

the road to SPR modernization, and so I do urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

Mr. BARTON. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I have been in Congress for 34 years. I am about to retire at the end of this session. I have been on the House floor with many tumultuous battles. I have watched the fight over the Keystone pipeline, drilling in ANWR up in Alaska. My good friend, Senator MARKEY of Massachusetts, when he was in the House, would come to the floor with his chart, an oil well drilling into the Social Security trust fund.

It is refreshing, Madam Speaker, to be on the floor today in the spirit of bipartisanship where we are all for something which I think really is good for the American people, good for the taxpayer, and good for the consumer.

This is on suspension, so, obviously, we have to have a huge vote. I hope we get it. It looks like we will since we don't have any other speakers.

I would urge a "yes" vote, Madam Speaker. Let's do something good for America. Let's vote for this bill. Please vote "yes" on H.R. 6511 when the vote is called.

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

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6511, the Strategic Petroleum Reserve Reform Act. This bill is another product of the Energy and Commerce Committee's ongoing and bipartisan work to modernize the Department of Energy.

The Committee's DOE modernization efforts are focused on ensuring the Department can more ably address current and future domestic and international energy and security challenges. These challenges range from maintaining nuclear safety and security to protecting the reliable supply and delivery of energy, and they require a DOE that has the appropriate organization, management focus, and authorities to succeed.

H.R. 6511 was developed by Vice Chairman BARTON and Ranking Member RUSH to modernize the forty-year-old Strategic Petroleum Reserve, so it's prepared to protect our Nation from energy disruptions in the decades ahead.

H.R. 6511 authorizes DOE to lease underutilized storage capacity, which will become available in increasing amounts as DOE conducts mandated drawdowns over the next several years. Rather than have DOE maintain empty caverns at considerable taxpayer expense, H.R. 6511 will allow DOE to develop the spare capacity, attracting much needed capital investments for additional improvements. H.R. 6511 will preserve the SPR's existing capacity, generate revenue for upgrades and maintenance, and improve the operational readiness of the entire SPR complex. H.R. 6511 is truly a win-win, and a perfect example of our bipartisan DOE modernization effort.

I especially want to thank Mr. BARTON for his work on this bill. He has been at the forefront of so many defining moments relating to energy security. From his leadership as Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee during passage of the Energy Policy Act of

2005, to his tireless efforts to repeal the ban on crude oil exports, his work on this bill contributes to the great legacy he leaves behind at the Energy and Commerce Committee—and in the United States Congress. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 6511.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BARTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6511, 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.

#### REAUTHORIZING WEST VALLEY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

Mr. MCKINLEY. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2389) to reauthorize the West Valley demonstration project, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2389

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. WEST VALLEY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.

(a) REAUTHORIZATION.—Section 3(a) of the West Valley Demonstration Project Act (Public Law 96-368; 42 U.S.C. 2021a note) is amended by striking “\$5,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1981” and inserting “\$75,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2025”.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a report that describes—

(1) the volumes, origins, and types of radioactive waste at the Western New York Service Center in West Valley, New York;

(2) what options have been identified for disposal of each such type of radioactive waste;

(3) what is known about the costs of, and timeframes for, each such option;

(4) the benefits and challenges of each such option, according to the State of New York and the Department of Energy; and

(5) as of the date of enactment of this Act—

(A) how much has been spent on the disposal of radioactive waste associated with the demonstration project prescribed by section 2(a) of the West Valley Demonstration Project Act; and

(B) what volumes and types of radioactive waste have been disposed of from the Western New York Service Center.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MCKINLEY) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from West Virginia.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCKINLEY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material in the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, H.R. 2389 is a bill to reauthorize the West Valley demonstration project, which was introduced in May of 2017 by our New York colleague, TOM REED.

The bipartisan legislation moved through the Energy and Commerce Committee by regular order, including legislative hearings and markups, as part of our broad nuclear waste management agenda. It was reported to the full committee, with a bipartisan amendment, by a voice vote.

Let me thank the ranking member of the Subcommittee on the Environment, Mr. TONKO, for working closely with us on this legislation.

H.R. 2389, as amended, authorizes appropriations to support the Department of Energy's environmental remediation at its West Valley cleanup site in New York through 2025. It also directs a study to help Congress determine the final disposition of the radioactive waste that DOE is cleaning up at the site.

H.R. 2389 also continues the work of this Congress to address the Federal Government's obligation for treatment and disposal of the legacy waste produced during the Cold War and through the Federal Government's early efforts to develop a civilian nuclear energy industry.

The Department of Energy has successfully remediated 92 sites of this waste, but the most technologically challenging projects remain in place at 17 locations, one of which is the West Valley site.

In 1980, Congress passed the West Valley demonstration project to direct DOE to address legacy environmental issues and authorized the appropriations, however, only through fiscal year 1981. The project has not been reauthorized since that time, despite Congress funding DOE's work at the site for the past 37 years. H.R. 2389 corrects this situation and provides a path to answering important questions concerning waste disposition and ensures spending at the site is subject to an active authorization.

I urge all Members to support this important legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2389, which reauthorizes the West Valley demonstration project.

The Western New York Service Center in West Valley, New York, has a unique history. The site is owned by New York State, but from 1966 to 1972 it was operated by a private business to reprocess spent nuclear fuel primarily provided by the Federal Government. Those reprocessing activities ended

decades ago, but high-level and transuranic waste continued to be stored at the site.

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While a cost-sharing agreement between New York State and the Department of Energy has been resolved for the site's remediation, the ultimate disposal of the waste remains a point of contention. There have been ongoing disputes and legislative actions spanning from the 1980s through today, with DOE and New York State continuing to disagree over who should be responsible for paying for waste disposal. This disagreement has major consequences for how the waste can be disposed of and who will be responsible for covering the disposal costs.

H.R. 2389 would require a report by the Government Accountability Office, or GAO, to help clarify the origins of and disposal pathways for the waste, including cost estimates. The bill also reauthorizes the West Valley demonstration project at \$75 million annually for 7 years, and this funding level is identical to the amount appropriated in fiscal year 2018 and will help ensure the cleanup continues on schedule.

While this bill does not settle the decades-old dispute between New York and DOE, it takes positive steps towards the site's remediation and attempts to move the ball forward to ensure that wastes are disposed of properly.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank Representative TONKO, the ranking member of the committee's Environment Subcommittee, for his work on this bill, and commend both him and the bill's sponsor for their efforts.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCKINLEY. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. REED).

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the pending legislation before our body.

Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to thank the gentleman from West Virginia as well as my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for their support and their articulation of the legislation and the need for this legislation. I would, in particular, like to thank my good colleague PAUL TONKO from New York, on the other side of the aisle, for working with us in a bipartisan way to get this legislation to reauthorize the West Valley Nuclear Site Reauthorization Act into law.

Madam Speaker, this legislation will provide clarity, additional steps that we can take, and give clarity to our area of New York that is impacted by this nuclear waste site, the folks who are working there on a day-in, day-out basis.

I have been to this site, Madam Speaker, multiple times. I have met with the managers of this site; I have met with the employees of this site;

and they have worked tirelessly over the years to clean up this nuclear waste and this threat to our environment and to our communities, and I applaud their efforts.

Madam Speaker, I can attest to, firsthand, seeing the fruits of the work that have been done over the years that they have tended to West Valley and the surrounding community in order to address the threat from nuclear waste that exists there.

As we go forward, many years are still ahead of us in regard to the efforts to clean up that nuclear waste legacy that is located in our district in West Valley, New York. This legislation will give us clarity as to a future path that will be followed in order for us to continue the successful work there.

Madam Speaker, I encourage all Members to join us in supporting this legislation that will do great work to make sure that our environment is protected and that the legacy obligations of us as a government are attended to for a local community that is dealing with this issue.

Madam Speaker, to the Department of Energy and all the folks who work there, we say thank you.

I would like to thank, in particular, not only the Energy and Commerce Committee members, their staffs, but also the folks in our local community, such as Town of Ashford Supervisor Charles Davis and the local citizens task force that spent hours, upon days, upon years attending to this issue in their unwavering support in standing with us as we move forward on this legislation.

Madam Speaker, to West Valley Deputy General Manager Scott Anderson: Keep up the good work, and together we will clean up this site once and for all.

Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I would just ask support from my colleagues to pass this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MCKINLEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2389, 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.

#### PATIENT RIGHT TO KNOW DRUG PRICES ACT

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2554) to ensure that health insurance issuers and group health plans do not prohibit pharmacy providers from providing certain information to enrollees.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2554

*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 "Patient Right to Know Drug Prices Act".

#### SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON LIMITING CERTAIN INFORMATION ON DRUG PRICES.

Subpart II of part A of title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg-11 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

##### "SEC. 2729. INFORMATION ON PRESCRIPTION DRUGS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—A group health plan or a health insurance issuer offering group or individual health insurance coverage shall—

"(1) not restrict, directly or indirectly, any pharmacy that dispenses a prescription drug to an enrollee in the plan or coverage from informing (or penalize such pharmacy for informing) an enrollee of any differential between the enrollee's out-of-pocket cost under the plan or coverage with respect to acquisition of the drug and the amount an individual would pay for acquisition of the drug without using any health plan or health insurance coverage; and

"(2) ensure that any entity that provides pharmacy benefits management services under a contract with any such health plan or health insurance coverage does not, with respect to such plan or coverage, restrict, directly or indirectly, a pharmacy that dispenses a prescription drug from informing (or penalize such pharmacy for informing) an enrollee of any differential between the enrollee's out-of-pocket cost under the plan or coverage with respect to acquisition of the drug and the amount an individual would pay for acquisition of the drug without using any health plan or health insurance coverage.

"(b) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the term 'out-of-pocket cost', with respect to acquisition of a drug, means the amount to be paid by the enrollee under the plan or coverage, including any cost-sharing (including any deductible, copayment, or co-insurance) and, as determined by the Secretary, any other expenditure."

#### SEC. 3. MODERNIZING THE REPORTING OF BIOLOGICAL AND BIOSIMILAR PRODUCTS.

Subtitle B of title XI of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-173) is amended—

(1) in section 1111—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through (8) as paragraphs (6) through (11), respectively;

(B) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

"(3) BIOSIMILAR BIOLOGICAL PRODUCT.—The term 'biosimilar biological product' means a biological product for which an application under section 351(k) of the Public Health Service Act is approved.

"(4) BIOSIMILAR BIOLOGICAL PRODUCT APPLICANT.—The term 'biosimilar biological product applicant' means a person who has filed or received approval for a biosimilar biological product under section 351(k) of the Public Health Service Act.

"(5) BIOSIMILAR BIOLOGICAL PRODUCT APPLICATION.—The term 'biosimilar biological product application' means an application for licensure of a biological product under section 351(k) of the Public Health Service Act."

(C) in paragraph (6), as so redesignated, by inserting ", or a biological product for which