

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 4254, the Women in Aerospace Education Act, as amended by the Senate. I speak on behalf of the bill's sponsor, Representative STEVE KNIGHT, who could not be here this afternoon, but he has worked for more than a year to get the bill across the finish line.

H.R. 4254, directs NASA and the National Science Foundation, through the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program, to use their fellowships and internships to encourage more women to get aerospace experience while they are training to be science and mathematics teachers.

These teachers are then better equipped to educate and inspire students to pursue studies and careers in aerospace.

Twenty percent of U.S. aerospace engineers are of retirement age today. They are beginning to exit our workforce, which will create a shortfall in our national security preparedness.

Meanwhile, women represent only about one-quarter of all science, technology, engineering, and math, or STEM workers, and only about 15 percent of all aerospace engineers. We need to improve our STEM education pipeline from ensuring STEM classes are available to students at a young age to encouraging young Americans to pursue the completion of a degree in STEM fields.

Attitudes about career paths are formed at a young age. The role models and young leaders from which women learn have an enormous impact on future decisionmaking.

The Women in Aerospace Education Act directs some of the Federal Government's best teacher training programs to increase the number of women teachers who can educate students about the Nation's leading aerospace programs.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Representative STEVE KNIGHT and his cosponsors, Representative ELIZABETH ESTY, and Research and Technology Subcommittee Chairwoman BARBARA COMSTOCK for advancing this bipartisan legislation. We look forward to its being signed into law soon.

If all goes well, it will be the 15th Science, Space, and Technology Committee bill to be enacted into law this Congress, and one of 35 bills that the committee has passed in the House this year.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill and send it to the President's desk, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4254, the Women in Aerospace Education Act. I want to thank Mr. KNIGHT

and Ms. ESTY for introducing this very important piece of legislation.

Women continue to be underrepresented in the aerospace sector. For example, a 2016 analysis revealed that over the past 15 years, women have made up, on average, just 15 percent of NASA's planetary mission science teams.

□ 1615

While there has been increasing interest in supporting women's advancement in all STEM fields, particularly on the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, the low representation of women on NASA's planetary science mission teams has remained largely unchanged. I am heartened by recent efforts at NASA to tackle the issue of diversity on its planetary science mission teams.

The 2016 New Frontiers 4 call for proposals included new language highlighting the benefits of diverse and inclusive mission teams. I was pleased to see that one of the finalists for this competition, the Dragonfly mission to Saturn's moon Titan, is led by a woman.

Additionally, one of the two missions selected in 2017 for NASA's Discovery Program, the Psyche mission to a metallic asteroid, is also led by a woman. The principal investigator of the Psyche mission, Dr. Lindy Elkins-Tanton, is now the second woman to lead a competitive planetary science mission for NASA.

Yesterday's successful landing of NASA's InSight spacecraft on the surface of Mars offers another reason to feel optimistic. The team of scientists and engineers that made the groundbreaking landing possible included 135 women, or about 25 percent of the team. To build on this progress, H.R. 4254 addresses the challenges in recruiting and retaining talented women in aerospace by directing NASA to promote internship and fellowship opportunities to women. The bill also directs NSF to include research experiences at National Laboratories and NASA centers in the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program.

Research has shown that the best teams are those in which good ideas are heard. Gender diversity on NASA's planetary science missions and in the aerospace sector more broadly will lead to more diverse questions and approaches to solutions. To get the best science, we need more women in aerospace, and H.R. 4254 will help to get us there.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my fellow Members to support H.R. 4254, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 4254.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS REDUCTION PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2018

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1768) to reauthorize and amend the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1768

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 "National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 2018".

SEC. 2. MODIFICATION OF FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Section 2 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7701) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting “, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,” after “States”;

(B) by inserting “Oregon,” after “New York,”; and

(C) by inserting “Tennessee,” after “South Carolina”;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “prediction techniques and”;

(3) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

“(4) A well-funded seismological research program could provide the scientific understanding needed to fully implement an effective earthquake early warning system.”;

(4) in paragraphs (6) and (7), by striking “lifelines” each place it appears and inserting “lifeline infrastructure”; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

“(12) The built environment has generally been constructed and maintained to meet the needs of the users under normal conditions. When earthquakes occur, the built environment is generally designed to prevent severe injuries or loss of human life and is not expected to remain operational or able to recover under any specified schedule.

“(13) The National Research Council published a study on reducing hazards and risks associated with earthquakes based on the goals and objectives for achieving national earthquake resilience described in the strategic plan entitled ‘Strategic Plan for the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program’. The study and an accompanying report called for work in 18 tasks focused on research, preparedness, and mitigation and annual funding of approximately \$300,000,000 per year for 20 years.”.

(b) PURPOSE.—Section 3 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 7702) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), in the first sentence, by inserting “and increase the resilience of communities” after “future earthquakes”;

(2) in paragraph (1), by inserting “to individuals and the communities” after “an earthquake”;

(3) in paragraph (2), by striking “in time of disaster” and inserting “to facilitate community-wide post-earthquake recovery and in times of disaster”;

(4) in paragraph (3), by striking “for predicting damaging earthquakes and”;

(5) in paragraph (4), by inserting “and planning” after “model building”; and

(6) in paragraph (5), by striking “reconstruction” and inserting “re-occupancy, recovery, reconstruction”.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) LIFELINE INFRASTRUCTURE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 4(6) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 7703(6)) is amended by striking “lifelines” and inserting “lifeline infrastructure”.

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Such Act (42 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.) is amended by striking “lifelines” each place it appears and inserting “lifeline infrastructure”.

(2) COMMUNITY RESILIENCE.—Section 4 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 7703) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(10) The term ‘community resilience’ means the ability of a community to prepare and plan for, absorb, recover from, and more successfully adapt to adverse seismic events.”.

SEC. 3. MODIFICATION OF NATIONAL EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS REDUCTION PROGRAM.

(a) MODIFICATION OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.—Subsection (a)(2) of section 5 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7704) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in clause (iii), by inserting “, community resilience,” after “seismic risk”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) publishing a systematic set of maps of active faults and folds, liquefaction susceptibility, susceptibility for earthquake induced landslides, and other seismically induced hazards; and”; and

(2) in subparagraph (D), by striking “develop, operate” and all that follows through “7708,” and inserting “continue the development of the Advanced National Seismic System, including earthquake early warning capabilities”.

(b) AMENDMENTS RELATING TO INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS REDUCTION.—

(1) CLARIFICATION REGARDING MEMBERSHIP.—Subparagraph (B) of subsection (a)(3) of such section is amended, in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “The committee” and inserting “In addition to the Director, the committee”.

(2) REDUCTION IN MINIMUM FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS OF INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS REDUCTION.—Subparagraph (C) of such subsection is amended by striking “not less than 3 times a year” and inserting “not less frequently than once each year”.

(3) EXPANSION OF DUTIES.—Subparagraph (D) of such subsection is amended to read as follows:

“(D) DUTIES.—

“(i) GENERAL DUTY.—The Interagency Coordinating Committee shall oversee the planning, management, and coordination of the Program.

“(ii) SPECIFIC DUTIES.—The duties of the Interagency Coordinating Committee include the following:

“(I) Developing, not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 2004 and updating periodically—

“(aa) a strategic plan that establishes goals and priorities for the Program activities described under subsection (a)(2); and

“(bb) a detailed management plan to implement such strategic plan.

“(II) Developing a coordinated interagency budget for the Program that will ensure appropriate balance among the Program activities described under subsection (a)(2), and, in accordance with the plans developed under subclause (I), submitting such budget to the Director of the Office of Management and

Budget at the time designated by the Director for agencies to submit biennial budgets.

“(III) Developing interagency memorandums of understanding with any relevant Federal agencies on data sharing and resource commitment in the event of an earthquake disaster.

“(IV) Coordinating with the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Windstorm Impact Reduction and other natural hazards coordination committees as the Director determines appropriate to share data and best practices.

“(V) Coordinating with the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on data sharing and resource allocation to ensure judicious use of Government resources and the free-flowing exchange of information related to earthquakes.

“(VI) Coordinating with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior on the use of public lands for earthquake monitoring and research stations, and related data collection.

“(VII) Coordinating with the Secretary of Transportation and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development on the effects of earthquakes on transportation and housing stocks.

“(iii) ASSISTANCE FROM SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE AND SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—To the extent practicable, the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior shall expedite any request for a permit to use public land under clause (ii)(VI).”.

(4) REDUCTION IN FREQUENCY OF REPORTING BY INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS REDUCTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a)(4) of such section is amended—

(i) in the paragraph heading, by striking “ANNUAL” and inserting “BIENNIAL”;

(ii) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (F) as clauses (i) through (vi), respectively, and adjusting the indentation of the margin of such clauses, as so redesignated, two ems to the right;

(iii) in clause (v), as so redesignated, by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(iv) in clause (vi), as so redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(v) by inserting after clause (vi), as so redesignated, the following:

“(vii) a statement regarding whether the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency has lowered or waived the cost share requirement for assistance provided under subsection (b)(2)(A)(i).”;

(vi) in the matter preceding clause (i), as so redesignated, by striking “The Interagency” and all that follows through “Senate” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than once every two years, the Interagency Coordinating Committee shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the Committee on Natural Resources, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report on the Program”; and

(vii) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) SUPPORT FOR PREPARATION OF REPORT.—Each head of a Program agency shall submit to the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology such information as the Director may request for the preparation of a report under subparagraph (A) not later than 90 days after the date on

which the Director requests such information.”.

(B) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subparagraph (A) shall take effect on the first day of the first fiscal year beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(C) MODIFICATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY.—Subsection (b) of such section is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and constructing,” and inserting “constructing, evaluating, and retrofitting”; and

(B) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “provide new and” after “research to”; and

(2) in paragraph (5), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), in the first sentence, by inserting “community resilience through” after “improve”.

(d) MODIFICATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—Paragraph (2) of subsection (b) of such section is amended to read as follows:

“(2) DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY; FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—

“(A) PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency—

“(i) shall operate a program of grants and assistance to enable States to develop mitigation, preparedness, and response plans, purchase necessary instrumentation, prepare inventories and conduct seismic safety inspections of critical structures and lifeline infrastructure, update building, land use planning, and zoning codes and ordinances to enhance seismic safety, increase earthquake awareness and education, and provide assistance to multi-State groups for such purposes;

“(ii) shall support the implementation of a comprehensive earthquake education, outreach, and public awareness program, including development of materials and their wide dissemination to all appropriate audiences and support public access to locality-specific information that may assist the public in preparing for, mitigating against, responding to and recovering from earthquakes and related disasters;

“(iii) shall, in conjunction with the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, other Federal agencies, and private sector groups, use research results to support the preparation, maintenance, and wide dissemination of seismic resistant design guidance and related information on building codes, standards, and practices for new and existing buildings, structures, and lifeline infrastructure, aid in the development of performance-based design guidelines and methodologies, and support model codes that are cost effective and affordable in order to promote better practices within the design and construction industry and reduce losses from earthquakes;

“(iv) shall enter into cooperative agreements or contracts with States and local jurisdictions and other Federal agencies to establish demonstration projects on earthquake hazard mitigation, to link earthquake research and mitigation efforts with emergency management programs, or to prepare educational materials for national distribution; and

“(v) shall support the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology in the completion of programmatic goals.

“(B) STATE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CRITERIA.—In order to qualify for assistance under subparagraph (A)(i), a State must—

“(i) demonstrate that the assistance will result in enhanced seismic safety in the State;

“(ii) provide 25 percent of the costs of the activities for which assistance is being

given, except that the Administrator may lower or waive the cost-share requirement for these activities for a small impoverished community, as defined in section 203 of the Disaster Relief Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5133(a)); and

“(iii) meet such other requirements as the Administrator shall prescribe.”.

(e) MODIFICATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.—Subsection (b)(3) of such section is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), in the first sentence—

(A) by inserting “report on significant domestic and international earthquakes and” after “Survey shall”; and

(B) by striking “predictions,” and inserting “forecasts.”;

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking “predictions, including aftershock advisories” and inserting “alerts and early warnings”;

(3) by striking subparagraph (D) and inserting the following:

“(D) issue when necessary and feasible, and notify the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and State and local officials, an alert and an earthquake warning;”;

(4) in subparagraph (E), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “using” and inserting “including”;

(5) in subparagraph (I), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(6) in subparagraph (J)—

(A) by inserting “and data” after “hazard maps”; and

(B) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(7) by adding at the end the following:

“(K) support the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology in the completion of programmatic goals.”.

(f) MODIFICATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—Subsection (b)(4) of such section is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “, State agencies, State geological surveys,” after “consortia”;

(2) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “to support applied science in the production of a systematic series of earthquake-related geologic hazard maps, and” after “Survey”;

(3) in subparagraph (D), by striking “large-scale experimental and computational facilities of the George E. Brown Jr. Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation and other institutions engaged in research and the implementation of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program” and inserting “experimental and computational facilities”;

(4) in subparagraph (G), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

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

(6) by adding at the end the following:

“(I) support the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology in the completion of programmatic goals.”;

(7) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (I) as clauses (i) through (ix), respectively, and indenting such clauses accordingly;

(8) in the matter before clause (i), as redesignated by paragraph (7), in the first sentence, by striking “The National Science Foundation” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The National Science Foundation”; and

(9) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) IDENTIFICATION OF FUNDING.—The National Science Foundation shall—

“(i) to the extent practicable, note in any notice of Program funding or other funding possibilities under the Program that the funds are part of the Program;

“(ii) to the extent practicable, track the awarding of Federal funds through the Program; and

“(iii) not less frequently than once every 2 years, submit to the director of the Program a report specifying the amount of Federal funds awarded to conduct research that enhances the understanding of earthquake science.”.

SEC. 4. REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL EARTHQUAKE HAZARD REDUCTION PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable, but not later than such date as is necessary for the Comptroller General of the United States to submit the report required by subsection (c) in accordance with such subsection, the Comptroller General shall complete a review of Federal earthquake hazard risk reduction efforts.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The review conducted under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) A comprehensive assessment of—

(A) the extent to which the United States Geological Survey has identified the risks and hazards to the United States posed by earthquakes, including risks and hazards resulting from tsunamis and landslides that are generated by earthquakes;

(B) the efforts of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the National Institute of Standards and Technology to improve the resilience of the United States to earthquakes and to identify important gaps in the resilience of the United States to earthquakes;

(C) the progress made by the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Interagency Coordinating Committee (as defined in section 4 the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7703)) to coordinate effectively the budget and activities of the Program agencies (as defined in such section 4) in advancing the plans and goals of the Program (as defined in such section 4) and how coordination among the Program agencies may be improved;

(D) the extent to which the results of research in earthquake risk and hazards reduction supported by the National Science Foundation during the 40 years of the Program has been effectively disseminated to Federal, State, local, and private sector stakeholders; and

(E) the extent to which the research done during the 40 years of the Program has been applied to both public and private earthquake risk and hazards reduction.

(2) Recommendations to improve the Program and the resiliency of the United States to earthquake risks.

(c) REPORT.—As soon as practicable, but not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, the Committee on Natural Resources, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report on the findings of the Comptroller General with respect to the review completed under subsection (a).

SEC. 5. SEISMIC STANDARDS.

Section 8 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7705b) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 8. SEISMIC STANDARDS.

“(a) ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than December 1, 2019, the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency

shall jointly convene a committee of experts from Federal agencies, nongovernmental organizations, private sector entities, disaster management professional associations, engineering professional associations, and professional construction and homebuilding industry associations, to assess and recommend options for improving the built environment and critical infrastructure to reflect performance goals stated in terms of post-earthquake reoccupancy and functional recovery time.

“(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than June 30, 2020, the committee convened under paragraph (1) shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, the Committee on Natural Resources, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report on recommended options for improving the built environment and critical infrastructure to reflect performance goals stated in terms of post-earthquake reoccupancy and functional recovery time.”.

SEC. 6. MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR ADVANCED NATIONAL SEISMIC SYSTEM.

(a) PLAN REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the United States Geological Survey shall submit to Congress a 5-year management plan for the continued operation of the Advanced National Seismic System.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The plan required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) Strategies to continue the development of an earthquake early warning system.

(2) A mechanism for securing the participation of State and regional level earthquake monitoring entities, including those defunded by the Advanced National Seismic System in the last five years.

(3) A plan to encourage and support the integration of geodetic and geospatial data products into earthquake monitoring in regions experiencing large earthquakes.

(4) A plan to identify and evaluate existing data sets available across commercial, civil, and defense entities to determine if there are additional data sources to inform the development and deployment of the Advanced National Seismic System and an earthquake early warning system.

(5) A plan to ensure that there is an active, geographically diverse, management and advisory structure for the Advanced National Seismic System.

SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 12 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7706) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(8)—

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

(B) by inserting before the language following subparagraph (E) the following:

“(F) \$8,758,000 for fiscal year 2019,

“(G) \$8,758,000 for fiscal year 2020,

“(H) \$8,758,000 for fiscal year 2021,

“(I) \$8,758,000 for fiscal year 2022, and

“(J) \$8,758,000 for fiscal year 2023.”;

(2) in subsection (b)(2)—

(A) in subparagraph (D), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(F) \$83,403,000 for fiscal year 2019, of which not less than \$30,000,000 shall be made available for completion of the Advanced National Seismic System established under section 7707 of this title;

“(G) \$83,403,000 for fiscal year 2020, of which not less than \$30,000,000 shall be made available for completion of the Advanced National Seismic System established under section 7707 of this title;

“(H) \$83,403,000 for fiscal year 2021, of which not less than \$30,000,000 shall be made available for completion of the Advanced National Seismic System established under section 7707 of this title;

“(I) \$83,403,000 for fiscal year 2022, of which not less than \$30,000,000 shall be made available for completion of the Advanced National Seismic System established under section 7707 of this title; and

“(J) \$83,403,000 for fiscal year 2023, of which not less than \$30,000,000 shall be made available for completion of the Advanced National Seismic System established under section 7707 of this title.”;

(3) in subsection (c)(2)—

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

(B) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(F) \$54,000,000 for fiscal year 2019,

“(G) \$54,000,000 for fiscal year 2020,

“(H) \$54,000,000 for fiscal year 2021,

“(I) \$54,000,000 for fiscal year 2022, and

“(J) \$54,000,000 for fiscal year 2023.”;

(4) in subsection (d)(2)—

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

(B) by inserting before the language following subparagraph (E) the following:

“(F) \$5,900,000 for fiscal year 2019,

“(G) \$5,900,000 for fiscal year 2020,

“(H) \$5,900,000 for fiscal year 2021,

“(I) \$5,900,000 for fiscal year 2022, and

“(J) \$5,900,000 for fiscal year 2023.”.

SEC. 8. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) CORRECTION OF TITLE OF ADMINISTRATOR OF THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—The Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 5 (42 U.S.C. 7704)—

(A) in subsection (a)(3)(B), as amended by section 3(b)(1) of this Act—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “the directors of”;

(ii) in clause (i), by inserting “the Administrator of” before “the”; and

(iii) in clauses (ii) through (v), by inserting “the Director of” before “the” each place it appears; and

(B) in subsection (b)(3)(C), as amended by section 3(e), by striking “Director of the Federal” and inserting “Administrator of the Federal”; and

(2) in section 9 (42 U.S.C. 7705c), by striking “Director of the Agency” and inserting “Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency” each place it appears.

(b) REFERENCES TO THE ADVANCED NATIONAL SEISMIC SYSTEM.—Such Act is amended—

(1) in section 13 (42 U.S.C. 7707), in the section heading, by striking “ADVANCED NATIONAL SEISMIC RESEARCH AND MONITORING SYSTEM” and inserting “ADVANCED NATIONAL SEISMIC SYSTEM”; and

(2) by striking “Advanced National Seismic Research and Monitoring System” each place it appears and inserting “Advanced National Seismic System”.

(c) INCORRECT CROSS-REFERENCES.—Paragraph (4) of section 5(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 7704(a)), as amended by section 3(b)(4)(A) of this Act, is amended—

(1) in clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A), as redesignated by such section 3(b)(4)(A), by striking “subparagraph (3)(A)” both places it appears and inserting “paragraph (3)(D)(i)(I)”;

(2) in clause (iii), as so redesignated, by striking “under (3)(A)” and inserting “under paragraph (3)(D)(i)(I)”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRBACHER) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. VEASEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on S. 1768, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1768, the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 2018.

The bill before us is the same text of H.R. 6650, the bill I introduced in the House earlier this year to reauthorize a Federal program that improves America's earthquake preparedness, and which the Senate agreed to accept as the final agreement. With a little indulgence, I might then say that this would be the Rohrabacher-Feinstein Earthquake bill. That is the way it goes.

For 40 years the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program, NEHRP, has supported efforts to assess and monitor earthquake hazards and risks across our Nation.

Four Federal agencies coordinate their earthquake activities under this program: the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Science Foundation, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. These agencies assess earthquake hazards, deliver notifications of seismic events, develop measures to reduce earthquake hazards, and conduct research to help reduce overall American vulnerability to earthquakes.

The Congress last reviewed and reauthorized the program in 2004, and that law expired in 2009. Although Congress continues to appropriate funds for this important work, the legislation before us makes long overdue changes to modernize the program and make it more effective.

The bill removes outdated language related to earthquake prediction and instead emphasizes the continued development of an earthquake early-warning system. The bill also reduces various administrative burdens for Federal agencies, burdens that are disruptive to the essential mission of the program. Our approach also improves data sharing between these agencies.

Finally, the legislation provides a 5-year authorization for appropriations at the current funding level.

In my home State of California, we understand the omnipresent threat of another massive earthquake. According to the USGS, California has a 99 percent chance of being devastated by a magnitude 6.7 earthquake, or an even larger one, in the next 30 years. That is the same power as the 1994 Northridge earthquake which killed 57 people, injured more than 8,700 others, and caused damages of up to \$50 billion, making it one of the costliest disasters in American history.

California is not alone. Close to 75 million people in 39 States face significant risk from earthquakes. By being prepared for future disasters we reduce our potential loss of life and property for those who would suffer those consequences.

I want to thank Senators DIANNE FEINSTEIN and LISA MURKOWSKI who introduced this bill in the Senate, as well as Representative PRAMILA JAYAPAL who joined me in introducing the bill in this House. I want to thank the leadership of the House Natural Resources Committee and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for working with us to bring this bill to the floor. Although the Science, Space, and Technology Committee has primary jurisdiction and we were given superb leadership by our current chairman, these committees and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology do share jurisdiction over the agencies in this program.

Mr. Speaker, let me again express my deep appreciation for the leadership on the other side of the aisle, but especially now that we are going to be losing our chairman, for the great job that he has done as chairman of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY,

Washington, DC, October 29, 2018.

Hon. ROB BISHOP,
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing concerning S. 1768, the “National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 2018,” which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and additionally to the Committee on Natural Resources, on September 28, 2018.

Although your Committee has a valid jurisdictional interest in certain provisions of S. 1768, I ask that you discharge the Natural Resources Committee from further consideration of this measure to permit the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology to proceed expeditiously to floor consideration of this bill. I ask that you do so with the understanding that your Committee does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matter contained in the bill that fall within its Rule X jurisdiction.

Finally, I will support an appropriate appointment of outside conferees from your Committee in the event of a House-Senate conference on this legislation and will include our exchange of letters on S. 1768 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of this bill.

Thank you again for your cooperation.
Sincerely,

LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, October 30, 2018.

Hon. LAMAR SMITH,
*Chairman, Committee on Science, Space, and
Technology, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for contacting me regarding S. 1768, the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 2018, which was additionally referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

In the interest of permitting you to proceed expeditiously to floor consideration of this bill, I will agree to discharge the Natural Resources Committee from further consideration of S. 1768. I do so with the understanding that the Natural Resources Committee does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matter contained in the bill that fall within its Rule X jurisdiction. I also appreciate your support to name members of the Natural Resources Committee to any conference committee to consider such provisions and for inserting our exchange of letters on S. 1768 into the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor.

Thank you again for consulting us regarding this bill, I look forward to continuing to work with you the remainder of this Congress.

Sincerely,

ROB BISHOP,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COM-
MITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND
TECHNOLOGY,
Washington, DC, November 9, 2018.

Hon. BILL SHUSTER,
*Chairman, Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing concerning S. 1768, the "National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 2018," which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and additionally to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, on September 28, 2018.

Although your Committee has a valid jurisdictional interest in certain provisions of S. 1768, I ask that you discharge the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee from further consideration of this measure to permit the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology to proceed expeditiously to floor consideration of this bill. I ask that you do so with the understanding that your Committee does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matter contained in the bill that fall within its Rule X jurisdiction.

Finally, I will support an appropriate appointment of outside conferees from your Committee in the event of a House-Senate conference on this legislation and will include our exchange of letters on S. 1768 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of this bill.

Thank you again for your cooperation.
Sincerely,

LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COM-
MITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE,
Washington, DC, November 15, 2018.

Hon. LAMAR SMITH,
*Chairman, Committee on Science, Space, and
Technology, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you for your letter regarding S. 1768, the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 2018. In order to expedite floor consideration of S. 1768, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will forgo action on this bill.

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure concurs with the mutual understanding that forgoing consideration of the bill does not prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or to any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in the bill or similar legislation that fall within the Committee's Rule X jurisdiction. I request you urge the Speaker to name Members of the Committee to any conference committee named to consider such provisions.

Please insert copies of this exchange in the Congressional Record during consideration on the House floor. I look forward to working with the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology as the bill moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support S. 1768 to reauthorize the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program.

I want to thank Senators FEINSTEIN and MURKOWSKI for developing this good legislation. I also would like to thank my colleagues, Representatives ROHRBACHER and JAYAPAL, for introducing a House companion, and the chairs and ranking members of the authorizing committees for working to arrive at the consensus legislation we are considering today.

The years 1964 and 1994 mark two of the worst earthquakes in U.S. history. Hundreds of people lost their lives, and thousands sustained injuries in these earthquakes that hit Alaska and the Northridge neighborhood of Los Angeles.

Economic losses were in the billions of dollars resulting from earthquakes and tsunamis. While our Nation has been in the path of many disastrous natural events lately, we have been spared from a big earthquake for many years. But we should not become complacent, because another big earthquake will happen, and the human and economic toll will be felt far beyond the immediate disaster zone.

S. 1768 makes Federal investments in research and preparedness activities that will help mitigate earthquake risks for Americans from coast to coast. Specifically, S. 1768 reauthorizes funding for the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to continue to carry out research and other activities under the NEHRP program.

Under NEHRP, NSF and USGS carry out fundamental research in the earth sciences. Both agencies have extensive networks of instrumentation that record seismic activity and advance our understanding of the onset, propagation, and intensity of earthquakes. Such research helps advance our early-warning capability and helps communities make informed decisions for earthquake preparation.

NIST is the lead agency for NEHRP and also carries out applied research that provides the scientific basis for earthquake resilient building codes and design guidelines. This bill aims to help communities survive a catastrophic event and continue with critical operations, such as emergency services, utilities, and communication networks.

FEMA provides earthquake training and awareness to States and territories and assists communities in creating seismic mitigation plans in the event of a high-impact earthquake. These activities are invaluable in preparing communities for an earthquake and its aftermath.

The last NEHRP reauthorization was nearly 15 years ago, and the authorizing law needs several updates to ensure it is keeping pace with the state of the science on earthquakes and translating that science into saving lives and property.

The bill before us today includes those much-needed updates and, importantly, provides NEHRP agencies with the needed authority to continue these investments with greater budgetary certainty for the next 5 years.

I appreciate my colleagues working on this bill in a bipartisan fashion in the House and Senate, and I urge support for this bill.

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

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH), who is the chairman of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to thank the gentleman from California, my friend and colleague, for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I support S. 1768, the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 2018.

The final text of the legislation we are considering today was first introduced by Representative DANA ROHRBACHER as H.R. 6650 in August. Representative ROHRBACHER, an active and valued senior member of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, led efforts to improve the original Senate bill and authorize some additional funding to advance earthquake monitoring and early-warning systems that are critical to his home State of California.

It has been 15 years since the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program was last reauthorized. This legislation modernizes earthquake safety programs

that help States prepare for and respond to earthquakes.

The National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act is a result of bipartisan collaboration and work with the relevant agencies, congressional committees, private sector and State agency stakeholders.

I want to thank Representative ROHRABACHER for his initiative on moving the bill forward and working across the aisle and across the Capitol with Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN to get it across the finish line.

□ 1630

I also want to congratulate him for his 30 years of service to the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee; the Congress; and his constituents. Since joining the committee in 1989, he has been a dedicated advocate for our Nation's space exploration programs, energy research and innovation, and preparing our Nation for natural hazards.

I encourage my colleagues to support S. 1768 and send it to the President's desk.

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

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

We Californians know what suffering happens when you are unprepared for a wildfire. We have learned that lesson very tragically just recently. There is no need for us to suffer by being unprepared for the next earthquake. That is what this is all about.

I thank my colleagues on the other side of the aisle and especially thank the chairman for the fact that we have worked together in a way that is really going to have a positive impact on so many people by preventing them from having to suffer what we have seen recently in the wildfires in California.

Mr. Speaker, although there is often disagreement in the people's House, we should never overlook those many areas of concurrence.

There are those who believe that human activity, for example, is causing a cataclysmic jump in the temperature of the planet. Others, however, disagree with this analysis and, thus, oppose policies that restrict human activities and drive up the cost of living a decent life. This issue has been a tumultuous division.

However, there are so many other areas in which we can and will focus on, not just in terms of what our committee does, but on which we have a wide acceptance on where precautionary measures are justified and needed. Research in understanding how buildings, bridges, and other infrastructure react to earthquakes is an example of something that I expect that we all agree on. We can see that even here in this debate.

I will not be here next year, but I wanted to mention just a few other science-related areas where bipartisan action could be effective and where the

costs of prevention are minimal as compared to the potential damage. These are things that we have worked on but have not come to a conclusion. Both the chairman and I won't be here next year, but I thought I would mention them.

For example, I hope there can be real progress made in the next few years when it comes to the protection of our planet from asteroids and comets, which have caused massive damage—even extinction—over the last 250 million years. Although we are searching in space near and far for these objects now, we have not organized or put in place the means to divert them or eliminate a threatening object when it is observed heading in our direction.

Another common ground issue should be protecting our space assets from orbital debris, which is basically a man-made minefield in space. We rely on our space-based assets for defense, science, farming, a huge portion of our commerce, and even for navigating your car to a local market. There are many other plans for new satellite constellations and new expectations for increased numbers of people visiting space.

Thus, we will be expanding, hopefully, observation and monitoring of what is going on with the planet for the benefit of the people of the planet. But none of these uses of space will ever be put to work for bettering our lives unless we deal with the debris issue. If we are not protecting our space-based assets, we are risking our future, our way of life, our security, and our prosperity.

I am sorry we did not get this done. It was a bipartisan effort. We just didn't get that, among all the things we were working on this Congress. But I hope the next Congress will succeed and will focus on those two issues where we can cooperate in a very bipartisan way.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support the moving forward of S. 1768, the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 2018.

May we always be prepared to deal with natural disasters, thus protecting our people from needless tragedies. We will always live with the potential of a severe earthquake, but we can minimize the loss and suffering. That is what we are doing here with this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to the bill being signed into law by the President by the end of the year, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 1768, the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act. This bill will reauthorize seismological research and warning systems through Fiscal Year 2022.

Congress established the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP) to carry out a longterm, inter-agency earthquake research program. NEHRP focuses on earthquake warning, hazard reduction, and

minimizing loss after earthquakes. Earthquake early warning systems can provide several additional seconds of warning before the strongest ground shaking arrives, enough to save lives and protect critical infrastructure.

In Northwest Oregon, it is not a question of if, but when, an earthquake along the Cascadia Subduction Zone will hit our state. The U.S. Geological Survey, in collaboration with the University of Oregon, the University of Washington, Caltech, and University of California, Berkeley, developed ShakeAlert, an early earthquake warning system. The technology has been tested and is proven to work effectively. Federal investments in these programs are critical. Although it is difficult if not impossible to know when and where the next large earthquake will occur, we must do everything that we can to prepare ourselves and our communities to mitigate destruction and save lives. Reauthorizing NEHRP is an important step in recognizing the science behind earthquakes and other natural disasters such as tsunamis and landslides.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1768.

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.

REDESIGNATING A FACILITY OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology be discharged from further consideration of the bill (S. 3389) to redesignate a facility of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3389

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

SECTION 1. REDESIGNATION OF NASA INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION AND VALIDATION FACILITY.

(a) REDESIGNATION.—The National Aeronautics and Space Administration Independent Verification and Validation Facility in Fairmont, West Virginia, is hereby redesignated as the “Katherine Johnson Independent Verification and Validation Facility”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Katherine Johnson Independent Verification and Validation Facility”.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.