

□ 1903

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for the vote today on H.R. 4533—To designate the health care system of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Lexington, Kentucky, as the “Lexington VA Health Care System” and to make certain other designations, (rollcall No. 70), I would have voted “aye.”

Additionally, had I been present for the vote on H.R. 4979—To extend the Generalized System of Preference and to make technical changes to the competitive need limitations provision of the program (rollcall No. 71), I would have voted “aye.”

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 620, ADA EDUCATION AND REFORM ACT OF 2017; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3299, PROTECTING CONSUMERS' ACCESS TO CREDIT ACT OF 2017; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3978, TRID IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2017; AND PROVIDING FOR PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM FEBRUARY 16, 2018, THROUGH FEBRUARY 23, 2018

Mr. BURGESS from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115-559) on the resolution (H. Res. 736) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 620) to amend the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to promote compliance through education, to clarify the requirements for demand letters, to provide for a notice and cure period before the commencement of a private civil action, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3299) to amend the Revised Statutes, the Home Owners' Loan Act, the Federal Credit Union Act, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to require the rate of interest on certain loans remain unchanged after transfer of the loan, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3978) to amend the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 to modify requirements related to mortgage disclosures, and for other purposes; and providing for proceedings during the period from February 16, 2018, through February 23, 2018, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

## OBSERVING AMERICAN HEART MONTH

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, as we observe American Heart Month, we

are reminded of how important diet and lifestyle choices are to our health.

Sadly, heart disease remains the leading cause of death in our country. Making heart healthy choices, knowing your family's heart history, and regular checkups are all integral parts of cardiovascular health.

Organizations like our very own United Way of Miami-Dade work alongside community clinics to conduct screenings and tests to help prevent and manage health issues. This month, United Way of Miami-Dade is partnered with FamilyWise, a program that provides access to affordable prescription medications.

The University of Miami's HeartAware risk assessment is an on-line screening survey offered by UHealth. This program helps patients identify their risk for developing cardiovascular disease, learn the next steps based on their risk factors, and promotes lifestyle changes to lower their risk of heart disease.

Let us all take time during American Heart Month to focus on our hearts and encourage not only ourselves but our family and friends to live healthier lives.

## CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, as co-chair of the bipartisan Career and Technical Education Caucus, I rise in recognition of National CTE Month.

CTE programs train students of all ages for jobs in high-skill, high-demand, and high-paying fields. By establishing partnerships between educators and industry leaders, CTE helps build a well-educated and skilled workforce ready to meet local business needs.

In Rhode Island, the Westerly Education Center, by way of example, collaborates with Electric Boat to train pipefitting students like Stephanie and Richard to build our Nation's next generation submarines.

The Genesis Center partners with CVS, Building Futures, and Apprenticeship Rhode Island to train workers, including Kathia, Jidma, and Lim, to become pharmacy technicians. Cindy was recently offered a job by CVS soon after she finished an apprenticeship.

CTE is good for students, businesses, the Rhode Island economy, and economies everywhere because it narrows that gap between what we are teaching in schools and what the needs of businesses really are.

I am proud to introduce a resolution celebrating CTE Month with my friend, colleague, and caucus co-chair, Representative G.T. THOMPSON.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join us in cosponsoring H. Res. 730.

## SUPPORTING MEDICARE ADVANTAGE

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share my strong support for the Medicare Advantage program. I recently led a bipartisan letter with 298 Members of the House to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, or CMS, urging them to preserve and strengthen Medicare Advantage. Millions of seniors rely on Medicare Advantage, and they need access to the high-quality healthcare plan choices that Medicare Advantage plans provide.

CMS will soon be issuing final policy and payment updates. These changes will have widespread implications on Medicare beneficiaries throughout the country. Our letter calls on CMS to preserve the program's integrity and existing incentives for MA plans that will offer high-quality, efficient, and patient-centered coverage options for consumers.

Mr. Speaker, the Medicare Advantage program covers nearly 19 million seniors across the country and provides care coordination, disease management programs, out-of-pocket spending limits, access to community-based programs, and additional supplemental benefits like vision, dental, and even prescription drug coverage.

We need CMS to continue to strengthen and enhance Medicare Advantage for our seniors.

## CAREER, TECHNICAL, AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

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

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, President Trump introduced his infrastructure plan, and while it covered many conventional infrastructure questions, it also singled out the need to modernize career, technical, and vocational education programs.

At a time when 6 million jobs across the country remain vacant because employers can't find workers with the skills they require, it is vital that we expand these programs to meet the needs of students, workers, and businesses.

The President's plan highlights the importance of modernizing career, technical, and vocational education programs to guarantee that workers have the skills necessary to succeed in their chosen career. Last month, as well, the President chose to highlight the importance of career and technical education to our economy in his State of the Union Address.

Fortunately, the House has already passed Congressman THOMPSON's and my bill to reauthorize Career Technical Education programs. Now, with

the President's support, I am confident that our Senate colleagues will act and move this bipartisan legislation further without undue delay.

Our students need it, our businesses need it, and our economy needs it right now.

#### FEBRUARY IS HEART MONTH

(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, for more than 50 years, we have observed February as American Heart Month.

Heart disease is the Nation's number one killer. During this month, we reaffirm our commitment to combating heart disease and educating all people about the benefits of a healthy, active lifestyle.

Mr. Speaker, before I came to Congress, I worked for nearly 30 years as a therapist rehab manager and licensed nursing home administrator. I understand the unique challenges facing individuals who have suffered a stroke or other life-changing injuries. Often, it is a long road to recovery. But an active lifestyle can help lower blood pressure, boost levels of good cholesterol, improve blood flow, and more.

Cardiovascular disease, including heart disease and stroke, remains the leading cause of death globally with more than 17.9 million deaths each year. But by making healthy choices—including a balanced diet and regular exercise—individuals can lower their risk for cardiovascular disease by as much as 80 percent.

I hope that Heart Month 2018 inspires more Americans to take control of their cardiovascular health and begin a healthy lifestyle journey.

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#### HONORING THE LIFE OF RAY BAUM

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

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to pay tribute to a great man, Ray Baum.

Ray Baum was the staff director of the Energy and Commerce Committee. He came to Washington, D.C., to take on the senior policy role at the committee with the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.

Ray was a gentleman who was scholarly in terms of his understanding of the issues. He served in the Oregon State House of Representatives and as chairman on the Public Utilities Commission in the State of Oregon. His deep and broad knowledge is something that we all benefited from. I think the House and our country has lost a true patriot.

Ray was a man of great faith. He had two great loves in his life: Kristine, his

wife; their 6 children and 10 grandchildren. He was only 62 years old. He also loved public service and his country. He gave great service to his country.

I feel very blessed to have served with him at the committee and to have formed a friendship that will last with me all the days of my life.

God bless you, Ray. Thank you for the example and the role model that you have been to so many of us. May you rest in peace. We will always remember you with love, respect, and always with affection.

#### PHOENIX-MESA GATEWAY AIRPORT

(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, tonight, I recognize the incredible expansion of Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport.

After originally serving as an Air Force base for over 50 years, and closed due to the BRAC process, Gateway reopened in 1994 and now provides commercial airline service to more than 35 destinations. This airport is a significant economic asset to Arizona's economy, contributing \$1.3 billion every year.

Each month, Gateway sets new records. Last year, the airport saw a 9 percent increase in passenger traffic, making 2017 the second busiest year in the airport's history. I fully expect Gateway to shatter expectations in 2018.

The construction of SkyBridge Arizona will help facilitate trade between the United States and Mexico. We anticipate this project will create thousands of jobs and unleash millions of dollars for our economy.

I thank the board of directors, staff, employees, and East Valley residents who are committed to Gateway Airport's success. Gateway Airport would not be the pride of the East Valley without their dedication.

#### WE NEED REAL SOLUTIONS

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the bad deals President Trump continues to push onto the American people.

As the administration continues to celebrate rewarding the top 1 percent with its bonanza, his administration is looking to slash programs like Social Security, Great Lakes water restoration, heating assistance for the elderly, and food for hungry people, just to name a few. The President's budget is as unrealistic as it is cruel. But Congress holds the power of the purse, and we intend to employ it.

When you think about it, President Trump's hollow \$1.5 trillion infrastruc-

ture plan actually only includes \$200 billion in Federal investment and expects the States to come up with five times that much. I suppose some would call that a Ponzi scheme.

His plan cedes Federal leadership and passes the buck to struggling State and local governments. Maybe some of my colleagues represent places that can afford all that. We certainly can't in Ohio.

I can't figure out why the President, who claims to be a builder himself, shortchanges his real chance to invest in America. Whether it is the deficit-raising budget or his flawed infrastructure deal, we know the American people need real solutions, not more hollow, false promises.

#### HONORING FLORIDA'S THIRD DISTRICT OLYMPIANS

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

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, on February 9, the Winter Olympics began in South Korea.

As we celebrate the world coming together to achieve the very best in sports, I am extremely proud and excited to announce that Florida's Third District has three young speed skaters, Brittany Bowe, Erin Jackson, and Joey Mantia, who are competing in the Olympics.

Brittany, Erin, and Joey are from the town of Ocala, a city in my district with no ice rink. Yet, under the tutelage of Renee Hildebrand, these athletes have perfected their skills through regular training on roller blades. In fact, Erin had only spent 4 months total training on ice before earning her spot, making her position as the first African-American woman to qualify for the U.S. long track team even more remarkable.

Brittany, Erin, and Joey, all of Florida's Third District is rooting for you, and I know you will make our community and the Nation proud.

Good luck, and go Team USA.

#### CONGRATULATING KELECHI IBEZIM ON BECOMING AN EAGLE SCOUT

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kelechi Ibezim, a high school senior from Glen Ridge, New Jersey, for becoming the first African-American Eagle Scout in Troop 55 of the Northern New Jersey Boy Scouts Council.

This young man is a resident of my district. Along with others in his troop, Kelechi led the effort to build an outdoor classroom at the Montclair Child Development Center. The center serves underprivileged children and focuses on teaching them social skills.