

I look forward to continuing to work with her, and the other bill sponsors to advance not only this legislation, but also other measures to address the underrepresentation of women, minorities, and veterans within the innovation ecosystem.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6758, the “Study of Underrepresented Classes Chasing Engineering and Science Success Act of 2018.”

H.R. 6758, also known as the SUCCESS Act, provides recommendations to promote the participation of women and minorities in entrepreneurship and the patent system.

H.R. 6758 extends, by eight years, the Patent and Trademark Office’s authority to set its own fees.

As the legislation declares, it is the sense of Congress that the United States has the responsibility to work with the private sector to close the gap in the number of patents applied for and obtained by women and minorities to harness the maximum innovative potential and continue to promote United States leadership in the global economy.

H.R. 6758 requires the Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, in consultation with the Small Business Administration to conduct a study that identifies publicly available data on the number of patents annually applied for and obtained by, and the benefits of increasing the number of women and minority businesses owned by women and minorities.

The study directed by this bill will guide the legislative recommendations for how to promote the participation of women and minorities in entrepreneurship activities and for how to increase the number of women and minorities who apply for and obtain patents.

Additionally, H.R. 6758:

Requires the study conducted under section 3(a) to be submitted to the Committees on the Judiciary and Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committees on the Judiciary and Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate within one year of the date of enactment of the Act; and

Extends, for eight years, the authority for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to set its own fees under Section 10(i)(2) of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act.

The Institute for Women’s Policy Research reported that in 2016, less than 20 percent of U.S. patents listed one or more women as inventors, and under eight percent listed a woman as the primary inventor.

In 2017, the Equality of Opportunity Project found that white children are three times more likely to become inventors than black children, and that children from wealthy families are ten times more likely to have filed for a patent than children from families below the median income.

One study estimates that GDP per capita could rise up to 4.6 percent with the inclusion of more women and African Americans in the initial stages of the process of innovation.

These statistics prove that we need more activity and involvement from a diverse pool of entrepreneurs and inventors.

I urge all Members to join me in voting in favor of H.R. 6758.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6758, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: “A bill to direct the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, in consultation with the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, to study and provide recommendations to promote the participation of women, minorities, and veterans in entrepreneurship activities and the patent system, to extend by 8 years the Patent and Trademark Office’s authority to set the amounts for the fees it charges, and for other purposes.”.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### ASHANTI ALERT ACT OF 2018

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5075) to encourage, enhance, and integrate Ashanti Alert plans throughout the United States, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5075

*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 “Ashanti Alert Act of 2018”.

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) MISSING ADULT.—The term “missing adult” means an individual who—

(A) is older than the age for which an AMBER alert may be issued in the State in which the individual is identified as a missing person;

(B) is identified by a law enforcement agency as a missing person; and

(C) meets the requirements to be designated as a missing adult, as determined by the State in which the individual is identified as a missing person.

(2) STATE.—The term “State” means each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(3) ASHANTI ALERT.—The term “Ashanti Alert” means an alert issued through the Ashanti Alert communications network, related to a missing adult.

#### SEC. 3. ASHANTI ALERT COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall, subject to the availability of appropriations, establish a national communications network, to be known as the Ashanti Alert communications network, within the Department of Justice to provide assistance to regional and local search efforts for missing adults through the initiation, facilitation, and promotion of local elements of the network (referred to in this Act as “Ashanti Alert plans”), in coordination with States, units of local government, law enforcement agencies, and other concerned entities with expertise in providing services to adults.

(b) INTEGRATION WITH BLUE ALERT COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK.—In establishing the Ashanti Alert communications network

under subsection (a), the Attorney General shall integrate the Ashanti Alert communications network into the Blue Alert communications network established under the Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu National Blue Alert Act of 2015 (34 U.S.C. 50501 et seq.), to maximize the efficiency of both networks.

#### SEC. 4. ASHANTI ALERT COORDINATOR.

(a) NATIONAL COORDINATOR WITHIN DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.—The Attorney General shall designate an individual of the Department of Justice to act as the national coordinator of the Ashanti Alert communications network. The individual so designated shall be known as the Ashanti Alert Coordinator of the Department of Justice (referred to in this Act as the “Coordinator”).

(b) DUTIES OF THE COORDINATOR.—In acting as the national coordinator of the Ashanti Alert communications network, the Coordinator shall—

(1) work with States to encourage the development of additional Ashanti Alert plans in the network;

(2) establish voluntary guidelines for States to use in developing Ashanti Alert plans that will promote compatible and integrated Ashanti Alert plans throughout the United States, including—

(A) a list of the resources necessary to establish an Ashanti Alert plan;

(B) criteria for evaluating whether a situation warrants issuing an Ashanti Alert, taking into consideration the need for the use of such Alerts to be limited in scope because the effectiveness of the Ashanti Alert communications network may be affected by overuse, including criteria to determine—

(i) whether the mental capacity of an adult who is missing, and the circumstances of his or her disappearance, warrant the issuance of an Ashanti Alert; and

(ii) whether the individual who reports that an adult is missing is an appropriate and credible source on which to base the issuance of an Ashanti Alert;

(C) a description of the appropriate uses of the Ashanti Alert name to readily identify the nature of search efforts for missing adults; and

(D) recommendations on how to protect the privacy, dignity, independence, and autonomy of any missing adult who may be the subject of an Ashanti Alert;

(3) develop proposed protocols for efforts to recover missing adults and to reduce the number of adults who are reported missing, including protocols for procedures that are needed from the time of initial notification of a law enforcement agency that the adult is missing through the time of the return of the adult to family, guardian, or domicile, as appropriate, including—

(A) public safety communications protocol;

(B) case management protocol;

(C) command center operations;

(D) reunification protocol; and

(E) incident review, evaluation, debriefing, and public information procedures;

(4) work with States to ensure appropriate regional coordination of various elements of the network;

(5) establish an advisory group to assist States, units of local government, law enforcement agencies, and other entities involved in the Ashanti Alert communications network with initiating, facilitating, and promoting Ashanti Alert plans, which shall include—

(A) to the maximum extent practicable, representation from the various geographic regions of the United States; and

(B) members who are—

(i) representatives of adult citizen advocacy groups, law enforcement agencies, and public safety communications;

(ii) broadcasters, first responders, dispatchers, and radio station personnel; and

(iii) representatives of any other individuals or organizations that the Coordinator determines are necessary to the success of the Ashanti Alert communications network; and

(6) act as the nationwide point of contact for—

(A) the development of the network; and

(B) regional coordination of alerts for missing adults through the network.

(c) COORDINATION.—

(1) COORDINATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES.—The Coordinator shall coordinate and consult with the Secretary of Transportation, the Federal Communications Commission, the Assistant Secretary for Aging of the Department of Health and Human Services, and other appropriate offices of the Department of Justice in carrying out activities under this Act.

(2) STATE AND LOCAL COORDINATION.—The Coordinator shall consult with local broadcasters and State and local law enforcement agencies in establishing minimum standards under section 5 and in carrying out other activities under this Act, as appropriate.

(d) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Coordinator shall submit to Congress a report on the activities of the Coordinator and the effectiveness and status of the Ashanti Alert plans of each State that has established or is in the process of establishing such a plan. Each such report shall include—

(1) a list of States that have established Ashanti Alert plans;

(2) a list of States that are in the process of establishing Ashanti Alert plans;

(3) for each State that has established such a plan, to the extent the data is available—

(A) the number of Ashanti Alerts issued;

(B) the number of individuals located successfully;

(C) the average period of time between the issuance of an Ashanti Alert and the location of the individual for whom such Alert was issued;

(D) the State agency or authority issuing Ashanti Alerts, and the process by which Ashanti Alerts are disseminated;

(E) the cost of establishing and operating such a plan;

(F) the criteria used by the State to determine whether to issue an Ashanti Alert; and

(G) the extent to which missing individuals for whom Ashanti Alerts were issued crossed State lines;

(4) actions States have taken to protect the privacy and dignity of the individuals for whom Ashanti Alerts are issued;

(5) ways that States have facilitated and improved communication about missing individuals between families, caregivers, law enforcement officials, and other authorities; and

(6) any other information the Coordinator determines to be appropriate.

#### **SEC. 5. MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR ISSUANCE AND DISSEMINATION OF ALERTS THROUGH ASHANTI ALERT COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK.**

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF MINIMUM STANDARDS.—Subject to subsection (b), the Coordinator shall establish minimum standards for—

(1) the issuance of alerts through the Ashanti Alert communications network; and

(2) the extent of the dissemination of alerts issued through the network.

(b) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION.—The minimum standards established under subsection (a) of this section, and any other guidelines and programs established under section 4, shall be adoptable on a voluntary basis only.

(2) DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION.—The minimum standards shall, to the maximum extent practicable (as determined by the Coordinator in consultation with State and local law enforcement agencies), provide that appropriate information relating to the special needs of a missing adult (including health care needs) are disseminated to the appropriate law enforcement, public health, and other public officials.

(3) GEOGRAPHIC AREAS.—The minimum standards shall, to the maximum extent practicable (as determined by the Coordinator in consultation with State and local law enforcement agencies), provide that the dissemination of an alert through the Ashanti Alert communications network be limited to the geographic areas which the missing adult could reasonably reach, considering the missing adult's circumstances and physical and mental condition, the modes of transportation available to the missing adult, and the circumstances of the disappearance.

(4) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—The minimum standards shall include requirements that the missing person—

(A) suffers from a proven mental or physical disability, as documented by a source determined credible to an appropriate law enforcement entity; or

(B) is missing under circumstances that indicate, as determined by an appropriate law enforcement entity—

(i) that the person's physical safety may be endangered; or

(ii) that the person's disappearance may not have been voluntary, including an abduction or kidnapping.

(5) PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES PROTECTIONS.—The minimum standards shall—

(A) ensure that alerts issued through the Ashanti Alert communications network comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local privacy laws and regulations; and

(B) include standards that specifically provide for the protection of the civil liberties and sensitive medical information of missing adults.

(6) STATE AND LOCAL VOLUNTARY COORDINATION.—In carrying out the activities under subsection (a), the Coordinator may not interfere with the current system of voluntary coordination between local broadcasters and State and local law enforcement agencies for purposes of the Ashanti Alert communications network.

#### **SEC. 6. TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS.**

The Coordinator shall make available to States, units of local government, law enforcement agencies, and other concerned entities that are involved in initiating, facilitating, or promoting Ashanti Alert plans, including broadcasters, first responders, dispatchers, public safety communications personnel, and radio station personnel—

(1) training and educational programs related to the Ashanti Alert communications network and the capabilities, limitations, and anticipated behaviors of missing adults, which shall be updated regularly to encourage the use of new tools, technologies, and resources in Ashanti Alert plans; and

(2) informational materials, including brochures, videos, posters, and web sites to support and supplement such training and educational programs.

#### **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Attorney General \$3,000,000 to carry out the Ashanti Alert communications network as authorized under this Act for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2022.

#### **SEC. 8. EMERGENCY FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE.**

Section 609Y(a) of the Justice Assistance Act of 1984 (34 U.S.C. 50112(a)) is amended by

striking “September 30, 2021” and inserting “September 30, 2022”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

#### **GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on H.R. 5075, currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, we will vote today on H.R. 5075, the Ashanti Alert Act of 2018. This bill establishes a national alert network for missing adults at the Department of Justice. It will allow law enforcement to coordinate the use of communication systems to alert the public that an adult is missing.

In order to issue an alert, the missing adult must either suffer from a proven mental or physical disability, or law enforcement must certify the person's physical safety may be in danger, or their disappearance was not voluntary.

This Ashanti national alert network will be integrated into the existing Blue Alert system. The Blue Alert system issues alerts to notify the public of nearby suspects or threats to their community's law enforcement officials.

This legislation will also allow the Attorney General to designate a national coordinator to work with States to establish alert systems for missing adults and to develop voluntary guidelines States may use in creating their networks.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank SCOTT TAYLOR for introducing this legislation. We appreciate Mr. TAYLOR being here today and appreciate his leadership in this effort.

I ask my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let me say to the manager of this bill that I am delighted to stand with him on this very important legislative initiative. Having been in this body for a period of time, I am reminded of the AMBER Alert. I was here when it was initiated and passed by my friend Martin Frost, who was formerly in this body. And then I believe a lot of work was done on the Silver Alert by our colleague MAXINE WATERS. We all worked together, I remember, on amendments in the House Judiciary Committee on these very issues.

So I rise in support of H.R. 5075, the Ashanti Alert Act of 2018. It is a commonsense initiative to realize that whoever is missing, we need to help find those individuals.

This bill seeks to establish a national communications network within the Department of Justice to help locate missing adults by providing assistance to regional and local search efforts.

For our colleagues, obviously, the AMBER Alert dealt with children, and the Silver Alert dealt with senior citizens over, I believe, the age of 65. This bill would initiate, facilitate, and promote Ashanti Alert plans in coordination with States, units of local government, law enforcement agencies, and other concerned entities with expertise in providing services to adults. These are laudable goals and, as a Congress, ones which we have a duty to facilitate.

As of December 31, 2017, the National Crime Information Center database included records of 55,968 missing adults. In my own hometown, in the last 3 weeks, two adults went missing who were brother and sister. First, the brother went missing, and there was absolutely no sign of that individual. The sister went to look for that individual, and, of course, then they were both missing.

Tragically, we found, ultimately, that a relative had disposed of and killed both of them. If we had an alert system, maybe we would have been able to find them sooner.

In fact, many adults go missing each year who are not found until it is too late. Such was the case after whom this bill was named, Ashanti Billie.

At 19 years of age, she was abducted from her workplace in Virginia, taken across State lines, and later found dead in North Carolina. Ashanti Billie was too old for the issuance of an AMBER Alert on her behalf and too young for a Silver Alert.

This bill fills in the gap for people like Ashanti Billie, missing adults between the ages of 18 and 64, and it does so in coordination with the Blue Alert communications network, which Congress established. The Blue Alert establishes a nationwide network of Blue Alerts to warn about threats to police officers and help track down the suspects who carry them out.

While drawing on the Blue Alert Network, the Ashanti Alert Act requires implementing jurisdictions to the established plans and includes minimum standards and resources that help in this case. Had these resources been available when Ashanti was abducted, she may still be here with us today.

For these reasons, I support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TAYLOR).

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 5075, the Ashanti Alert Act, named for Ashanti Billie, who was tragically taken from this world too soon last September at the hands of a violent criminal. And so now we have undertaken this action with this bill, a bipartisan one, because this is not a partisan issue.

The United States does not currently have an alert system for missing adults. If a child or a senior citizen goes missing, law enforcement is authorized to broadcast alerts on major channels or radio stations, and participating citizens share alerts across social media platforms, bringing much-needed attention and resources to bear. But still, no such alert exists for missing adults ages 18 to 65.

History shows that programs like the AMBER Alert are successful and help save lives. In 2016 alone, there were 179 AMBER Alerts issued in the United States. Over 85 of those cases resulted in recovery, and 43 of them were the direct result of an AMBER Alert. These programs are proven to work, and with the Ashanti Alert, we can close the gap, better protect our family, friends, and neighbors, and save lives with a legacy given to us by Ashanti Billie's sacrifice.

Like other alert systems, the Ashanti Alert lets law enforcement use the tools at their disposal to broadcast information about missing adults on such things as TV, radio, and social media. It also sets a minimum standard for issuing alerts: one, the person suffers from a proven mental or physical disability; two, if law enforcement believes their physical safety is in danger; or three, if they believe their disappearance may not have been voluntary.

The Ashanti Alert also integrates with the Blue Alert Network instead of AMBER so that information about missing adults and children are kept separate. This ensures that law enforcement efforts are not duplicated, which could mean the difference between locating a person and saving them.

The Commonwealth of Virginia, has already taken steps to address this issue. Last April, the Governor signed a bill into law in honor of Ashanti that establishes a statewide alert system for missing adults. But in order to save lives, the search for missing adults cannot end at a State line.

Indeed, according to the FBI's National Crime Information Center, there are still over 55,000 missing adults in this country. This is a national challenge, and it most definitely demands a national response.

Mr. Speaker, Ashanti Billie was a beautiful, young Black woman with a beaming smile. She was a hard worker. She would wake up before sunrise and head to the naval base and start her job. At night, she attended culinary classes at the Virginia Beach Art Institute. She had hopes and dreams and aspirations, and she was passionate about life and brought that positive energy to everyone who met her.

Mr. Speaker, 1 year ago today, early in the morning, I met with local constituents, Kimberly Wimbush and Michael Muhammad; the Billie family—parents, Tony and Brandy; and Dyotha Sweat from the NAACP. Being military veterans themselves, the Billie family

didn't understand how this could happen. They were confused and very much worried.

□ 1830

Their young daughter, Ashanti, was missing, abducted from the Little Creek naval base.

Mr. Speaker, I knew right then that fateful morning, in my gut and in my heart, that this family would soon receive some tragic news. I knew this family and these friends needed my help. My heart and my team's hearts were with them.

Mr. Speaker, there are no words, no wishes, or no whispers that can bring back or ease the Billie family burden. But make no mistake about it, no amount of darkness can ever keep out a bright light.

I may have met with a shaken family that day, but on this day, they sit before us today, in this Chamber, strong, determined, and ready to solidify Ashanti's legacy.

Today's vote on Ashanti's legacy will give law enforcement all across our great Nation a new tool to bring resources to bear to locate missing adults who may be in danger, and will, no doubt, save lives.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues' support.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, could I inquire if the gentleman has any further speakers.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. It was my understanding that the gentlewoman would like to participate in a colloquy.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CHABOT. I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I am concerned that H.R. 5075 does not explicitly include Native American tribes in the missing adult communications network that the bill would establish. It is my understanding that this network would be established and implemented by the same office at the Department of Justice that implements the Blue Alert system, which includes outreach to tribal partners to educate them on that network.

I would like to confirm with the chairman that it is the intent of Congress that this same outreach to tribes be conducted with respect to the missing adult communications network.

Mr. CHABOT. The gentlewoman is correct. This outreach to tribes shall be conducted in the same manner as the Blue Alert program, yes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the remainder of my time.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, let me thank the proponent of this legislation, Mr. TAYLOR, for a very thoughtful initiative, one that is needed. It is tragic when we lose our constituents, but more importantly, when the families lose their loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I support this legislation. By coordinating with existing

networks, H.R. 5075 will facilitate the establishment of a communications network for alerts concerning missing adults and have an impact far beyond what it will take to establish it.

I am heartened by Mr. CHABOT's clarification that this bill is intended to extend to tribal entities and Native American reservations.

This past May, we commemorated the second National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls to bring awareness about how this problem specifically affects Native American communities. I am hopeful that this bill can help address this very serious problem, and the overall bill that addresses the need for families to find their loved ones after the ages of children and before the ages of senior citizen. We can always do more to help local missing adults and to save them. There are families in my district right now who are suffering from the loss of their brother or sister.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5075, the "Ashanti Alert Act of 2018."

This bill seeks to establish a national communications network within the Department of Justice to help locate missing adults by providing assistance to regional and local search efforts. The bill would initiate, facilitate, and promote Ashanti Alert plans in coordination with states, units of local government, law enforcement agencies, and other concerned entities with expertise in providing services to adults.

These are laudable goals and, as a Congress, ones which we have a duty to facilitate. As of December 31, 2017, the National Crime Information Center database included records of 55,968 missing adults. In fact, many adults go missing each year who are not found—until it is too late.

Such was the case of the young woman after whom this bill is named—Ashanti Billie. At 19 years of age, she was abducted from her workplace in Virginia, taken across state lines, and later found dead in North Carolina. Ashanti Billie was too old for the issuance of an Amber Alert on her behalf, and too young for a Silver Alert.

The Ashanti Alert Act seeks to fill in the gap for people like Ashanti Billie—missing adults between the ages of 18 and 64. And it does so in coordination with the Blue Alert Communications Network, which Congress established in 2015, under the Blue Alert Act. The Blue Alert Act established a nationwide network of "blue alerts" to warn about threats to police officers and help track down the suspects who carry them out.

While drawing on the Blue Alert network, the Ashanti Alert Act requires implementing jurisdictions to establish plans that include minimum standards to ensure that resources are used adequately, accurately and efficiently. Had these resources been available when Ashanti Billie was abducted, she may still be here today.

For all these reasons, I enthusiastically support this legislation and encourage my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I support this legislation. By coordinating with existing networks, H.R. 5075 will facilitate the establishment of a communications network for alerts concerning missing

adults and have an impact far beyond what it will take to establish it.

And I am heartened by Mr. Goodlatte's clarification that this bill is intended to extend to tribal entities and Native American reservations.

This past May, we commemorated the second National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls—to bring awareness about how this problem specifically affects Native American communities. I am hopeful that this bill can help address this very serious problem.

We can always do more to help locate missing adults and to save lives.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Ashanti Alert Act of 2018, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the remainder of my time.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, on behalf of all Members of the House, I would like to offer my condolences to the family of Ashanti.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. TAYLOR for his leadership in proposing this very important legislation. Hopefully, other people will benefit from its passage.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5075, 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.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 6368, de novo;

H.R. 6369, de novo;

H.R. 6735, de novo.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

#### ENCOURAGING SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATORS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 6368) to encourage R&D small business set-asides, to encourage SBIR and STTR participants to serve as mentors under the Small Business Administration's mentor-protege program, to promote the use of inter-agency contracts, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 389, nays 6, not voting 33, as follows:

[Roll No. 400]

YEAS—389

Abraham	Culberson	Hollingsworth
Adams	Curbelo (FL)	Hoyer
Aderholt	Curtis	Hudson
Aguiar	Davidson	Huffman
Amodei	Davis (CA)	Huizenga
Arrington	Davis, Rodney	Hultgren
Babin	DeFazio	Hunter
Bacon	DeGette	Hurd
Balderson	Delaney	Issa
Banks (IN)	DeLauro	Jackson Lee
Barr	DelBene	Jayapal
Barragán	Demings	Jeffries
Barton	Denham	Jenkins (KS)
Bass	DeSaulnier	Johnson (GA)
Beatty	DesJarlais	Johnson (LA)
Bera	Diaz-Balart	Johnson (OH)
Bergman	Doggett	Johnson, E. B.
Beyer	Donovan	Johnson, Sam
Billirakis	Doyle, Michael	Jones
Bishop (GA)	F.	Joyce (OH)
Bishop (MI)	Duffy	Kaptur
Black	Duncan (SC)	Katko
Blum	Duncan (TN)	Keating
Blumenauer	Dunn	Kelly (IL)
Blunt Rochester	Emmer	Kelly (MS)
Bonamici	Engel	Kelly (PA)
Bost	Espallat	Kennedy
Boyle, Brendan	Estes (KS)	Khanna
F.	Esty (CT)	Kihuen
Brady (TX)	Evans	Kildee
Brat	Faso	Kilmer
Brooks (AL)	Ferguson	Kind
Brooks (IN)	Fitzpatrick	King (IA)
Brown (MD)	Fleischmann	King (NY)
Brownley (CA)	Flores	Kinzinger
Buchanan	Fortenberry	Knight
Buck	Foster	Krishnamoorthi
Bucshon	Fox	Kuster (NH)
Budd	Frankel (FL)	Kustoff (TN)
Bustos	Frelinghuysen	LaHood
Butterfield	Fudge	LaMalfa
Byrne	Gabbard	Lamb
Calvert	Gallagher	Lamborn
Carbajal	Gallego	Lance
Cárdenas	Garamendi	Langevin
Carson (IN)	Garrett	Larsen (WA)
Carter (GA)	Gianforte	Larson (CT)
Carter (TX)	Gibbs	Latta
Castor (FL)	Gohmert	Lawrence
Chabot	Gomez	Lawson (FL)
Cheney	Gonzalez (TX)	Lee
Chu, Judy	Goodlatte	Lesko
Ciilline	Gosar	Levin
Clark (MA)	Gottheimer	Lewis (GA)
Clarke (NY)	Granger	Lewis (MN)
Cleaver	Graves (GA)	Lieu, Ted
Cloud	Graves (LA)	Lipinski
Clyburn	Graves (MO)	LoBiondo
Coffman	Green, Al	Loebach
Cohen	Green, Gene	Lofgren
Cole	Griffith	Long
Collins (GA)	Grijalva	Loudermilk
Collins (NY)	Guthrie	Love
Comer	Hanabusa	Lowenthal
Comstock	Handel	Lowe
Conaway	Harper	Lucas
Connolly	Harris	Luetkemeyer
Cook	Hartzler	Luján, Ben Ray
Cooper	Hastings	Lynch
Correa	Heck	MacArthur
Costa	Hensarling	Maloney
Costello (PA)	Herrera Beutler	Carolyn B.
Courtney	Hice, Jody B.	Maloney, Sean
Cramer	Higgins (LA)	Marchant
Crawford	Higgins (NY)	Marino
Crist	Hill	Marshall
Crowley	Himes	Mast
Cuellar	Holding	Matsui