

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.

TESTED ABILITY TO LEVERAGE EXCEPTIONAL NATIONAL TALENT ACT OF 2016

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5658) to amend title 5, United States Code, to codify the Presidential Innovation Fellows Program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5658

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 “Tested Ability to Leverage Exceptional National Talent Act of 2016” or the “TALENT Act of 2016”.

SEC. 2. PRESIDENTIAL INNOVATION FELLOWS PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 31 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SUBCHAPTER V—PRESIDENTIAL INNOVATION FELLOWS PROGRAM

“§3171. Presidential Innovation Fellows Program

“(a) POLICY.—It is in the national interest for the Government to attract the brightest minds skilled in technology or innovative practices to serve in the Government to work on some of the Nation’s biggest and most pressing challenges. This subchapter establishes a program to encourage successful entrepreneurs, executives, and innovators to join the Government and work in close cooperation with Government leaders, to create meaningful solutions that can help save lives and taxpayer money, fuel job creation, and significantly improve how the Government serves the American people.

“(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator of General Services shall continue the Presidential Innovation Fellows Program (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Program’) to enable exceptional individuals with proven track records to serve time-limited appointments in Executive agencies to address some of the Nation’s most significant challenges and improve existing Government efforts that would particularly benefit from expertise using innovative techniques and technology.

“(c) ADMINISTRATION.—The Program shall be administered by a Director, appointed by the Administrator under authorities of the General Services Administration. The Administrator shall provide necessary staff, resources and administrative support for the Program.

“(d) APPOINTMENT OF FELLOWS.—The Director shall appoint fellows pursuant to the Program and, in cooperation with Executive agencies, shall facilitate placement of fellows to participate in projects that have the potential for significant positive effects and are consistent with the President’s goals.

“(e) APPLICATION PROCESS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall prescribe the process for applications and nominations of individuals to the Program.

“(2) PROGRAM STANDARDS.—Following publication of these processes, the Director may accept for consideration applications from

individuals. The Director shall establish, administer, review, and revise, if appropriate, a Governmentwide cap on the number of fellows. The Director shall establish and publish salary ranges, benefits, and standards for the Program.

“(f) SELECTION, APPOINTMENT, AND ASSIGNMENT OF FELLOWS.—

“(1) PROCEDURES.—The Director shall prescribe appropriate procedures for the selection, appointment, and assignment of fellows.

“(2) CONSULTATION.—Prior to the selection of fellows, the Director shall consult with the heads of Executive agencies regarding potential projects and how best to meet those needs. Following such consultation, the Director shall select and appoint individuals to serve as fellows.

“(3) TIME LIMITATION.—Fellows selected for the Program shall serve under short-term, time-limited appointments. Such fellows shall be appointed for no less than 6 months and no longer than 2 years in the Program. The Director shall facilitate the process of placing fellows at requesting Executive agencies.

“(g) RESPONSIBILITIES OF AGENCIES.—Each Executive agency shall work with the Director and the Presidential Innovation Fellows Program advisory board established under section 3172 to attempt to maximize the Program’s benefits to the agency and the Government, including by identifying initiatives that have a meaningful effect on the people served and that benefit from involvement by one or more fellows. Such agencies shall ensure that each fellow works closely with responsible senior officials for the duration of the assignment.

“§3172. Presidential Innovation Fellows Program advisory board

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of General Services shall continue an advisory board to advise the Director of the Presidential Innovation Fellows Program by recommending such priorities and standards as may be beneficial to fulfill the mission of the Presidential Innovation Fellows Program and assist in identifying potential projects and placements for fellows. The advisory board may not participate in the selection process under section 3171(f).

“(b) CHAIR; MEMBERSHIP.—The Administrator shall designate a representative to serve as the Chair of the advisory board. In addition to the Chair, the membership of the advisory board shall include—

“(1) the Deputy Director for Management of the Office of Management and Budget;

“(2) the Director of the Office of Personnel Management;

“(3) the Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government of the Office of Management and Budget;

“(4) the Assistant to the President and Chief Technology Officer; and

“(5) other individuals as may be designated by the Administrator.

“(c) CONSULTATION.—The advisory board may consult with industry, academia, or nonprofits to ensure the Presidential Innovation Fellows Program is continually identifying opportunities to apply advanced skillsets and innovative practices in effective ways to address the Nation’s most significant challenges.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 31 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SUBCHAPTER V—PRESIDENTIAL INNOVATION FELLOWS PROGRAM

“§3171. Presidential Innovation Fellows Program.

“§3172. Presidential Innovation Fellows Program advisory board.”

(c) TRANSITION.—The Presidential Innovation Fellows Program established pursuant to Executive Order 13704 (5 U.S.C. 3301 note) as in existence on the day before the date of enactment of this Act shall be considered the Presidential Innovation Fellows Program described under this section.

(d) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act or the amendments made by this Act. This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall be carried out using amounts otherwise authorized.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FARENTHOLD) and the gentleman from California (Mr. TED LIEU) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FARENTHOLD. 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 the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 5658, the TALENT Act of 2016, introduced by our distinguished majority leader, Representative KEVIN MCCARTHY of Bakersfield, California. I commend the leader for bringing before the House this bill as part of his Innovation Initiative, rethinking what government does and how government operates.

Mr. Speaker, the TALENT Act makes permanent the Presidential Innovation Fellows program that was created by the administration in 2012. This highly competitive program recruits talented innovators and technologists to Federal agencies from the private sector.

During this short timeframe, fellows work on initiatives to transfer ideas into tangible results for American taxpayers at startup speeds. Since 2012, 96 top innovators have been recruited into the program from across the country.

Presidential Innovation Fellows are rethinking what government does and how government operates. Consider one example of the program’s work. Presidential Innovation Fellows improved services available to veterans, transitioning servicemembers, and their spouses. As a result, veterans now have better access to a résumé-builder, a military skills translator, and detailed career and training resources all together in one place.

Mr. Speaker, the Presidential Innovation Fellowship program is demonstrating results and should continue. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5658.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of the TALENT Act. I believe it will help our government

continue to attract the best and the brightest to help some of our Nation's largest challenges.

This Act codifies Executive Order 13704, and ensures the continuation of the Presidential Innovation Fellows program, which helps bring private-sector information technology solutions to Federal agencies.

Established by President Obama in 2012, this program has matched over 100 innovators with top civil servants at 25 different Federal departments and agencies. These partnerships harness new technology and tools to create a more effective and efficient government. During their tenure, fellows work to quickly deliver innovative products and services that help improve the way the Federal Government interacts with the American people.

The fellows are as diverse as our country and come from every region, age, skill, race, and gender. They have experience at companies like Google and Facebook, degrees from some of our top universities, extensive experience in nonprofits and, most importantly, a desire to harness their skills for public service.

Past projects include the Blue Button Initiative, which allows 150 million Americans access to their own health data so they can make informed decisions about their family's care.

The GeoQ project provides FEMA with better on-the-ground knowledge in times of disaster, using crowdsourced pictures to better assess damages and needs.

The NotAlone.gov project provides students and law enforcement personnel resources on responding and preventing sexual assault on college campuses.

And as a veteran myself, I appreciate the Veterans Employment Center, which has created a central hub for those who served with resources and potential employers to help them make the transition to civilian life.

This is a good bill that would make permanent a successful program. I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY), the majority leader.

Mr. MCCARTHY. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, the American people deal with their government in different ways almost every day; veterans trying to navigate the Federal bureaucracy, entrepreneurs dealing with regulations, citizens looking to access public information.

□ 1430

Dealing with the government is never as clear, as easy, or as efficient as it should be. That is because, while the world has changed in so many ways, government has stayed in the past.

Just think of how little government has changed. In the 1930s, we got our

news from the radio and the morning paper; today we get it on our phones. In the 1930s, we would cool off by opening the window or using a fan; today we have central air. In the 1930s, the VA processed paper disability claims; today it still processes paper disability claims.

Why is it that we expect more technology from our phones every month yet tolerate the exact same from our government year after year after year? Government is stuck in the past. We need to bring it into the future, and that is one of the two pillars of the Innovation Initiative.

Bringing government into the 21st century demands challenging the status quo. That begins with people, making sure the American people benefit from the best talent our country has to offer.

The Presidential Innovation Fellows program allows highly talented professionals—that means engineers, designers, and innovators from across the country—to build a more efficient, effective, and accountable government. They challenge old ways of thinking and introduce new approaches to make our government work the way American people believe and deserve it to work.

Now, I sponsored the TALENT Act to make sure this program continues into future administrations. By codifying the Presidential Innovation Fellows program into law, we can continue bringing positive disruptors to Washington and modernize our government.

The greatest resource we have in our country is the American people. We need the talent of the American people now more than ever before so we can reform government so it works well for everyone.

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

This is a great piece of legislation. Regardless of which side of the aisle we sit on and regardless of whether we think government is too big or too small, I think almost everybody in this Chamber should be able to agree that the government needs to do its job well. It needs to spend taxpayer money efficiently. It needs to get the job done for the American people.

One of the ways it can do that is by adopting modern technology and taking advantage of the disruption that we have seen in the private sector that has brought us innovations like our phone that now is more powerful than a desktop computer just a few years ago.

I agree with the gentleman from California. It is absolutely imperative that we provide better, more efficient service to our veterans, but the same should be true in dealing with every area of government. You should get as good service from the government as you do in the private sector.

We can talk all we want about the Federal bureaucracy, and I am sure I

will probably disagree with some of the folks on the other side of the aisle about some of the pros and cons of this. But I think what we have seen in California, in Texas, in the Carolinas, in Boston, and all over this great Nation, as we have seen this boom in technology, as we have seen the changes that are coming that we are able to do more with less, we are able to do things faster, we are able to be more efficient, and we are able to give people more leisure time. This innovation economy, this mindset of the entrepreneur is something that this program brings into the Federal Government.

Many people spend long careers in the Federal Government where it is often disincentivized to innovate. This short-term program that brings the best of the best into the government for short periods of time to shake things up and to rethink how we do things is one of the ways that we can make it where the Federal Government actually can compute its way out of a paper bag. It is a way we are able to help our veterans. It is a way we are able to help all of our citizens by providing the services that we choose to provide as a government in the most efficient manner, and it gives us an opportunity for somebody who is standing outside of the box to take a look at what we are doing so maybe we can act a little bit outside of the box and do a better job.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this phenomenal 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. FARENTHOLD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5658.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. FARENTHOLD. 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.

NATIONAL SECURITIES EXCHANGE REGULATORY PARITY ACT OF 2016

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5421) to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to apply the exemption from State regulation of securities offerings to securities listed on a national security exchange that has listing standards that have been approved by the Commission, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5421

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 “National Securities Exchange Regulatory Parity Act of 2016”.