

mission of providing low-cost housing to needy families and less time sitting in an office doing regulatory paperwork. The BUILD Act recognizes that one size does not fit all when it comes to regulating these charities and gives themselves the flexibility to choose which mortgage disclosure forms work best for them.

Mr. Speaker, the BUILD Act passed the Financial Services Committee with a unanimous vote of 53-0. I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, Mr. SHERMAN, for working across the aisle to develop H.R. 5953, the Building Up Independent Lives and Dreams Act, or the BUILD Act, which will assist nonprofits in providing affordable housing to those in need.

Some nonprofit organizations, like Habitat for Humanity, help borrowers who would otherwise not be able to afford a home by offering zero percent interest mortgages with terms that ensure the borrowers have the ability to repay the loans while also taking care of other household expenses. Oftentimes, these nonprofits rely heavily on limited staffs or volunteer labor to underwrite mortgages for families in need.

Because of these unique dynamics, some smaller affiliates of these types of organizations have had a bit of difficulty adapting to the current updated disclosure forms that are used to inform mortgage borrowers about the material terms and costs of their loans. This bill would give those nonprofits the flexibility to choose whether to use truth-in-lending, good-faith estimate, and HUD-1 mortgage disclosure forms when originating a mortgage or the TILA-RESPA integrated disclosure, or TRID, forms.

Even though this very narrow exemption already applies to organizations that make five or fewer mortgages annually, I believe we are all in agreement that extending this flexibility to charitable nonprofits with a unique business model like Habitat is a positive change.

Nonprofits like Habitat for Humanity operate with different business models and traditional financing institutions. They are and they serve a different clientele. It is clear that the BUILD Act does not provide any opportunity for other types of lenders to take advantage of the carve-out in a way that could potentially harm borrowers. With that in mind, I support this bill, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I have no more requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I, too, want to commend our colleagues for working in a bipartisan manner, Mr. LOUDERMILK and Mr. SHERMAN, not only for dealing with this in committee; there was some trust that was

shown on all sides to move forward on that, and this is the way the system is supposed to work. Congratulations.

I look forward to supporting this bill and request that all of my colleagues do the same.

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 Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5953.

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.

INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE STANDARDS ACT OF 2018

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4537) to preserve the State-based system of insurance regulation and provide greater oversight of and transparency on international insurance standards setting processes, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4537

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 “International Insurance Standards Act of 2018”.

SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) The State-based system for insurance regulation in the United States has served American consumers well for more than 150 years and has fostered an open and competitive marketplace with a diversity of insurance products to the benefit of policyholders and consumers.

(2) Protecting policyholders by regulating to ensure an insurer’s ability to pay claims has been the hallmark of the successful United States system and should be the paramount objective of domestic prudential regulation and emerging international standards.

(3) The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Public Law 111–203) reaffirmed the State-based insurance regulatory system.

SEC. 3. REQUIREMENT THAT INSURANCE STANDARDS REFLECT UNITED STATES POLICY.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Parties representing the Federal Government in any international regulatory, standard-setting, or supervisory forum or in any negotiations of any international agreements relating to the prudential aspects of insurance shall not agree to, accede to, accept, or establish any proposed agreement or standard if the proposed agreement or standard fails to recognize the United States system of insurance regulation as satisfying such proposals.

(2) INAPPLICABILITY.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any forum or negotiations relating to a covered agreement (as such term is defined in section 313(r) of title 31, United States Code).

(b) FEDERAL INSURANCE OFFICE FUNCTIONS.—Subparagraph (E) of section 313(c)(1)

of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting “Federal Government” after “United States”.

(c) NEGOTIATIONS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent participation in negotiations of any proposed agreement or standard.

SEC. 4. STATE INSURANCE REGULATOR INVOLVEMENT IN INTERNATIONAL STANDARD SETTING.

In developing international insurance standards pursuant to section 3, and throughout the negotiations of such standards, parties representing the Federal Government shall, on matters related to insurance, closely consult, coordinate with, and seek to include in such meetings State insurance commissioners or, at the option of the State insurance commissioners, designees of the insurance commissioners acting at their direction.

SEC. 5. CONSULTATION WITH CONGRESS.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—Parties representing the Federal Government with respect to any agreement under section 3 shall provide written notice to and consult with the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate, and any other relevant committees of jurisdiction—

(1) before initiating negotiations to enter into the agreement, regarding—

(A) the intention of the United States to participate in or enter into such negotiations; and

(B) the nature and objectives of the negotiations; and

(2) during negotiations to enter into the agreement, regarding—

(A) the nature and objectives of the negotiations

(B) the implementation of the agreement, including how it is consistent with and does not materially differ from or otherwise affect Federal or State laws or regulations;

(C) the impact on the competitiveness of United States insurers; and

(D) the impact on United States consumers.

(b) CONSULTATION WITH FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE.—Before entering into an agreement under section 3, the Secretary of the Treasury shall seek to consult with the Federal Advisory Committee on Insurance formed pursuant to section 313(h) of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 6. REPORT TO CONGRESS ON INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE AGREEMENTS.

Before entering into an agreement under section 3, parties representing the Federal Government shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and leadership a report that describes—

(1) the implementation of the agreement, including how it is consistent with and does not materially differ from or otherwise affect Federal or State laws or regulations;

(2) the impact on the competitiveness of United States insurers; and

(3) the impact on United States consumers.

SEC. 7. COVERED AGREEMENTS.

(a) PREEMPTION OF STATE INSURANCE MEASURES.—Subsection (f) of section 313 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking “Director” each place such term appears and inserting “Secretary”.

(b) DEFINITION.—Paragraph (2) of section 313(r) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) applies only on a prospective basis.”.

(c) CONSULTATION; SUBMISSION AND LAYOVER; CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW.—Section 314 of title 31, United States Code is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(C), by striking “laws” and inserting the following: “and Federal law, and the nature of any changes in the laws of the United States or the administration of such laws that would be required to carry out a covered agreement”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) ACCESS TO NEGOTIATING TEXTS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.—Appropriate congressional committees and staff with proper security clearances shall be given timely access to United States negotiating proposals, consolidated draft texts, and other pertinent documents related to the negotiations, including classified materials.”;

(2) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d);

(3) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

“(c) REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH STATE INSURANCE COMMISSIONERS.—Throughout the negotiations of a covered agreement, parties representing the Federal Government shall closely consult and coordinate with State insurance commissioners.”;

(4) in subsection (d), as so redesignated by paragraph (2)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “only if—” and inserting the following: “only if, before signing the final legal text or otherwise entering into the agreement—”;

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking “congressional committees specified in subsection (b)(1)” and inserting “appropriate congressional committees and leadership and to congressional committee staff with proper security clearances”; and

(C) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following new paragraph:

“(2)(A) the 90-day period beginning on the date on which the copy of the final legal text of the agreement is submitted under paragraph (1) to the congressional committees, leadership, and staff has expired; and

“(B) the covered agreement has not been prevented from taking effect pursuant to subsection (e).”; and

(5) by adding at the end the following new subsections:

“(e) PERIOD FOR REVIEW BY CONGRESS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—During the layover period referred to in subsection (d)(2)(A), the Committees on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and Finance of the Senate and the Committees on Financial Services and Ways and Means of the House of Representatives should, as appropriate, exercise their full oversight responsibility.

“(2) EFFECT OF ENACTMENT OF A JOINT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if a joint resolution of disapproval relating to a covered agreement submitted under subsection (d)(1) is enacted in accordance with subsection (f), the covered agreement shall not enter into force with respect to the United States.

“(f) JOINT RESOLUTIONS OF DISAPPROVAL.—

“(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term ‘joint resolution of disapproval’ means, with respect to proposed covered agreement, only a joint resolution of either House of Congress—

“(A) that is introduced during the 90-day period referred to in subsection (d)(2)(A) relating to such proposed covered agreement;

“(B) which does not have a preamble;

“(C) the title of which is as follows: ‘A joint resolution disapproving a certain proposed covered agreement under section 314 of title 31, United States Code.’; and

“(D) the sole matter after the resolving clause of which is the following: ‘Congress disapproves of the proposed covered agreement submitted to Congress under section 314 (c)(1) of title 31, United States Code, on _____ relating to _____’, with the first blank space being filled with the appropriate date and the second blank space being filled with a short description of the proposed covered agreement.

“(2) INTRODUCTION.—During the layover period referred to in subsection (d)(2)(A), a joint resolution of disapproval may be introduced—

“(A) in the House of Representatives, by any Member of the House, and

“(B) in the Senate, by any Senator, and shall be referred to the appropriate committees.

“(3) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE.—This subsection is enacted by Congress—

“(A) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and the House of Representatives, respectively, and as such is deemed a part of the rules of each House, respectively, and supersedes other rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent with such rules; and

“(B) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules (so far as relating to the procedure of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of that House.

“(g) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES AND LEADERSHIP DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate congressional committees and leadership’ means—

“(1) the Committees on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and Finance, and the majority and minority leaders, of the Senate; and

“(2) the Committees on Financial Services and Ways and Means, and the Speaker, the majority leader, and the minority leader, of the House of Representatives.”.

SEC. 8. INAPPLICABILITY TO TRADE AGREEMENTS.

This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall not apply to any forum or negotiations related to a trade agreement.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MAXINE WATERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, first I would like to commend my friends, Mr. DUFFY and Mr. HECK, for their work on this very important issue. For over 150 years, U.S. insurance companies of every kind—including property-casualty, life, reinsurance, health, and auto—have all been regulated primarily by the States.

Congress and the States have occasionally reviewed the effectiveness of the State-based regulation of insurance and coordinated efforts that they have

to achieve greater regulatory uniformity. In fact, in 1945, Congress passed the McCarran-Ferguson Act, which confirmed the States’ regulatory authority over insurance except where a Federal law expressly provides otherwise.

As a former State representative in the Michigan Legislature, I know firsthand that Michigan does a better job of protecting policyholders within their borders than the Federal Government can do. I have seen it in action. Even more, Michigan certainly knows how to maintain a robust insurance marketplace that works for Michigan consumers. I would assume the exact same thing in Wisconsin and in Washington and in California and all throughout the States.

However, there are those who believe Washington knows best. In fact, title V of the Dodd-Frank Act enlarged the Federal Government’s role in the insurance industry by creating a Federal office specifically tasked with insurance matters. The Dodd-Frank Act established FIO, or the Federal Insurance Office, at the U.S. Department of the Treasury and charged the FIO Director with the responsibility to both represent the interests of U.S. insurers during the negotiation of international agreements and then advise the Office of the United States Trade Representative during trade negotiations.

At the same time, the Dodd-Frank Act changed domestic insurance regulation. Dodd-Frank led to changes in the U.S. participation at the International Association of Insurance Supervisors, also known as IAIS, which develops international insurance regulations for its 190 jurisdictions in more than 140 countries.

Mr. Speaker, I know that I am not the only one who is concerned that this could influence the Federal Government to look at replacing our State-based regulatory insurance model with some sort of international standards that were created, frankly, by unelected European bureaucrats. The outcomes of these discussions could have significant impact on the U.S. insurance markets, consumers, and the companies that provide those products.

Therefore, the U.S. needs to maintain a strong, unified voice that will ensure our successful State-based, policyholder-centric system of insurance regulation is the model for the discussions and the basis of the official United States position abroad.

H.R. 4537, the International Insurance Standards Act, introduced by my friend and colleague, Representative DUFFY, would require the United States to recognize the primacy of the U.S. State-based insurance regulatory regime when entering into and agreeing to international insurance negotiations. Additionally, this bill would provide needed transparency throughout the negotiation process and provide Congress with final approval authorization.

As the IAIS works on topics like global capital standards, governance,

and market conduct, H.R. 4537 would position the U.S. to participate in the discussions, while also protecting itself from European standards that could be detrimental to U.S. consumers, insurers, and markets.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend, again, Representative DUFFY and Representative HECK for their bipartisan work on this important bill, which passed the Financial Services Committee on a vote of 56-4. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to protect an insurance regulatory model that has worked well for over 150 years and vote in favor of H.R. 4537.

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

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 22, 2018.

Hon. JEB HENSARLING,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HENSARLING: I am writing with respect to the jurisdictional interest of the Committee on Ways and Means in matters being considered in H.R. 4537, the International Insurance Standards Act of 2018.

As a result of your having consulted with us on provisions in H.R. 4537 that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means, I agree to waive formal consideration of this bill so that it may move expeditiously to the floor. The Committee on Ways and Means takes this action with the mutual understanding that we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and the Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues that fall within our jurisdiction. The Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation, and requests your support for such request.

Finally, I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of H.R. 4537.

Sincerely,

KEVIN BRADY,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, June 25, 2018.

Hon. KEVIN BRADY,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BRADY: Thank you for your June 22, 2018 letter regarding H.R. 4537, the "International Insurance Standards Act of 2017".

I am most appreciative of your decision to forego action on H.R. 4537 so that it may move expeditiously to the House floor. I acknowledge that although you are waiving action on the bill, the Committee on Ways and Means is in no way waiving its jurisdictional interest in this or similar legislation. In addition, if a conference is necessary on this legislation, I will support any request that your committee be represented therein.

Finally, I shall be pleased to include your letter and this letter in our committee's report on H.R. 4537 and in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the same.

Sincerely,

JEB HENSARLING,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON RULES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 25, 2018.

Hon. JEB HENSARLING,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: On December 13, 2017, the Committee on Financial Services favorably ordered H.R. 4537, the "International Insurance Standards Act of 2017," reported to the House. As you know, the Committee on Rules was granted an additional referral upon the bill's introduction pursuant to the Committee's jurisdiction under rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives over the rules of the House and special orders of business.

Because of your willingness to make the necessary changes to provisions that fall within Rules Committee jurisdiction prior to floor consideration of the bill, I will waive consideration of the bill by the Rules Committee. By agreeing to waive consideration of the bill, the Rules Committee does not waive its jurisdiction over H.R. 4537. In addition, the Committee reserves its authority to seek conferees on any provisions of the bill that are within its jurisdiction during any House-Senate conference that may be convened on this legislation. I ask your commitment to support any request by the Rules Committee for conferees on H.R. 4537 or related legislation.

I also request that you include our exchange of letters on this matter in the committee report to accompany H.R. 4537 and in the Congressional Record during consideration of this legislation on the House floor. Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

PETE SESSIONS,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, June 26, 2018.

Hon. PETE SESSIONS,
Chairman, Committee on Rules,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SESSIONS: Thank you for your June 25, 2018 letter regarding H.R. 4537, the "International Insurance Standards Act of 2017".

I am most appreciative of your decision to forego action on H.R. 4537 so that it may move expeditiously to the House floor. I acknowledge that although you are waiving action on the bill, the Committee on Rules is in no way waiving its jurisdictional interest in this or similar legislation. In addition, if a conference is necessary on this legislation, I will support any request that your committee be represented therein.

Finally, I shall be pleased to include your letter and this letter in our committee's report on H.R. 4537 and in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the same.

Sincerely,

JEB HENSARLING,
Chairman.

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California.
Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 4537, as amended, would ensure that international insurance standards or agreements are consistent with our domestic insurance system. The bill also encourages greater transparency, accountability, and congressional involvement in the development of international insurance standards and covered agreements.

□ 1600

H.R. 4537, the International Insurance Standards Act of 2018, is a product of months of bipartisan negotiations. I am pleased to be able to support the final compromise bill that is before us today.

Today's bill is a reflection of the work of the bill's sponsors, Mr. DUFFY and Mr. HECK, and many others, including myself, to narrow and streamline the bill so that we do not intentionally weaken the United States' ability to negotiate strong rules internationally.

This is important. We cannot forget that, during 2007 and 2009, the United States faced the most severe financial crisis since the Great Depression. One of the most notable events during the crisis was the near collapse of insurance giant AIG, which threatened the stability of the entire U.S. financial system.

AIG's rapid demise and need for a Federal bailout underscored the importance of consolidated supervision and appropriate prudential standards for certain types of nonbank financial institutions, including large, global insurance companies.

The Dodd-Frank Act helped us fill in these gaps. I would like to note that the core Dodd-Frank reforms, in this respect, remain intact in this bill.

Again, I would like to thank Mr. DUFFY, Mr. HECK, and their staffs for working with me and my staff to improve the bill.

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

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. DUFFY). My friend and colleague is a leader of this effort.

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Michigan, who is also a very good friend of mine, for yielding.

I rise in support of H.R. 4537, the International Insurance Standards Act. I first want to start with thanking the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HECK) for the countless hours and effort that he put in, in a bipartisan effort, crafting this bill that would allow us to get an incredibly wonderful bipartisan vote.

On top of that, we had some jurisdictional issues, so we had two chairmen from Texas, of the Ways and Means and Rules Committees, Chairman BRADY and Chairman SESSIONS, who also worked with us to navigate those jurisdictional issues.

I also want to thank the ranking member, Ms. WATERS, for working with both Mr. HECK and me to navigate some of the issues that she had with this bill to allow us to craft a piece of legislation that could get bipartisan support. I know at a time when a lot of people don't think that bipartisanship necessarily happens in this Chamber or in this town, because it doesn't make great news, it happens. People work together; they compromise; and they find a pathway forward. I think this is a

great example of that, and I want to thank the ranking member for her help in this effort and for her support. Again, it passed out of committee 56-4.

In essence, what we are doing here is saying that we have had a State-based model in America that has served this country very well for 150 years. We have been focusing on policyholder protection and solvency protection. Our insurance industry has been pretty resilient, and we are proud of it.

But we also recognize that the world is changing. It has become a far smaller world. We have different standards in different countries, and we have to be able to navigate those differences. As Americans, we have to be able to engage with the rest of the world. That is a good thing. But as we engage, we also want to make sure that we don't sell our State-based American model for some other model in some other country.

If we want to change an insurance model of regulation in America, that is our job in this Chamber. We shouldn't have some executive appointee negotiate a trade deal that undermines our State-based model. So that was the vision of what we are trying to accomplish.

In essence, we provide parameters to U.S. negotiators to prevent Federal U.S. negotiators from entering into an international insurance agreement unless it is consistent and reflective of the existing U.S. system of insurance regulation. So, again, it has to be consistent and reflective of our model.

It creates more transparency in the international insurance negotiation process, as U.S. negotiators have to regularly inform Congress as to the state and content of the negotiations that are being undertaken. It also ensures that our State insurance regulators are closely consulted in a process of the international insurance standards setting.

So this is a well-crafted bill that took in concerns that both sides of the aisle had.

I would like to note, as a Member of this body, and I think both sides feel this way, and whether it was President Clinton or President Bush or President Obama or now President Trump, we have a role in this Chamber, and, often-times, we cede power to the executive. I think it is important for us to exert some authority here to say that, if we are going to change the rules, then you just can't do it without us and through international negotiations.

I think this is a look to that point that, again, we have a great model. If we are going to change it, we need to be a part of it. We need to be consulted.

So with that, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the ranking member, and I want to thank Mr. HECK and the gentleman from Michigan.

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a special moment to thank Mr. DUFFY

and Mr. HECK. They worked very hard to resolve the concerns and the differences that arose in trying to put together this legislation.

As Mr. DUFFY has said, the world has changed, and we cannot be isolated in any way, just thinking about regulations that absolutely are impacted by what is going on internationally. I think, with all the hard work that was done by these two Members, we were able to figure out how to protect the work of the States and the laws that we have, but, at the same time, recognize that we are working in an international atmosphere. We must understand that gaps must be closed; I think we have done that sufficiently.

Again, I would like to thank them. Mr. HECK is just getting off the plane. He wanted to be here, because he has worked so hard on this legislation. He is not able to make it, but I want everybody to recognize that he did a tremendous job in helping us work through the difficulties of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out to the ranking member that that could, too, be a unifying part of the House of Representatives, our collective frustration with the airlines and delays in getting us all here in a timely fashion for important things like this.

But that little bipartisan sentiment aside, I, too, want to commend Mr. HECK and Mr. DUFFY for their work on this, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this underlying bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4537, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER MOBILITY DEMONSTRATION ACT OF 2018

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5793) to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a housing choice voucher mobility demonstration to encourage families receiving such voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5793

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 "Housing Choice Voucher Mobility Demonstration Act of 2018".

SEC. 2. HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER MOBILITY DEMONSTRATION.

(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (in this section referred to as the "Secretary") may carry out a mobility demonstration program to enable public housing agencies to administer housing choice voucher assistance under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) in a manner designed to encourage families receiving such voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

(b) SELECTION OF PHAS.—

(1) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall establish requirements for public housing agencies to participate in the demonstration program under this section, which shall provide that the following public housing agencies may participate:

(A) Public housing agencies that together—

(i) serve areas with high concentrations of holders of rental assistance vouchers under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) in poor, low-opportunity neighborhoods; and

(ii) have an adequate number of moderately priced rental units in higher-opportunity areas.

(B) Planned consortia or partial consortia of public housing agencies that—

(i) include at least one agency with a high-performing Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program; and

(ii) will enable participating families to continue in such program if they relocate to the jurisdiction served by any other agency of the consortium.

(C) Planned consortia or partial consortia of public housing agencies that—

(i) serve jurisdictions within a single region;

(ii) include one or more small agencies; and

(iii) will consolidate mobility focused operations.

(D) Such other public housing agencies as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(2) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall establish competitive selection criteria for public housing agencies eligible under paragraph (1) to participate in the demonstration program under this section.

(3) RANDOM SELECTION OF FAMILIES.—The Secretary may require participating agencies to use a randomized selection process to select among the families eligible to receive mobility assistance under the demonstration program.

(c) REGIONAL HOUSING MOBILITY PLAN.—The Secretary shall require each public housing agency applying to participate in the demonstration program under this section to submit a Regional Housing Mobility Plan (in this section referred to as a "Plan"), which shall—

(1) identify the public housing agencies that will participate under the Plan and the number of vouchers each participating agency will make available out of their existing programs in connection with the demonstration;

(2) identify any community-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and other entities that will participate under the Plan and describe the commitments for such participation made by each such entity;

(3) identify any waivers or alternative requirements requested for the execution of the Plan;

(4) identify any specific actions that the public housing agencies and other entities will undertake to accomplish the goals of the