

H.R. 68, TIFFANY JOSLYN JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY BLOCK GRANT REAUTHORIZATION AND BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION ACT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the House of Representatives I has passed my bill H.R. 68, the Tiffany Joslyn Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Reauthorization and the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Act.

Passage of H.R. 68 came about as a result of hard and great teamwork amongst our amazing staff on both sides of the aisle. I am heartened by the work done on this bill along with the other four bills up for unanimous consent. I commend Chairman GOODLATTE's leadership on this effort to help pass H.R. 68. And after 5 years of this bill not being reauthorized, I am pleased that the fight I waged on behalf of Juvenile Justice Reform has been brought to House passage with the support of my Judiciary and House Colleagues.

This bill was named for Tiffany May Joslyn, a champion for criminal justice reform, who served as my Deputy Chief Counsel of the Crime Subcommittee and whose life tragically was cut short on March 5, 2016, in a car accident that sadly also claimed the life of her brother, Derrick. She was just 33 years old.

So today's passage of H.R. 68 is both bitter and sweet. She would have been proud, as she championed these causes. This moment is for both her and for all the countless juveniles that will be helped by this bill.

H.R. 68 will help to stem this epidemic of Juvenile incarceration by reauthorizing the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant program (JABG) and providing funding to state and local governments for the creation of bullying and gang prevention programs.

It will authorize such appropriations as may be necessary, which is anticipated to be at least \$30 million per year.

In addition to reauthorizing juvenile justice programs, H.R. 68 clarifies how to address the occurrences of bullying through developmentally appropriate intervention and prevention techniques, which center on evidence-based models and best practices that rely on schools and communities rather than involvement from law enforcement and the justice system.

H.R. 68 is designed to help both the victims and perpetrators of bullying. Research studies have shown that approximately 25 percent of school bullies will be convicted of a criminal offense in their adult years.

It also includes provisions for gang prevention programs, which will help guide our children towards socially beneficial paths. If we want our children to learn, we must be able to maintain a safe and healthy school environment. Bullying is a massive issue in our nation's schools.

The National Center for Educational Studies reports show that 14 percent of 12- to 18-year-olds surveyed report being victims of direct or indirect bullying. 1 out of 4 kids is bullied.

Bullying is not just in a schoolyard anymore; it is a crisis that's taking over our nation. Gone

are the days that children can come home and seek solace and escape from their bullies; technological advances have made it easy for young people to be tormented on social networks at any time from any place.

They are never out of harm's reach. This needs to end. Americans children should be protected, and no child should be persecuted for exercising their American right to be themselves. It is time for us to come to a conclusive solution to America's bullying crisis. My bill, H.R. 68, the Tiffany Joslyn Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Reauthorization and the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Act, provides the solution that we need.

This is why I urge my colleagues in the Senate to take up and pass H.R. 68 so that we may keep all of our children safe.

CAMPAIGN FOR YOUTH JUSTICE,
September 28, 2018.

HON. PAUL RYAN,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

HON. ROBERT W. GOODLATTE,
Chair, Judiciary Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

HON. NANCY PELOSI,
Minority Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

HON. JERROLD NADLER,
Ranking Member, Judiciary Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER RYAN, LEADER PELOSI, CHAIRMAN GOODLATTE, AND RANKING MEMBER NADLER: As the House of Representatives considers critical aspects of criminal justice reform, the Campaign for Youth Justice encourages you to support H.R. 68, the "Tiffany Joslyn Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Program Grant Reauthorization Act of 2017."

The Juvenile Accountability Block Grant expired in 2013 and in the past five years has gone unfunded by the federal government. The expiration of this block grant program has greatly limited state's abilities to implement effective, age appropriate accountability and prevention measures to ensure children get needed services and that communities remain safe.

H.R. 68 updates the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) to reflect current research and practice. Key provisions in the bill include incentives for states to use graduated sanctions and incentives grounded in positive youth development, providing enhanced anti-bullying measures, and youth violence prevention and intervention services. It also updates the JABG to include evidence-based practices such as trauma informed practices and mental health care.

Federal support for juvenile justice programming has suffered greatly in the past decade, with funding decreasing nearly 50% to states. Reauthorizing this important program, with recommended funding levels of \$30 million, would make a tremendous difference to youth, families and communities.

We thank you for your consideration of this important bill.

Sincerely,

MARCY MISTRETT,
CEO, Campaign for Youth Justice.

FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that Congress included Section 131,

subsection (1) in the final version of H.R. 302, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018.

This provision amends section 47107(a)(17) of title 49, United States Code, to ensure that Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) is used for any contracts and subcontracts for program management, construction management, planning studies, feasibility studies, architectural services, preliminary engineering, design, engineering, surveying, mapping, and related services for projects that use Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funding in any phase. Thus, FAA would be precluded from funding any parts of the project using AIP funds if the QBS process is or was not used in the selection of professional service providers for the above activities.

This provision is intended to ensure that high-quality design, engineering, and architectural services are procured through a QBS process, including when an airport sponsor uses AIP for construction activities. QBS has long been used by the federal government and federal-aid grant programs to ensure the best-qualified companies are selected for pre-construction designs and activities that will result in high-quality, cost-saving construction projects.

I was pleased to work with my colleague Congressman DAN LIPINSKI from Illinois on the important measure and we look forward to its implementation.

TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT JASON GERHARDT

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jason Gerhardt of Glenwood, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Jason is a member of Boy Scout Troop No. 243 in Glenwood and he attends Glenwood Community High School.

The Eagle Scout designation is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Approximately 5 percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained over the past century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. Jason decided to renovate the bleachers at Lil' Rams football field as his Eagle Scout project. Jason was a former football player and he could see how the bleachers had deteriorated and were in need of repair. Jason and his parents, Janet and Jason Gerhardt, the Lil' Rams football team, the Glenwood Rotary Club, and a local welder helped financially and with the new construction. The work ethic Jason has shown in his Eagle Project and every other project leading to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am honored to represent Jason and his family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House

of Representatives join me in congratulating him on obtaining the Eagle Scout ranking, and I wish him continued success in his future education and career.

RECOGNIZING DR. GARY BRANCH
ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2018

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of my friend, Dr. Gary Branch, on his retirement as President of Coastal Alabama Community College (CACC). Dr. Branch leaves a legacy of deep devotion to his staff and students, exceptional leadership by example, and has had an immeasurable impact on the lives of countless members of our community.

Dr. Branch inherited an institution waiting for a leader such as himself. At the start of his tenure in 1981, he had to make the difficult decision to let go thirteen employees from then-Faulkner State College in the midst of a financial crisis. In true form, Dr. Branch was able to hire nearly all of them back to the college and has never faced another such crisis since.

Moving ever upward from his start, Dr. Branch oversaw immense growth in enrollment at CACC, from 1,100 students at one location in 1981 to now nearly 8,000 students in ten counties. Not only has he spearheaded increased opportunity for students in south Alabama, he also instituted the annual Student Leadership Retreat, Gatlinburg Getaway; the Black Ministerial Dinner and scholarship awards; the High School Counselor's Dinners; the Scholar Bowl; and has overseen the creation of a women's intercollegiate softball league, leading to an impressive softball stadium benefiting our entire community.

Throughout his entire time as President, Dr. Branch has constantly pushed for greater accessibility to post-secondary education for all students in Alabama. To this end, he was chairman of the committee that created the Statewide Transfer Articulation and Reporting System, allowing associate-degree-holding students to transfer to four-year universities in Alabama, and fought for CACC to benefit from state sales tax in Baldwin County. Possibly most notable, he oversaw the consolidation of Faulkner State and other institutions into Coastal Alabama Community College.

From my personal experience with him during my time as Chancellor of Alabama's Community College system, I can attest to Dr. Branch's steadfast commitment to Southwest Alabama, our students, and our economy. His impact will undoubtedly live on for many, many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the incredible service of Dr. Gary Branch as he leaves a legacy of 37 years to a grateful community. It is difficult to express our gratitude in mere words, but on behalf of Alabama's First Congressional District and the United States House of Representatives, we simply say: thank you.

COST ESTIMATE ON H.R. 6374 FIT
ACT

HON. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2018

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, the following cost estimate for H.R. 6374, FIT Act prepared by the Congressional Budget Office was not available to the Committee at the time of filing of the legislative report.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2018.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 6374, the Fitness Information Transparency Act of 2018.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be please to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Mark Grabowicz.

Sincerely,

KEITH HALL.

Enclosure.

H.R. 6374—*Fitness Information Transparency Act of 2018*

H.R. 6374 would direct the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), within 180 days of enactment, to issue uniform fitness (or conduct) standards for hiring contract employees that must be followed by all DHS agencies. Within one year of enactment, DHS would have to provide contractors with monthly updates on the status of their employees' fitness determinations and collect quarterly data on processing times for fitness investigations.

Using information from DHS, CBO estimates that implementing those provisions would cost about \$1 million in fiscal year 2019 and less than \$500,000 annually thereafter; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Most costs would be for technological enhancements to a system to provide accurate monthly updates on the status of contract employees' fitness determinations. DHS currently employs thousands of contract employees.

Enacting H.R. 6374 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 6374 would not increase net direct spending or on budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2029.

H.R. 6374 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT
NATHAN SCHWAB

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Nathan Schwab of Clive, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Nathan is a member of Boy Scout Troop No. 208 of the Mid Iowa Council.

The Eagle Scout designation is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Approximately

5 percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained over the past century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. Nathan's Eagle Scout Project was completed for the Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt—Polk County Conservation. Nathan built 16 American Kestrel nesting boxes to help increase the population of this bird in central Iowa. He also donated the extra funds from his fundraising to Polk County Conservation. The work ethic Nathan has shown in his Eagle Project and every other project leading to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am honored to represent Nathan and his family in the United States Congress. I know that all my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in congratulating him on obtaining the Eagle Scout ranking, and I wish him continued success in his future education and career.

IN RECOGNITION OF KEN AND
JULIA FALKE

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2018

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and thank Ken and Julia Falke, founders of the Boulder Crest Retreat for Military and Veteran Wellness in Bluemont, Virginia, and the EOD (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) Warrior Foundation, for their extraordinary efforts to support our nation's wounded warriors and their families.

Last year, a special ceremony unveiled a statue of a Naval modification to the Battle Cross on the grounds of the Boulder Crest Retreat, honors those military heroes who lost their lives in combat, in training and in the struggle against the "invisible injuries of war that followed them home." Ken Falke's inspiration for the statue was the beautiful memorial erected in San Diego, to the four members of EOD Mobile Unit Three who had been killed in action in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Boulder Crest Retreat is the nation's first privately-funded rural wellness center dedicated exclusively to our nation's combat veterans and their families. Opened in 2013, it has offered a beautiful setting for more than 2,500 veterans and their families to rest, reconnect and recharge. Motivated by a limitless desire to serve combat veterans, especially the 11 percent to 20 percent of Iraqi and Afghan war vets who suffer from post-traumatic stress (PTS), Ken and Julia have ventured into modes of therapy and support that are outside the mainstream. As a Navy bomb-disposal expert who was seriously injured in a 1989 parachute jump, Ken had learned firsthand in his recovery from traumatic brain injury and a broken back, not to rely on medicines alone. Later, through their work with the