

2015, the SAWS program was exposed and made public. And after congressional hearings and inquiries, the Patent Office announced the program had been retired. As one senior patent official told me, “That program had to go.”

So it has been an ongoing struggle on the outside and on the inside to maintain the strength and integrity of America’s patent system.

On the legislative side, there is a bipartisan coalition now, led by dedicated Representatives like MARCY KAPTUR of Ohio and THOMAS MASSIE of Kentucky. They just introduced H.R. 6264, Restoring America’s Leadership in Innovation Act of 2018, a bill that will, if we can get it enacted, undo many of the legislative setbacks America’s patent system has suffered in the last two decades. I am, of course, an original cosponsor of that bill, and I invite my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring it.

There is really good news—and here is some really good news—from the executive branch. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross is deeply committed to protecting the intellectual property of American inventors. He is willing to fight the good fight to protect us against foreign competitors who would steal our inventors’ genius and use it against our own hardworking people.

Secretary Ross is working with our new director of the Patent Office, Andrei Iancu, and he is committed to protecting inventors and creators. Both of them, with President Trump’s guidance and Vice President PENCE’s encouragement, are declaring that the patent system will be totally transparent and fully accountable.

I might say, Director Iancu has just reaffirmed that commitment in a written statement to Congress:

Today, at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, every action we take is on the public record and recorded in a publicly available database.

So there is reason for optimism that we have turned a corner in our long-term efforts to protect—and, yes, reclaim and maintain and repair—some of the damages that have been done from both the outside attack of our patent system and the inside, out-of-line actions that were taken without oversight or accountability, like the SAWS program.

It is not appropriate to cover up or withhold information. It is time to make up for those past errors and to

set a path for America’s Patent Office to offer efficient, honest, and totally above-board service.

The new director has his hands full. But he has the right game plan: total transparency and full accountability.

When it comes to innovation and technology, we are, with our American President, the Vice President, the Secretary of Commerce, and the team over at the Patent Office, together, making America great again.

So I would ask my colleagues, please, I know this is a complicated issue, we talked to the American people, we know that patent law seems like it should be complicated, but it is not. For someone who invents something, our Founding Fathers put into place a property right for those people who invent, an inventor, to be able, at least for 17 years, have control over his or her invention.

This has worked well for the United States. It is so sad that, for decades now, they have been trying to undermine it. But we are reclaiming that today with the Trump administration, the Secretary of Commerce, the head of the Patent Office, and the Vice President of the United States, who are dedicated to protecting the rights of our inventors and, thus, protecting the great standard of living and the safety of the United States of America, which is so dependent on having a technological edge against any competitor or enemy.

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

RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE PURSUANT TO ARTICLE I, SECTION 7, OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution constituting a question of the privileges of the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 1019

Resolved, That the conference report accompanying H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, in the opinion of this House, contravenes the first clause of the seventh section of the first arti-

cle of the Constitution of the United States and is an infringement of the privileges of this House and that such bill be respectfully recommitted to the committee of conference.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution presents a question of the privileges of the House.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 8 o’clock and 39 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 2128

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOODALL) at 9 o’clock and 28 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING A REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RULES, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Mr. SESSIONS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115–873) on the resolution (H. Res. 1020) waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o’clock and 28 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, July 25, 2018, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the second quarter of 2018, pursuant to Public Law 95–384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JOSH MARTIN, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAY 24 AND JUNE 4, 2018

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Josh Martin	5/25	5/26	France		190.00			(3)			190.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JOSH MARTIN, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAY 24 AND JUNE 4, 2018—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
	5/27	5/29	India	11,118.00	163.50	.....	.....	(³)	.....	11,118.00	163.50
	5/29	5/30	Sri Lanka .....	.....	97.00	.....	.....	(³)	.....	.....	97.00
	5/30	6/1	Philippines .....	.....	270.00	.....	.....	(³)	.....	.....	270.00
	6/1	6/3	Singapore .....	.....	220.00	.....	.....	(³)	.....	.....	220.00
Committee total .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	940.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	940.00

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.³ Military air transportation.

JOSH MARTIN, July 2, 2018.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2018

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Glenn Thompson	5/24	5/30	France .....	.....	2,857.00	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	2,857.00
	5/30	5/31	England .....	.....	382.00	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	382.00
Committee total .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,239.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,239.00

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.³ Military air transportation.

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY, Chairman, July 17, 2018.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2018

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☐

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX, Chairman, July 12, 2018.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ETHICS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2018

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☐

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS, Chairman, July 12, 2018.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2018

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Lamar Smith	4/2	4/5	Chile	392,540	645.83	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	645.83
	4/5	4/8	Ecuador .....	.....	1,375.80	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	1,375.80
	4/8	4/10	Colombia	1,468,000	524.29	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	524.29
Hon. Zoe Lofgren	4/2	4/5	Chile	392,540	645.83	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	645.83
	4/5	4/8	Ecuador .....	.....	1,333.80	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	1,333.80
	4/8	4/10	Colombia	1,468,000	524.29	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	524.29
Hon. Ed Perlmutter	4/2	4/5	Chile	375,521	617.83	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	617.83
	4/5	4/8	Ecuador .....	.....	1,305.80	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	1,305.80
	4/8	4/10	Colombia	1,356,000	484.92	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	484.29
Hon. Randy Hultgren	4/2	4/5	Chile	337,837	555.83	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	555.83
	4/5	4/8	Ecuador .....	.....	1,305.80	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	1,305.80
	4/8	4/10	Colombia	1,244,001	444.29	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	444.29
Hon. Suzanne Bonamici	4/2	4/5	Chile	392,540	645.83	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	645.83
	4/5	4/8	Ecuador .....	.....	1,333.80	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	1,333.80
	4/8	4/10	Colombia	1,468,000	524.29	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	524.29
Hon. Randy Weber	4/2	4/5	Chile	392,540	645.83	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	645.83
	4/5	4/8	Ecuador .....	.....	1,333.80	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	1,333.80
	4/8	4/10	Colombia	1,468,000	524.29	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	524.29
Hon. Brian Babin	4/2	4/5	Chile	392,540	645.83	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	645.83
	4/5	4/8	Ecuador .....	.....	1,333.80	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	1,333.80
	4/8	4/10	Colombia	1,468,000	524.29	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	524.29
Ashley Smith	4/2	4/5	Chile	392,540	645.83	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	645.83
	4/5	4/8	Ecuador .....	.....	1,375.80	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	1,375.80
	4/8	4/10	Colombia	1,468,000	524.29	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	524.29
Cliff Shannon	4/2	4/5	Chile	392,540	645.83	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	645.83
	4/5	4/8	Ecuador .....	.....	1,202.56	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	1,202.56
	4/8	4/10	Colombia	1,468,000	524.29	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	524.29
Ashlee Vinyard	4/2	4/5	Chile	392,540	645.83	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	645.83

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2018—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Jenn Wickre	4/5	4/8	Ecuador		1,375.80		(³)				1,375.80
	4/8	4/10	Colombia	1,468,000	524.29		(³)				524.29
	4/2	4/5	Chile	392,540	645.83		(³)				645.83
	4/5	4/8	Ecuador		1,202.56		(³)				1,202.56
Kristin Kopshever	4/8	4/10	Colombia	1,468,000	524.29		(³)				524.29
	4/2	4/5	Chile	392,540	645.83		(³)				645.83
	4/5	4/8	Ecuador		1,202.56		(³)				1,202.56
	4/8	4/10	Colombia	1,468,000	524.29		(³)				524.29
Committee total					29,503.95						29,503.95

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.³ Military air transportation.

HON. LAMAR SMITH, Chairman, July 9, 2018.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2018

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Eric Burgeson	4/3	4/7	Australia		1,538.00						1,538.00
Kathy Dedrick	4/3	4/7	Australia		1,538.00						1,538.00
Hon. Garret Graves	4/3	4/7	Australia		1,538.00						1,538.00
Hon. Daniel Lipinski	4/3	4/7	Australia		1,538.00						1,538.00
Fleming Legg	4/3	4/7	Australia		1,538.00						1,538.00
Hon. Sean Patrick Maloney	4/3	4/7	Australia		1,538.00						1,538.00
Collin McCune	4/3	4/7	Australia		1,538.00						1,538.00
Hon. David Rouzer	4/3	4/7	Australia		1,538.00						1,538.00
Hon. William F. Shuster	4/3	4/7	Australia		1,538.00						1,538.00
Brittany Smith	4/3	4/7	Australia		1,538.00						1,538.00
Rebekah Sungala	4/3	4/7	Australia		1,538.00						1,538.00
Chris Vieson	4/3	4/7	Australia		1,538.00						1,538.00
CMTE Expenses	4/3	4/7	Australia		1,538.00		7,732.00		1,557.00		1,538.00
Total Australia					18,456.00		7,732.00		1,557.00		27,745.00
Eric Burgeson	4/7	4/8	New Zealand		431.00						431.00
Kathy Dedrick	4/7	4/8	New Zealand		431.00						431.00
Hon. Garret Graves	4/7	4/8	New Zealand		431.00						431.00
Hon. Daniel Lipinski	4/7	4/8	New Zealand		431.00						431.00
Fleming Legg	4/7	4/8	New Zealand		431.00						431.00
Hon. Sean Patrick Maloney	4/7	4/8	New Zealand		431.00						431.00
Collin McCune	4/7	4/8	New Zealand		431.00						431.00
Hon. David Rouzer	4/7	4/8	New Zealand		431.00						431.00
Hon. William F. Shuster	4/7	4/8	New Zealand		431.00						431.00
Brittany Smith	4/7	4/8	New Zealand		431.00						431.00
Rebekah Sungala	4/7	4/8	New Zealand		431.00						431.00
Chris Vieson	4/7	4/8	New Zealand		431.00						431.00
CMTE Expenses	4/7	4/8	New Zealand		431.00		3,292.00		1,439.00		4,731.00
Total New Zealand					5,172.00		3,292.00		1,439.00		9,903.00
Hon. Alan Lowenthal	4/13	4/16	Peru		2,022.36						2,022.36
Committee total					25,650.36		11,024.00		2,996.00		39,670.36

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. BILL SHUSTER, Chairman, July 12, 2018.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2018

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☐¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. KEVIN BRADY, Vice Chairman, July 9, 2018.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5742. A letter from the Under Secretary, Acquisition and Sustainment, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's report titled "Fiscal Year 2017 Purchases From Foreign Entities", pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 8305; Public Law 104-201, Sec. 827 (as amended by Public Law 111-350, Sec. 3); (124 Stat. 3833) and Public Law 115-31, Sec. 8029(b); (131 Stat. 253); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5743. A letter from the Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's Report to the Congress on the Profitability of Credit Card Operations of Depository Institutions, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1637 note; Public Law 100-583, Sec. 8; (102 Stat. 2969); to the Committee on Financial Services.

5744. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Flood Insurance Program: Removal of Monroe County Pilot Inspection Program Regulations [Docket ID: FEMA-2018-0027] (RIN: 1660-AA93) received July 18, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-

121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

5745. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Housing — Federal Housing Commissioner, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Streamlining Inspection Requirements for Federal Housing Administration (FHA) Single-Family Mortgage Insurance: Removal of the FHA Inspector Roster [Docket No.: FR-5457-F-02] (RIN: 2502-AJ03) received July 12, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.