

The bill would, in addition, require the Office of Personnel Management to establish a new career path for program and project management and to identify key skills and competencies for such jobs. The Federal Government is often called upon to manage large, complex new programs and initiatives and needs a cadre of managers capable of guiding this work.

S. 1550, as amended, is a good, bipartisan measure that would improve the management of the Federal Government, and I urge its adoption.

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY), my good friend and a sponsor of this bill.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER), my good friends, for their leadership in managing today.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, in strong support of this bill, which will make fundamental changes to project and program management practices and standards for the Federal Government.

The bill's cosponsor, Representative TODD YOUNG, and I currently serve as co-chairs of the Government Efficiency Caucus, which to some may seem like an oxymoron. In our capacity as co-chairs, Representative YOUNG and I worked together on a bipartisan basis to develop the Program Management Improvement and Accountability Act.

After taking input from many stakeholders, including from agency management and private sector partners, regarding the root causes of poor project performance, we identified serious deficiencies in program and project management competencies across the entire Federal Government.

As ranking member of the Subcommittee on Government Operations, it is deeply troubling to me that so many Federal projects and programs find themselves substantially over budget or significantly behind schedule. These are all symptoms of a lack of institutional focus and attention to the mechanics of project management.

This bill strengthens project management policy throughout the Federal Government by requiring consistent project standards and guidelines for program management, demanding accountability at OMB and in Federal agencies to capture and implement lessons learned, and requiring a clear identification of skills and competencies necessary for effective program management professionals.

I have the honor of representing more than 13,000 project managers, Federal project managers, and the lack of requirements for the position is not acceptable. The job description for an important position where billions of dollars are being spent should be clearly

defined, and this legislation instructs OPM, the Office of Personnel Management, to develop a job classification and career path for these professionals.

I am proud to have worked with Congressman YOUNG and the Government Efficiency Caucus on a bipartisan basis. We have the support of non-partisan good government groups, including the Project Management Institute and the National Academy of Public Administration behind this bill.

As a result, the PMIAA passed through our committee, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, without objection, and passed the Senate unanimously. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation that I think will lead to significant efficiencies in the Federal Government and ultimately benefit the American taxpayer.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this bill. I thank my colleague for his work on this bill, my good friend from Virginia.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1550, as amended.

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. HUELSKAMP. 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.

GAO MANDATES REVISION ACT OF 2016

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5687) to eliminate or modify certain mandates of the Government Accountability Office.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5687

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 "GAO Mandates Revision Act of 2016".

SEC. 2. REPORTS ELIMINATED.

(a) SINGLE AUDIT ACT MONITORING RESPONSIBILITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 75 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking section 7506; and

(B) by redesignating section 7507 as section 7506.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 75 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking the items relating to sections 7506 and 7507 and inserting the following:

"7506. Effective date."

(b) REVIEW OF MEDIGAP PREMIUM LEVELS.—Section 111(c) of the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000 (Appendix F; 114 Stat. 2763A-473), as enacted into law by section 1(a)(6) of Public Law 106-554, is repealed.

(c) REPORT ON DISPUTE RESOLUTION PILOT PROGRAM.—Section 1105 of the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act of 2013 (42 U.S.C. 5189a note) is amended by striking subsection (d).

(d) BIENNIAL SURVEY REGARDING TRANSPORTATION INTELLIGENCE REPORTS.—Section 114(u) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking "subsection (t)" and inserting "subsection (s)(4)(E)";

(2) by striking paragraph (7); and

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (8) and (9) as paragraphs (7) and (8), respectively.

SEC. 3. REPORTS MODIFIED.

(a) OVERSIGHT AND AUDITS UNDER THE EMERGENCY ECONOMIC STABILIZATION ACT OF 2008.—Section 116(a)(3) of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (12 U.S.C. 5226(a)(3)) is amended by striking ", regularly and no less frequently than once every 60 days," and inserting "annually".

(b) REPORTS ON CONFLICT MINERALS.—Section 1502(d) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 78m note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "until the termination of the disclosure requirements under section 13(p) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934" and inserting "through 2020, in 2022, and in 2024"; and

(2) in paragraph (2), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting "through 2020, in 2022, and in 2024" after "annually thereafter".

(c) UPDATE ON ACTIONS TAKEN BY SECRETARY OF HHS TO IMPLEMENT GAO RECOMMENDATION.—Section 632(d) of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-240; 126 Stat. 2354) is amended in the first sentence by striking "December 31, 2015" and inserting "December 31, 2023".

(d) REVIEW PANEL.—Section 399V-4(d)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g-15) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by striking ", or an individual within the Government Accountability Office designated by the Comptroller General, shall" and inserting "shall designate a member of the review panel to"; and

(2) in subparagraph (D), by striking "Comptroller General" and inserting "Secretary".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within 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 Georgia?

There was no objection.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 5687, the GAO Mandates Revision

Act of 2016. We have a unique opportunity today to help a critical congressional ally, the Government Accountability Office.

GAO's reporting helps ensure that Federal funds are efficiently and effectively spent and that our Federal programs work as intended for the American people. For example, the GAO has created over \$600 billion in financial benefits to the Federal Government since fiscal year 2003. The implementation of GAO's recommendations has led to over 16,000 program and operational improvements across the Federal Government.

Congress relies heavily on GAO, and, therefore, it is natural that committees frequently pass bills to require the GAO to produce regular reporting. However, Congress must also periodically review these requirements to ensure that we are not burdening GAO with required reporting that is no longer necessary.

The bill before us does just that by repealing eight mandated reviews that are outdated or unnecessary. Elimination of these reports will allow the GAO to free up resources and better focus on Congress' highest priorities. All reports being repealed by this legislation have been agreed upon on a bipartisan, bicameral basis.

I want to thank my colleagues throughout the House and Senate who have taken part in this process. We will be back in the 115th Congress with a similar review, and I thank you in advance for your help again.

In summary, the bill before us today will allow the GAO to better respond to more time-sensitive congressional requests. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5687.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, this is a simple, commonsense bill that would eliminate or modify certain outdated GAO reports currently mandated by statute. The bill would allow GAO to more effectively use its resources and assist Congress more effectively. I appreciate the bipartisan and bicameral approach taken on this bill.

□ 1530

Majority and minority staff of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee worked to ensure that the committee that received the reports affected by the bill were all comfortable with the changes being made.

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

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5687.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the

rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MARINE LANCE CORPORAL SQUIRE "SKIP" WELLS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5612) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2886 Sandy Plains Road in Marietta, Georgia, as the "Marine Lance Corporal Squire 'Skip' Wells Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5612

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

SECTION 1. MARINE LANCE CORPORAL SQUIRE "SKIP" WELLS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2886 Sandy Plains Road in Marietta, Georgia, shall be known and designated as the "Marine Lance Corporal Squire 'Skip' Wells Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Marine Lance Corporal Squire 'Skip' Wells Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. 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 Georgia?

There was no objection.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5612, introduced by Representative TOM PRICE of Georgia, to designate a post office located in Marietta, Georgia, as the Marine Lance Corporal Squire "Skip" Wells Post Office Building.

Lance Corporal Wells enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 2014 after 2 years in college. On July 16, 2015, he was completing training at the Naval and Marine Reserve Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee, when a gunman opened fire.

Lance Corporal Wells heroically lost his life warning fellow marines about the attack. I look forward to learning more about Lance Corporal Wells from

the sponsor of the bill, Representative PRICE. For now, I urge Members to support the bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H.R. 5612, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2886 Sandy Plains Road in Marietta, Georgia, as the Marine Lance Corporal Squire "Skip" Wells Post Office Building.

A native of Marietta, Georgia, Skip Wells enlisted in the Marine Corps in 2014 and was assigned to the 14th Marine Regiment in Tennessee, where he served as a field artillery commander.

On July 16, 2015, while serving a voluntary 2-week assignment at the U.S. Naval and Marine Reserve Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee, Lance Corporal Wells was tragically killed when a lone gunman opened fire on the center. Lance Corporal Wells was posthumously awarded a Purple Heart.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to honor the bravery, service, and sacrifice of Lance Corporal Skip Wells. I urge support for this bill.

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

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. TOM PRICE), my good friend, a great leader, and the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. TOM PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a fallen hero from Georgia's Sixth Congressional District, Marine Lance Corporal Squire Wells from Marietta, Georgia.

Known by his friends and family as Skip, Lance Corporal Wells was one of five servicemembers tragically murdered in a terrorist attack at the Naval and Marine Reserve Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee, on July 16, 2015.

Skip Wells graduated from Sprayberry High School in Cobb County in 2012. In high school, he played clarinet in the marching band, was active in Junior ROTC, and was regarded by his classmates as a "protector"—someone who "looked at everyone with love" and would "go anywhere to protect anybody."

After graduation, he studied history at Georgia Southern University before going on to enlist in the Marine Corps in 2014. Mr. Speaker, his family had a long tradition of military service, and Skip Wells felt a strong calling to defend his country.

While in the Marines, Skip Wells distinguished himself as a proud field artillery cannoner. His desire to put the well-being of his fellow marines and the mission before that of his own was famous among fellow servicemembers. Once, while on a training exercise, a sledge hammer badly damaged his hand while attempting to drive a stake into the ground. Seeing the damage to his hand, his commanding officer ordered Wells to seek immediate medical attention for his injuries, but Lance Corporal Wells refused. He said: