

into the project after receiving hundreds of millions of dollars from a separate asset sale that involved the Russian bank, whose full name is Vnesheconombank.

Mr. Shnaider sold his company's share in a Ukrainian steelmaker for about \$850 million in 2010, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence. According to two people with knowledge of the deal, the buyer, which hasn't been identified publicly, was an entity acting for the Russian government. VEB initiated the purchase and provided the money, these people say.

U.S. investigators are looking into any ties between Russian financial institutions, Mr. Trump and anyone in his orbit, according to a person familiar with the probe. As part of the investigation, they're examining interactions between Mr. Trump, his associates and VEB, which is now subject to U.S. sanctions, said another person familiar with the matter. The Toronto deal adds a new element to the list of known connections between Mr. Trump's associates and Russia.

After Mr. Shnaider and his partner sold their stake in the steelmaker, Mr. Shnaider injected more money into the Trump Toronto project, which was financially troubled. Mr. Shnaider's lawyer, Symon Zucker, said in an April interview that about \$15 million from the asset sale went into the Trump Toronto project. A day later, he wrote in an email: "I am not able to confirm that any funds" from the deal "went into the Toronto project."

A spokesman for the Trump Organization, the family's real-estate firm, said Mr. Trump had no involvement in any financial dealings with VEB and that the Trump company "merely licensed its brand and manages the hotel and residences." VEB didn't respond to requests for comment.

Mr. Trump has said he has no dealings with Russia. "To the best of my knowledge, no person that I deal with does," he said in February. On Friday, Mr. Trump's lawyers released a two-month-old letter stating that 10 years of his tax returns show little income, investments or debt from Russian sources beyond items already known to the public.

VEB has long been viewed by Russian analysts as a vehicle for the Russian government to fund politically important projects, including the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi. A VEB executive in New York was sentenced to prison last year after pleading guilty to conspiring to act in the U.S. as a Russian agent without notifying U.S. authorities.

In the wake of U.S. intelligence agency findings that Russian government-directed hackers interfered in the 2016 election, several agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, are conducting a counter-intelligence probe into whether Mr. Trump's campaign staff had any contact with Russian officials. Committees in the House of Representatives and the Senate also are investigating the matter. Russian authorities have denied any interference.

At the time of Mr. Shnaider's steelmaker deal, Russian President Vladimir Putin was chairman of VEB's supervisory board, and major deals would have been approved by him, according to a former Russian government official and several Russian government and economic experts. The bank later was placed on the U.S. sanctions list after Russia's intrusion into Ukraine and its annexation of Crimea in 2014. American entities are barred from financial involvement with the bank.

VEB made headlines when it emerged that its chairman met with Mr. Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner in December. A bank spokesperson has said VEB's leaders met Mr. Kushner and numerous global financial executives as it developed a new strategy for the bank. Mr. Spicer has said Mr. Kushner's

meeting was part of his role during the Trump transition as the "primary point of contact with foreign government officials."

The Toronto project was billed in 2007 as a joint venture between Mr. Trump and Mr. Shnaider and was projected to cost about 500 million Canadian dollars. Mr. Trump said at the time he would manage the hotel's operations and Mr. Shnaider planned to develop the tower, which also would include condominiums, through his company, Talon International Development Inc.

The project has been dogged by financial problems. In November, it entered insolvency proceedings, and a judge in March approved its sale.

Alan Garten, the Trump Organization's general counsel, said the company "was not the owner, developer or seller" of the project. While The Wall Street Journal and others reported in 2011 and 2012 that Mr. Trump had a minor ownership stake in it, Mr. Garten now says Mr. Trump "did not hold" equity and had no involvement with the financing.

The Trump Toronto Hotel Management Corp. has received at least \$611,000 in fees from the project since 2015, federal financial-disclosure forms filed last May show. The forms don't disclose the company's total income from the deal.

Shortly after the project broke ground in 2007, about 85% of the units were presold. During the financial crisis, some buyers pulled out and others were unable to get financing, receivership documents show. Midland Resources Holding Ltd., then owned by Mr. Shnaider and a partner, was on the hook for cost overruns, the documents show.

Midland Resources had acquired its stake in the Ukrainian steelmaker, called Zaporizhstal, for about \$70 million after the collapse of the Soviet Union. The 2010 transaction to sell it was opaque. Midland transferred ownership of its portion of the steelmaker to the unnamed buyer through five offshore companies, according to Mr. Shnaider's lawyer and court documents.

The idea for the deal was brought to a top VEB executive by a former Ukrainian government official, according to an investment banker familiar with what happened. Although the buyer wasn't named, a steel trader with knowledge of the deal said VEB itself ended up with control of Midland's share of the steelmaker. At the time, Russian entities saw gaining control of large industrial assets in Ukraine as having strategic value to Russian political interests in the future, said another investment banker with knowledge of the deal.

Mr. Zucker, Mr. Shnaider's lawyer, said Midland Resources "has never had any relationship with VEB" and "does not dictate where their purchasers borrow funds." He declined to identify the buyer, citing confidentiality provisions, other than to say it was a "Ukrainian industrial group."

Mr. Shnaider's companies continued to pump money into the Toronto tower as it struggled to stay afloat, according to his lawyer and later court documents. Later, Mr. Shnaider became embroiled in a legal battle with Mr. Trump's companies over management issues. The Trump Organization declined to comment.

In November, a Canadian judge placed the tower into receivership. Mr. Trump's company was owed C\$116,165.72, and Mr. Shnaider's company as much as C\$105 million, court documents show.

Recently, a judge approved the sale of the building to a California-based investment firm for about \$220 million.

REMOVING OUTDATED RESTRICTIONS TO ALLOW FOR JOB GROWTH ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1177) to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to release on behalf of the United States the condition that certain lands conveyed to the City of Old Town, Maine, be used for a municipal airport, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 418, nays 1, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 262]

YEAS—418

Abraham	Cleaver	Foster
Adams	Clyburn	Fox
Aderholt	Coffman	Frankel (FL)
Aguilar	Cohen	Franks (AZ)
Allen	Collins (GA)	Frelinghuysen
Amodei	Collins (NY)	Fudge
Arrington	Comer	Gabbard
Babin	Comstock	Gaetz
Bacon	Conaway	Gallagher
Banks (IN)	Connolly	Gallego
Barletta	Conyers	Garamendi
Barr	Cook	Garrett
Barragán	Cooper	Gibbs
Barton	Correa	Gohmert
Bass	Costa	Gonzalez (TX)
Beatty	Costello (PA)	Goodlatte
Bera	Courtney	Gosar
Bergman	Cramer	Gottheimer
Beyer	Crawford	Gowdy
Biggs	Crist	Granger
Bilirakis	Crowley	Graves (GA)
Bishop (GA)	Cuellar	Graves (LA)
Bishop (MI)	Culberson	Graves (MO)
Bishop (UT)	Cummings	Green, Al
Black	Curbelo (FL)	Green, Gene
Blackburn	Davidson	Griffith
Blum	Davis (CA)	Griyalva
Blumenauer	Davis, Danny	Grothman
Blunt Rochester	Davis, Rodney	Guthrie
Bonamici	DeFazio	Hanabusa
Bost	DeGette	Harper
Boyle, Brendan	Delaney	Harris
F.	DeLauro	Hartzler
Brady (PA)	DeBene	Hastings
Brady (TX)	Demings	Heck
Brat	Denham	Hensarling
Bridenstine	Dent	Herrera Beutler
Brooks (AL)	DeSantis	Hice, Jody B.
Brooks (IN)	DeSaulnier	Higgins (LA)
Brown (MD)	DesJarlais	Hill
Brownley (CA)	Deutch	Himes
Buchanan	Diaz-Balart	Holding
Buck	Dingell	Hollingsworth
Bucshon	Doggett	Hoyer
Budd	Donovan	Hudson
Burgess	Doyle, Michael	Huffman
Bustos	F.	Huizenga
Butterfield	Duffy	Hultgren
Byrne	Duncan (SC)	Hunter
Calvert	Duncan (TN)	Hurd
Capuano	Dunn	Issa
Carbajal	Ellison	Jackson Lee
Cárdenas	Emmer	Jayapal
Carson (IN)	Engel	Jeffries
Carter (GA)	Eshoo	Jenkins (KS)
Carter (TX)	Española	Jenkins (WV)
Cartwright	Estes (KS)	Johnson (GA)
Castor (FL)	Esty (CT)	Johnson (LA)
Castro (TX)	Evans	Johnson (OH)
Chabot	Farenthold	Johnson, E. B.
Cheney	Faso	Jones
Chu, Judy	Ferguson	Jordan
Cicilline	Fitzpatrick	Joyce (OH)
Clark (MA)	Fleischmann	Kaptur
Clarke (NY)	Flores	Katko
Clay	Fortenberry	Keating

Kelly (IL)	Mooney (WV)	Sensenbrenner
Kelly (MS)	Moore	Serrano
Kelly (PA)	Moulton	Sessions
Kennedy	Mullin	Sewell (AL)
Khanna	Murphy (FL)	Shea-Porter
Kihuen	Murphy (PA)	Sherman
Kildee	Nadler	Shimkus
Kilmer	Neal	Shuster
Kind	Noem	Simpson
King (IA)	Nolan	Sinema
King (NY)	Norcross	Sires
Kinzinger	O'Halleran	Slaughter
Knight	O'Rourke	Smith (MO)
Krishnamoorthi	Olson	Smith (NE)
Kuster (NH)	Palazzo	Smith (NJ)
Kustoff (TN)	Pallone	Smith (TX)
Labrador	Palmer	Smith (WA)
LaHood	Panetta	Smucker
LaMalfa	Pascrell	Soto
Lamborn	Paulsen	Speier
Lance	Pearce	Stefanik
Langevin	Perlmutter	Stewart
Larsen (WA)	Perry	Stivers
Larson (CT)	Peters	Suozzi
Latta	Peterson	Swalwell (CA)
Lawrence	Pingree	Takano
Lawson (FL)	Pittenger	Taylor
Lee	Pocan	Tenney
Levin	Poe (TX)	Thompson (CA)
Lewis (GA)	Poliquin	Thompson (MS)
Lewis (MN)	Polis	Thompson (PA)
Lieu, Ted	Posey	Thornberry
Lipinski	Price (NC)	Tiberi
LoBiondo	Quigley	Tipton
Loeback	Raskin	Titus
Lofgren	Ratcliffe	Tonko
Long	Reed	Torres
Loudermilk	Reichert	Trott
Love	Renacci	Tsongas
Lowenthal	Rice (NY)	Turner
Lowey	Rice (SC)	Upton
Lucas	Richmond	Valadao
Luetkemeyer	Roby	Vargas
Lujan Grisham,	Roe (TN)	Veasey
M.	Rogers (AL)	Vela
Luján, Ben Ray	Rogers (KY)	Velázquez
Lynch	Rohrabacher	Visclosky
MacArthur	Rokita	Wagner
Maloney,	Rooney, Francis	Walberg
Carolyn B.	Rooney, Thomas	Walden
Maloney, Sean	J.	Walker
Marchant	Ros-Lehtinen	Walorski
Marino	Rosen	Walters, Mimi
Marshall	Roskam	Walz
Massie	Ross	Wasserman
Mast	Rothfus	Schultz
Matsui	Rouzer	Waters, Maxine
McCarthy	Roybal-Allard	Watson Coleman
McCaul	Royce (CA)	Weber (TX)
McClintock	Ruiz	Webster (FL)
McCollum	Ruppersberger	Welch
McEachin	Rush	Wenstrup
McGovern	Russell	Westerman
McHenry	Rutherford	Williams
McKinley	Ryan (OH)	Wilson (FL)
McMorris	Sánchez	Wilson (SC)
Rodgers	Sanford	Wittman
McNerney	Sarbanes	Womack
McSally	Scalise	Woodall
Meadows	Schakowsky	Yarmuth
Meehan	Schneider	Yoder
Meeks	Schrader	Yoho
Meng	Schweikert	Young (AK)
Messer	Scott (VA)	Young (IA)
Mitchell	Scott, Austin	Zeldin
Moolenaar	Scott, David	

NAYS—1

Amash

NOT VOTING—11

Chaffetz	Johnson, Sam	Payne
Cole	Napolitano	Pelosi
Gutiérrez	Newhouse	Schiff
Higgins (NY)	Nunes	

□ 1829

Mr. MCEACHIN changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall No. 261 and “yea” on rollcall No. 262.

AMERICAN LAW ENFORCEMENT
HEROES ACT OF 2017

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (S. 583) to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize COPS grantees to use grant funds to hire veterans as career law enforcement officers, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ARRINGTON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 583

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 “American Law Enforcement Heroes Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. PRIORITIZING HIRING AND TRAINING OF
VETERANS.

Section 1701(b)(2) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd(b)(2)) is amended by inserting “, including by prioritizing the hiring and training of veterans (as defined in section 101 of title 38, United States Code)” after “Nation”.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRESS MUST FINISH REFORM
OF THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

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

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, last week a Federal court temporarily overturned the termination of the fired Phoenix VA hospital director, Sharon Helman. Helman was relieved of her duties in 2015 after a whistleblower disclosed a string of scandals, including manipulation of wait times to collect performance bonuses. Even worse, in a separate court case, she pled guilty and was convicted of accepting over \$50,000 in illegal gifts. For this, she is currently on probation.

Mr. Speaker, Congress must take swift action to ensure former and current VA employees like Ms. Helman are held accountable. Those who disregard their duty to our Nation's veterans should never be allowed to keep their jobs, salaries, or benefits after proven dereliction of duty. Our veterans do not deserve—and they cannot afford—VA leaders who put profit and

expediency over the health of those who have worn our Nation's uniform.

Congress has taken steps to reform the Veterans Administration, but we must finish our job. That is why I was proud to vote “yes” on H.R. 1259, the VA Accountability First Act. American veterans are counting on us to keep our promises and protect them from self-serving bureaucrats. I intend to do just that.

REMEMBERING FALLEN POLICE
OFFICERS

(Mrs. DEMINGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, during National Police Week, it is important we continue to remember the brave men and women who were killed while protecting us.

Last year, 145 law enforcement officers were killed in the line of duty. One of these officers, Lesley Zerebny, 27 years old, was an officer with the Palm Springs Police Department. She was responding to a domestic disturbance call when she was gunned down. She was killed just days after returning from maternity leave and left behind a 4-month-old daughter.

Her fellow officer, Jose Gilbert Vega, was also murdered in the shooting. A devoted father, Vega was just days away from retiring.

Of the officers killed last year, 10 were State troopers. One of them was Trooper Timothy Pratt of the New York State Police. Trooper Pratt was struck by a car as he was on the side of the road assisting a stopped vehicle. Pratt had 30 years on the job.

Our law enforcement officers don't know what they will encounter when they respond to any call. We applaud them for the bravery and courage they display in the face of danger. Mr. Speaker, let us not forget their sacrifices.

VETERANS DESERVE THE BEST
CARE POSSIBLE

(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, I rise today during Mental Health Awareness Month to talk about a growing group of individuals who need our help: our veterans.

More than 16 percent of veterans have been diagnosed with a depressive disorder. Up to 43 percent struggle with symptoms of mental health issues, such as drinking excessively, smoking, or sleeplessness. These struggles have resulted in an unacceptably high suicide rate for our veterans. Every day, 20 veterans take their own lives, which is almost double the rate of non-veterans.

Mr. Speaker, this is heartbreaking. It is unacceptable, and we must act. That is why I was proud today to join with