

companies that support the agriculture industry. The drought really does impact us all.

Earlier this month, I visited Connie and Joe Mushrush's Red Angus Ranch in Chase County, Kansas. They showed me their vacant pastures and dry ponds, and admitted this drought was one of the worst their family has ever endured. They are not alone, as I hear stories of farmers and ranchers all across the district struggling to find solutions and options for their crops and cattle.

While I cannot deliver the rain many of us pray for, I can help to bring a level of certainty and support to my farmers and ranchers through final passage of the 2018 farm bill. I have worked hard, alongside my Agriculture Committee colleagues, to write and pass legislation that continues crop insurance and conservation programs that help producers operate their farms and ranches more efficiently.

Farmers never want a handout, but in trying times like these, it is essential that we support those who put food on our table with a safety net that we can all count on. I will continue to do all I can to support my farmers and ranchers, and I ask that my colleagues say a prayer for rain and for the men and women who feed us all.

#### 74TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION OF GUAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) for 5 minutes.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 74th anniversary of the liberation of Guam during World War II.

This morning, I just came from Arlington National Cemetery, where Ms. Irene Sgambelluri, a survivor of the occupation of Guam, joined me and Congressman SABLON in laying a memorial wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Sgambelluri is a dear friend of mine who happens to be in the audience today in the gallery. I was honored to host her here in our Nation's Capital for this solemn anniversary.

The Chamorro people of Guam endured 32 months of occupation and war-time atrocities, with thousands of our island's finest murdered, brutalized, and forced into concentration camps. Mr. Speaker, Ms. Sgambelluri's father was taken by the Japanese, and she was later forced into a concentration camp for the remainder of the war.

Today, I introduced the Occupation of Guam Remembrance Act in recognition of the atrocities endured by the Chamorro people of Guam during World War II. We must never, ever forget the sacrifices made by our island's manamko—the elders—during the war.

My Occupation of Guam Remembrance Act will ensure that all those victims and survivors who submitted for war claims will have their names inscribed on the memorial wall at the

Asan Bay Overlook in the War in the Pacific National Historic Park. The memorial wall is the only national monument dedicated to the sacrifices of Guam's Chamorro people during World War II, as well as the American servicemen and insular guardsmen who died defending the island during the war and those who liberated Guam in the summer of 1944.

Ms. Sgambelluri is just one of thousands who lived out that dark chapter in American history. I thank her for her friendship and for representing the thousands of war victims and survivors at this year's wreath laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery.

Guam's greatest generation, our manamko, or elders, who endured the war and survived have much to teach us. With the Occupation of Guam Remembrance Act, and the addition of all war claimants to the memorial wall, future generations will see the names of all those who sacrificed dearly for Guam and our future.

The victims and survivors of the occupation of Guam are in my prayers today, and I hope that all my colleagues here in Congress will join me in honoring the sacrifices of these very great Americans.

God bless Guam and God bless the United States of America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would remind Members that the rules do not allow for references to occupants of the gallery.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MITCHELL) at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Merciful God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Bless the Members of this people's House with wisdom and the courage to address the pressing difficulties of our time. As they continue the work of this assembly, guide them to grow in understanding in attaining solutions to our Nation's needs.

Continue to bless as well those charged with protecting and serving our country. They, too, need wisdom and insight into the pressure points of insecurity among our citizens. Lord, have mercy.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### KAVANAUGH THE RIGHT CHOICE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, The Post and Courier of Charleston, South Carolina, has provided a thoughtful editorial supporting the confirmation of Judge Brett Kavanaugh.

The editorial reinforces that "Brett Kavanaugh is a highly qualified 'originalist' who will help return the Supreme Court to its proper function in American society. The Senate should quickly confirm him."

"Judge Kavanaugh . . . fits President Donald Trump's promise to appoint judges known to adhere to the original language of the Constitution and its amendments, and to closely follow the law as laid down by Congress."

"As a Federal judge, Mr. Kavanaugh appears to have taken the . . . view that Congress is the preeminent policymaking body of the Federal government except where the Constitution gives policymaking powers to the executive; that Congress, the executive branch and the judiciary are all bound by the Constitution . . . and that judges and the President are further bound by the permissible decisions of Congress."

"It would be a welcome change to see the court allow the political branches of government to decide most political questions rather than the court."

In conclusion, God bless our troops and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

#### SUPPORT FOR OUR NATIONAL PARKS

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, our Nation's national parks are a cherished part of our country's legacy, and it is critical

that they be preserved for generations to come.

Unfortunately, the National Park Service is facing an insurmountable backlog of deferred maintenance that is growing more urgent as decades-old agency structures reach the end of their anticipated lifespans. This is impacting some of our most beloved parks.

The Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina and Virginia is the country's second most visited National Park, supporting approximately 15,600 jobs and is a huge economic asset to nearby rural communities. Deferred maintenance has resulted in the unfortunate deterioration of its amenities and accessibility.

The National Park Service Legacy Act would establish a National Park Service Legacy Restoration Fund directly aimed at addressing the agency's backlog and fixing the issues facing the Blue Ridge Parkway. As a proud cosponsor of this innovative legislation, I encourage its vote and final passage in the House this Congress.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 3 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1501

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CURTIS) at 3 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

#### ELECTRONIC MESSAGE PRESERVATION ACT OF 2017

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1376) to amend title 44, United States Code, to require preservation of certain electronic records by Federal agencies, to require a certification and reports relating to Presidential records, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1376

*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 "Electronic Message Preservation Act of 2017".

#### SEC. 2. PRESERVATION OF ELECTRONIC MESSAGES AND OTHER RECORDS.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR PRESERVATION OF ELECTRONIC MESSAGES.—Chapter 29 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

##### "§ 2912. Preservation of electronic messages and other records

"(a) REGULATIONS REQUIRED.—The Archivist shall promulgate regulations governing Federal agency preservation of electronic messages that are determined to be records. Such regulations shall, at a minimum—

"(1) require the electronic capture, management, and preservation of such electronic records in accordance with the records disposition requirements of chapter 33;

"(2) require that such electronic records are readily accessible for retrieval through electronic searches; and

"(3) include timelines for Federal agency implementation of the regulations that ensure compliance as expeditiously as practicable.

"(b) ENSURING COMPLIANCE.—The Archivist shall promulgate regulations that—

"(1) establish mandatory minimum functional requirements for electronic records management systems to ensure compliance with the requirements in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a); and

"(2) establish a process to ensure that the electronic records management system of each Federal agency meets the functional requirements established under paragraph (1).

"(c) COVERAGE OF OTHER ELECTRONIC RECORDS.—To the extent practicable, the regulations promulgated under subsections (a) and (b) shall also include requirements for the capture, management, and preservation of other electronic records.

"(d) COMPLIANCE BY FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Each Federal agency shall comply with the regulations promulgated under subsections (a) and (b).

"(e) REVIEW OF REGULATIONS REQUIRED.—The Archivist shall periodically review and, as necessary, amend the regulations promulgated under subsections (a) and (b)."

(b) DEADLINE FOR REGULATIONS.—

(1) PRESERVATION OF ELECTRONIC MESSAGES.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Archivist shall promulgate the regulations required under section 2912(a) of title 44, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

(2) ENSURING COMPLIANCE.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Archivist shall promulgate the regulations required under section 2912(b) of title 44, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

(c) REPORTS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF REGULATIONS.—

(1) AGENCY REPORT TO ARCHIVIST.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the head of each Federal agency shall submit to the Archivist a report on the agency's compliance with the regulations promulgated under section 2912 of title 44, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), and shall make the report publicly available on the website of the agency.

(2) ARCHIVIST REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days after receipt of all reports required by paragraph (1), the Archivist shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives a report on Federal agency compliance with the regulations promulgated under section 2912(a) of title 44, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), and shall make the report publicly available on the website of the agency.

(3) FEDERAL AGENCY DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term "Federal agency" has the meaning given that term in section 2901 of title 44, United States Code.

(d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 29 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by adding after the item relating to section 2911 the following new item:

"2912. Preservation of electronic messages and other records."

(e) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2901 of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (14); and

(2) by striking paragraph (15) and inserting the following new paragraphs:

"(15) the term 'electronic messages' means electronic mail and other electronic messaging systems that are used for purposes of communicating between individuals; and

"(16) the term 'electronic records management system' means software designed to manage electronic records, including by—

"(A) categorizing and locating records;

"(B) ensuring that records are retained as long as necessary;

"(C) identifying records that are due for disposition; and

"(D) ensuring the storage, retrieval, and disposition of records."

#### SEC. 3. PRESIDENTIAL RECORDS.

(a) ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS RELATING TO PRESIDENTIAL RECORDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 2206 of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (3);

(B) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting "; and"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

"(5) provisions for establishing standards necessary for the economical and efficient management of electronic Presidential records during the President's term of office, including—

"(A) records management controls necessary for the capture, management, and preservation of electronic messages;

"(B) records management controls necessary to ensure that electronic messages are readily accessible for retrieval through electronic searches; and

"(C) a process to ensure the electronic records management system to be used by the President for the purposes of complying with the requirements in subparagraphs (A) and (B)."

(2) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2201 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

"(6) The term 'electronic messages' has the meaning given that term under section 2901(15).

"(7) The term 'electronic records management system' has the meaning given that term under section 2901(16)."

(b) CERTIFICATION OF PRESIDENT'S MANAGEMENT OF PRESIDENTIAL RECORDS.—

(1) CERTIFICATION REQUIRED.—Chapter 22 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

##### "§ 2210. Certification of the President's management of Presidential records

"(a) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—The Archivist shall annually certify whether the electronic records management controls established by the President meet requirements under sections 2203(a) and 2206(5).

"(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Archivist shall report annually to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives on the status of the certification."