, tonight my constituents back home in Pennsylvania are gathering to remember and celebrate the life of a wonderful citizen. Judge Edmund V. Ludwig will be remembered for his contributions to the community and the courtroom, and for his leadership as a jurist, educator, mentor, and historian.

Judge Ludwig died on May 17, 2016, at the age of 87. He will also be remembered for his wit and wisdom. His legal accomplishments include leading the way to improve access to counsel for the poor, reformation of the juvenile system, and improvement to State services for the mentally ill.

Judge Ludwig founded many of these organizations and served on several of the boards. His well-known affinity for history led to the founding in 1955 of the Doylestown Historical Society, where he served as chairman until 2011.

The former judge of the Bucks County Court of Common Pleas was appointed in 1985 to the United States District Court by President Ronald Reagan. He was honored with the William J. Brennan Jr. Distinguished Jurist Award by the Philadelphia Bar Association in 2005.

Judge Ludwig’s life of service is imprinted in the history of Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

COMBATING THE ZIKA VIRUS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is certainly time for Congress to do its job.

Just last week we were briefed by the Centers for Disease Control regarding the Zika virus. Earlier today in my congressional district in Houston, one of the infectious disease specialists

called Houston and the Gulf region the epicenter of the Zika virus.

It is well known that treatment for any child that is infected will cost \$10 million. Frankly, the brain is literally destroyed by the virus. So the deformity is the fact that there is no brain functioning in these children.

This map indicates the whole Gulf region. That is clearly in the eye of the storm. This map indicates that Houston, among other big cities, is number one as it relates to the Zika virus.

So my call today is for us to fully fund the President’s emergency supplemental. This is a picture of the mosquito causing these impacts. We discussed today a task force, which I created in my district.

Finally, just to leave this information, this is the mosquito. Use DEET. This is a serious matter. We need full funding to combat the Zika virus and save lives.

COMMENDING PENN STATE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last Friday I visited Penn State University for their annual Energy Days program—focused efforts in research and education involving America’s energy sectors.

As many people from Pennsylvania know, the university was founded as one of our Nation’s first colleges of agricultural science. Now under the leadership of Penn State President Eric Barron, the university is taking strides to become known as the energy university.

Courses of study are already being offered that prepare students for careers in the Marcellus Shale industry, many of which offer a starting wage that can support a family.

I applaud the efforts of Penn State in striving to meet the needs of our energy sector, combining expertise in energy-related research, teaching, and service with contributions from leaders in the energy industries.

The new initiative will greatly expand efforts in energy policy, fossil fuels, renewable energy, systems and technology, and environmental impact. More importantly, those efforts will be expanded across the State at the university’s 24 campuses.

Our energy industries, such as coal, natural gas, and oil, are vital to the history, heritage, and future of Pennsylvania.

ISIS MURDERS CHRISTIAN GIRL

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last week, ISIS terrorists came to the house of a Christian family in Iraq to collect the religious tax imposed on all non-Muslims.