

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the suffering of Ethiopian Israelis. A couple of weeks ago, a young Ethiopian Israeli man was killed by an Israeli police officer.

After this tragedy, there have been massive protests against police brutality. Unfortunately, these protests have turned violent. While I do not condone violence, I believe people have the right to protest systemic racism.

The Ethiopian community in Israel has been treated like second-class citizens for decades. In the 1990s, Ethiopian Israelis had their donated blood secretly disposed of by Israeli officials because they believed it may contain the HIV virus.

Just 4 years ago, an Ethiopian Israeli IDF soldier was brutally beaten by an Israeli police officer, setting off another wave of massive demonstrations.

Now, there are reports that the protests against police brutality are being cast as anti-Israeli. This is nothing more than an attempt to delegitimize their suffering. I will not tolerate it, and neither should any Member of this body.

NEW SNAP PROGRAM RULING

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this week the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced and published a new rule that would address “broad-based categorical eligibility” through the SNAP program, formerly known as food stamps.

Under current law, SNAP recipients in dozens of States have been automatically enrolled into the program, despite not really demonstrating financial need; simply by receiving other minimal welfare services, even just receiving a pamphlet in the mail.

Now, let me be clear that these changes—anyone who truly is economically distressed and eligible will continue to receive SNAP benefits. But through the loophole that has been in existence, some recipients were enrolled in the program without meeting its asset and income tests. The asset and income tests are critical metrics to ensure program integrity and prevent benefits from going to those who would not normally qualify or truly need the assistance.

This new regulation attempts to fix this problem by limiting categorical eligibility for SNAP recipients only to those recipients who receive substantial welfare benefits, rather than nominal ones.

As the former chairman of the Nutrition Subcommittee, I rise in strong support of this proposal. Enacting this rule will help address waste and abuse within SNAP, while encouraging the continued availability of the program for our friends in need who truly find themselves food insecure.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF PAUL HANEY

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

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Paul Haney, a longtime leader in Rochester and Monroe County, and my very dear friend, who passed away on Sunday.

As a former county legislator and city councilman, Paul was a fixture in our community; a man who truly embodied the high ideals of public service.

Paul was kind, honest, smart as a whip, and deeply passionate about improving the community he loved. He devoted his life in service to his neighbors and was always the first to lend a hand to those in need.

Paul Haney’s contributions have left a profound and lasting impact on his beloved city. His legacy will never be forgotten.

I join all of Rochester County and Monroe County in mourning his loss, and extend my thoughts, prayers, and deepest sympathies to the Haney family.

CONGRATULATING CHANDLER WASHBURN AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY MIXED CREW TEAM

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

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Midshipman Chandler Washburn and the entire United States Naval Academy mixed crew team for their victory at the historic, now historic, King’s Cup this past July.

The King’s Cup is a prestigious race between eight allied military forces, and has only been held twice, once in 1919, and this year on the 100th anniversary. The U.S. Naval Academy defeated countries like Canada, France, and Germany on their way to winning the cup.

The Northeast Florida community is incredibly proud of Chandler and his fellow midshipmen on this extraordinary accomplishment.

Chandler graduated from the Episcopal School in Jacksonville and is now a sophomore at the Naval Academy. Like all those representing us at service academies across the country, his commitment to both academics and military service inspire us all.

On behalf of the Fourth District of Florida, congratulations to Chandler and the Naval Academy mixed crew team for a victory they will remember for the rest of their lives.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 397, REHABILITATION FOR MULTIEMPLOYER PENSIONS ACT OF 2019; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3239, HUMANITARIAN STANDARDS FOR INDIVIDUALS IN CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION CUSTODY ACT; PROVIDING FOR PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM JULY 29, 2019, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 6, 2019; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 509 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 509

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 397) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to create a Pension Rehabilitation Trust Fund, to establish a Pension Rehabilitation Administration within the Department of the Treasury to make loans to multiemployer defined benefit plans, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. In lieu of the amendments in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committees on Education and Labor and Ways and Means now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116-24 shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided among and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor and the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means; (2) the further amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, if offered by the Member designated in the report, which shall be in order without intervention of any point of order, shall be considered as read, shall be separately debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question; and (3) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. At any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3239) to require U.S. Customs and Border Protection to perform an initial health screening on detainees, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the

purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116-26 modified by the amendment printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. That amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. No amendment to that amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in part C of the report of the Committee on Rules. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the amendment in the nature of a substitute made in order as original text. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommend with or without instructions.

SEC. 3. House Resolution 507 is hereby adopted.

SEC. 4. It shall be in order at any time on the legislative day of July 25, 2019, or July 26, 2019, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules as though under clause 1 of rule XV. The Speaker or her designee shall consult with the Minority Leader or his designee on the designation of any matter for consideration pursuant to this section.

SEC. 5. On any legislative day during the period from July 29, 2019, through September 6, 2019—

(a) the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day shall be considered as approved; and

(b) the Chair may at any time declare the House adjourned to meet at a date and time, within the limits of clause 4, section 5, article I of the Constitution, to be announced by the Chair in declaring the adjournment.

SEC. 6. The Speaker may appoint Members to perform the duties of the Chair for the duration of the period addressed by section 5 of this resolution as though under clause 8(a) of rule I.

SEC. 7. Each day during the period addressed by section 5 of this resolution shall not constitute a calendar day for purposes of section 7 of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1546).

SEC. 8. Each day during the period addressed by section 5 of this resolution shall not constitute a legislative day for purposes of clause 7 of rule XIII.

SEC. 9. Each day during the period addressed by section 5 of this resolution shall not constitute a legislative day for purposes of clause 7 of rule XV.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from California is recognized for 1 hour.

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS), pending which I yield myself

such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, House Resolution 509, providing for consideration of H.R. 397, the Rehabilitation for Multiemployer Pensions Act of 2019, under a structured rule.

The rule makes in order one amendment. The rule provides 1 hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committees on Education and Labor and Ways and Means.

The rule also provides for consideration of H.R. 3239, the Humanitarian Standards for Individuals in Customs and Border Protection Custody Act, under a structured rule.

The rule self-executes Chairman NADLER's manager's amendment and makes in order two further amendments.

The rule provides 1 hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary.

Upon passage of the rule, House Resolution 507 will be considered as adopted.

Finally, the rule provides suspension authority for this Thursday and Friday, and standard floor recess instructions for the August district work period.

Mr. Speaker, in a few days, we will be celebrating 200 days since Democrats took back the majority in the U.S. House of Representatives. We have spent the past 8 months fighting for American families, American values.

While Republicans spent 8 years in charge, what did they get done?

Their crowning achievement was a massive tax giveaway to corporations to line the pockets of the super-wealthy, while exploding the Federal deficit by \$1.5 trillion. Clearly, a tax scam was a result of special interests having too much power in Washington.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to give back that power to the people, to the American people that sent us here.

Democrats passed the For the People Act, which puts elections back in the hands of the people and gets special interest out of the government.

And instead of giving tax cuts to billionaires, Democrats, last week, passed legislation to increase the minimum wage to \$15 an hour.

□ 1230

And as a result, 33 million Americans will finally get a raise and no more sin- gling out to our young Puerto Ricans.

The Raise the Wage Act repealed a shortsighted Republican measure that allowed employers to pay Puerto Ricans under the age of 25 a measly \$4.25 an hour for up to 4 years. I don't know about my colleagues' back- grounds, but at 20 years old, I was raising a family, and I could not have done that on \$4.25 an hour.

And we proclaim to all the American women, whether you are a supervisor at a fast-food restaurant, a nurse at a hospital, or a World Cup-winning soccer player, women deserve equal pay for equal work.

And for Dreamers without permanent legal status who came here as children and just want to contribute to the greatness that makes America, Democrats passed the Dream Act so that they can have a pathway to citizenship. My Republican colleagues refused to bring up the Dream Act when they were in charge, even when, clearly, we had enough votes to pass the bill.

Mr. Speaker, that is the kind of progress Americans wanted to see. That is why elections matter.

Today, we are also voting on the Butch Lewis Act, to protect the pensions of hardworking Americans.

I come from a proud union household. For 17½ years, I worked as a 911 dispatcher, and my husband was a member of the building and construction trades for 20 years. We taught our children, our sons, to work hard and save for their future, and we showed them the honor of public service.

Mr. Speaker, in December of 2014, this body passed the Multiemployer Pension Reform Act of 2014, a misguided bill that reneged on the promise that we make to retirees that they will get the benefits they worked and negotiated for. And here we sit, almost 5 years later, and the multiemployer pension system is still on the brink of a real and disastrous crisis.

While these plans have historically been a safe and secure retirement option, many plans now face financial shortfalls because of the Great Recession and other structural challenges, like a lack of new workers, an increase in the number of retirees, and employees abandoning the commitments that they made to their employees.

Around 130 of these plans covering over a million Americans are rapidly running out of money to pay benefits that were promised to these employees. Truck drivers, electricians, ironworkers, steelworkers, coal miners, and many, many others participate in multiemployer pension plans. More than 5,000 of my constituents, alone, participate in multiemployer pension plans. These hardworking individuals are staring down the possibility of losing their retirement through no fault of their own.

I know that some of my colleagues are going to tar and feather this bill. They are going to call it a bailout. They are going to say that it is fiscally irresponsible. But this bill only authorizes loans, loans for multiemployer

pension plans, if it is clear that those loans can be repaid with interest.

This is not a bailout; this is a loan. And I am happy to have my staff provide a dictionary if any of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are still confused about the difference and the meaning of each.

Hardworking American workers and retirees are counting on us to protect the benefits that they have earned and keep them on a solid financial footing. H.R. 397 does that exactly, and all without forcing workers and retirees to pay a single cent more for the benefits that they have earned.

Now, I would like to turn our attention to H.R. 3239, Humanitarian Standards for Individuals in Customs and Border Protection Custody Act.

I have had the opportunity to witness the horrendous conditions at our southern border, children jailed in freezing cold cages, toddlers going without nutritious food. They need to grow up and be healthy and strong. Six-year-olds who are not allowed to shower. Border Patrol agents parading asylees around with degrading messages hanging from their necks.

This is the greatest country in the world, and no child—no child—should die in our custody and in the greatest custody in the world. Jakelin Caal should not have died. Felipe Gomez should not have died. And Carlos Hernandez should not have died.

We cannot bring these children back from the dead, but we can try to prevent the next child from dying. And we must. We must because we have a moral responsibility to these children.

Today we have the opportunity to act. The Humanitarian Standards for Individuals in Customs and Border Protection Act would protect the health and safety of children in CBP care. It will bring medical expertise to the border so that children receive the care that they need, and it will ensure that children have access to the basics: nutritious food, a shower, toothpaste, and clean clothes.

I urge all my colleagues to support this important legislation. Vote “yes” on the rule for the children. Vote “yes” on the bill for the children.

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mrs. TORRES for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today we are considering two bills that will never become law. They are not going to be taken up by the Senate. If they did, they would not pass, and the President likely would not sign them.

The first bill, H.R. 397, the Rehabilitation for Multiemployer Pensions Act, was drafted by the majority as an attempted fix of the multiemployer pension crisis. Unfortunately, the bill does nothing but create more government, increase the deficit, and kick the can down the road for another generation that will have to ultimately deal with it.

So let's examine the facts.

Multiemployer pension plans are pensions run jointly by a union and multiple companies whose employees are members of that union. These are defined benefit plans that guarantee employees receive a specific amount upon retirement regardless of the funding available. These plans must comply with collective bargaining agreements and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act and pay into the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, the Federal insurer of the plans.

Over 1,300 multiemployer plans cover more than 10 million participants, and well over a million are in plans that are either insolvent or will be within the next two decades. This means that more than 1 million retirees may have their retirement plan benefits cut if no action is taken.

Multiemployer pension plans are currently underfunded by \$638 billion, and the figure increases by \$15 billion each and every year. The largest plan is the Central States Pension Fund, which has been sponsored by the Teamsters. It has approximately 385,000 participants and is underfunded by \$41 billion.

To ensure struggling pension plans would not affect the defined benefit promise to employers, Congress created the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to provide financial assistance to pay participant benefits. The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation is funded through premiums paid by plan funds and is currently not backed by the taxpayer.

Since 2003, the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation has held a deficit when comparing its current multiemployer pension assets to its outstanding liabilities due to these insolvent union-managed pension plans. Today, the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation has a deficit of \$54 billion. The entity Congress created to protect insolvent plans is estimated to be insolvent itself.

This crisis did not materialize suddenly. During the 2008 recession, retirement plans throughout the country lost nearly 30 percent of their value, but the weaknesses of the multiemployer system were not conceived in one event. The American Academy of Actuaries outlined some of the decisions that led to this instability.

Generally, many plans overleveraged their risk, increased their benefits in an unsustainable fashion, did not maintain appropriate resources to recover from losses, and kept fewer working employees. Additionally, many employers have left their multiemployer pension plans, further limiting funding for those that remain.

At the end of the day, these plans were mismanaged in a way that has increased costs and decreased revenue.

So how are our colleagues across the aisle hoping to fix this troubling situation? The Rehabilitation for Multiemployer Pensions Act would create a trust fund called the pension rehabilitation trust fund that would be admin-

istered by a brand-new Federal agency within the Department of the Treasury called the Pension Rehabilitation Administration.

This new agency would provide unsecured, federally subsidized 30-year loans to critical or declining multiemployer plans without requiring the plans to make any actuarial changes to bring them back to solvency. If the plan cannot certify that it can repay the loan, the plan would also receive a grant from the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to pay retiree benefits and to pay back the loan, essentially double-dipping Federal support. If a plan cannot make interest or principal payments on the loan, payments can be forgiven to pay retiree benefits.

Finally, H.R. 397 would reverse reforms made in 2014 that allowed certain plans greater flexibility to regain solvency.

Earlier this month, the Congressional Budget Office published a report on the estimated budget impact of a previous version of H.R. 397. The new subsidies and the expanded assistance would increase the Federal deficit by \$64 billion without truly addressing the underlying financial issues.

Should this bill be signed into law, it will be the first time that the Federal Government has placed United States taxpayers on the hook to subsidize private pension plans.

It is important to note that many taxpayers who would finance this subsidy have not, themselves, been included in a pension plan.

As presented today, H.R. 397 would result in a large balloon payment due in year 30 of the pension rehabilitation trust fund loan. And if a plan cannot afford loan payments without cutting benefits, the new Pension Rehabilitation Administration would be allowed to forgive these debts. This is the definition of a taxpayer bailout.

Mr. Speaker, the majority knows this bill will never move in the Senate, and I do urge my colleagues to reconsider this legislation. There, perhaps, are ways to fix this crisis and address it in a fiscally and actuarially sound manner. A bipartisan agreement is the only way for a solution to this crisis that will actually make it to the President's desk.

The second bill in this rule is yet another attempt to fix the crisis at our southern border without addressing any root cause. H.R. 3239, the Humanitarian Standards for Individuals in Customs and Border Protection Custody Act, is a reactionary bill attempting to restructure Customs and Border Protection through overly prescriptive, one-size-fits-all mandates that actually ignore what CBP has as resources and its core mission.

If this legislation were to be signed into law, Customs and Border Protection would be required to provide health and medical screenings to all migrants who entered their custody. Customs and Border Protection must provide individuals 1 gallon of water

per day, access to safe and clean toilets and showers, diaper changing facilities, and provide sanitation products. CBP will also be required to provide three meals a day totaling 2,000 calories, interpreters, video monitoring, adequate lighting, and to keep facilities within a specific temperature range.

□ 1245

Medical staff are required to be on-site to conduct medical screenings, regardless of the number of staff or apprehensions, and specialty physicians are required to, at the very least, be on call.

These physician specialties include pediatrics, OB/GYN, family medicine, geriatric medicine, infectious diseases, mental health, and dieticians. Immediate access to such specialists is not even available to some of our veterans, yet we are mandating it be there for undocumented migrants.

The bill also requires adult chaperones for children receiving medical exams. Allowable adults will consist of parents, legal guardians, and/or adult relatives. However, "adult relative" is not defined, meaning that a very distant relative or someone who simply states they are a relative could pose as the child's guardian in the absence of a parent or legal guardian.

This is concerning for identifying trafficking victims. When children are victims of trafficking, often the only chance they get to be apart from their trafficker is while receiving medical care, and sometimes then the trafficker will refuse to leave the child alone.

If we mandate the presence of an adult relative during the child's medical exam, in fact, we may never learn that the child is a victim.

Additionally, children who arrive with a parent, legal guardian, or other adult relative are to be kept together in Customs and Border Protection custody. Under current law, the Office of Refugee Resettlement has custody of and must provide care for each unaccompanied alien child, defined as a child without lawful immigration status under the age of 18 without a parent or legal guardian to provide care.

If children who arrive with an adult relative are not allowed to be transferred to the Office of Refugee Resettlement, this bill is simultaneously mandating that ORR violate current law.

Customs and Border Protection's mission is to safeguard America's borders to protect the public from dangerous people and materials while facilitating legal trade and travel. Due to the migrant crisis, more CBP agents and officers are concentrated on the southern border, taking them away from their other lawful responsibilities.

If Customs and Border Protection is required to implement the mandates that are in this bill, customs inspections will be limited, and lines at ports of entry will become much longer.

Customs and Border Protection inspects our agriculture and food, checks for counterfeit or defective consumer products, and searches for and seizes illicit drugs, much of which is currently fueling the opioid crisis. If they are not on the line to do their job, these things don't happen.

Customs and Border Protection officers are also the first to welcome Americans home from abroad and foreigners with legal documentation into the country. Due to the Democrats' refusal to deal with our southern border crisis, these important functions will also suffer.

We must also remember that Customs and Border Protection facilities do not just exist along the southern border. Customs and Border Protection is located in every State and territory, in addition to several overseas preclearance facilities. Mandating the presence of specialty medical personnel and certain facility upgrades is not only unfeasible in some of these remote locations, but it would also cost an enormous amount of money.

The cost to comply with the provisions in this bill is unclear because we don't have a Congressional Budget Office score, but it is likely to be high.

Customs and Border Protection currently has around \$3 billion in unmet funding needs due to the crisis on our southern border. Requiring updates to hundreds of Customs and Border Protection facilities, increasing personnel and equipment, and providing training would add significantly to this shortfall.

Here is the really amazing part: This bill contains no authorization for appropriations. Last night at the Rules Committee, it was asked how Democrats were planning to pay for the mandates in this bill. The response was that there is money there, that it has previously been appropriated in the recent border supplemental.

Remember that is the very same supplemental that the House Democratic leadership told us last May was not necessary because this was a manufactured crisis. Then suddenly, right before the Fourth of July recess, it became a very real crisis, and the Congress did step up to provide the additional funding that was required. But this funding was provided for specific purposes, not for new requirements upon Customs and Border Protection.

The answer is that there is no funding provided to implement this bill, which amounts to an unfunded mandate. That diminishes the likelihood that any of it would actually happen, should it become law.

Most importantly, this bill does nothing to stop the flow of irregular migrants, including vulnerable children, to our southern border.

Placing overly burdensome and unreasonable standards of care on Customs and Border Protection will only exacerbate the security and humanitarian crisis on our southern border.

Let me just say this: Having been at the Clint facility last Friday, the men

and women of the Customs and Border Protection are doing the job that Congress asked them to do. Congress didn't ask them to do; they told them to do. We passed laws. They are delivering on what we told them to do.

But the men and women at Customs and Border Protection are good people who are driven to do the right thing. They care, but at the same time, we complicate their lives so much by not funding the needs that they actually have and then adding on top of it all of these unfunded mandates.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my Democratic colleagues to work across the aisle to find and implement real solutions rather than unfunded mandates. I urge opposition to this rule.

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

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, if my colleagues had read the bill, they would know that not only are there numerous incentives for plans to repay the loans, there is a statutory requirement for plan actuaries to demonstrate that the plan will be able to pay the loan back with interest.

Let's talk about how we got in this situation. After the 9/11 attacks, the airline industry was in desperate need of help, and Congress stepped up and approved loan assistance. We acted because it was seen as an emergency.

In 2008, during the greatest financial crisis in our lifetimes, Wall Street banks and the auto industry were in trouble and in desperate need of help. Congress again acted because it was seen as an emergency.

Mr. Speaker, what makes this situation any different?

Congress disbursed approximately \$624.6 billion in taxpayer money during these emergencies, and roughly \$699.7 billion has come back: revenue, interest, fees, and asset sales. Ultimately, it earned taxpayers more than \$75 billion in profit.

To the 898 retirees of Texas' 26th Congressional District, I say to you: Democrats have your back, and Democrats are fighting for you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure today that I rise in support of strong bipartisan passage of the Butch Lewis Act and this rule. I thank Congresswoman TORRES for yielding me this time and Chairman RICHARD NEAL of the Ways and Means Committee for moving this legislation expeditiously.

The Butch Lewis Act will provide the economic security this body ripped out from under millions of hardworking Americans in past Congresses.

Across our country, 1.3 million workers—truck drivers, candymakers, coal

miners—and retirees face serious and significant threats of cuts to their hard-earned multiemployer pension plans through no fault of their own.

Several of these plans are large enough to take down the entire Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, threatening the security of another 10 million hardworking Americans.

I have heard the message time and again from retirees in our district and across this Nation: They worked for decades to earn these pensions, and they cannot sustain massive cuts. Now, they are too old or their health too unstable to return to the workforce. The stress and anxiety are sapping their will, and some have even taken their own lives.

The Butch Lewis Act will ensure they receive their much-needed and long-overdue pensions, again, which they earned.

The Butch Lewis Act keeps the promises made to retirees, guaranteeing their pensions into the future, and does so by allowing impacted pension plans to borrow the money needed to remain solvent over a 30-year period of time, with low-interest loans that they must pay back.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Pensions have afforded millions of middle-class Americans the opportunity to enjoy their golden years with economic peace of mind. Let us restore this peace to 1.3 million Americans and retirees who earned these benefits with the swift and, finally, just passage of the Butch Lewis Act.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON), a valuable member of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) for yielding.

I am on the Ways and Means Committee. I was at the markup for this legislation, Mr. Speaker, and I do want to correct the RECORD from the previous statement that my colleague on the other side of the aisle made that this was a bipartisan legislative initiative. Not one Republican voted for this bill.

We offered up several amendments. None of them were taken. One of them, for example, was one that I proposed whereby these employees would take out a guaranty policy that would ensure that taxpayers get paid back for these “loans.”

They call them loans, and the gentlewoman says that they must be paid back. That is not true. Read the fine print, my fellow Americans. It says that they can be forgiven, that they can be converted into grants.

This is a bailout. This is one of the most reckless, fiscally irresponsible pieces of legislation I have ever seen.

Yes, we need to help those workers. They were the real victims. The culprits? The unions and the employers making benefit promises that they knew good and well they couldn't deliver on.

Who is now going to hold the bag? Our children and grandchildren.

Today, we are bailing out \$100 billion worth, about 130 plans irresponsibly managed—grossly, irresponsibly managed. It is our children who will pay for this.

This is the first \$100 billion. There is \$650 billion, roughly, underfunded liabilities in multiemployer pensions. Of the 1,300 pension plans, whereby 10 million workers are covered, 75 percent of the workers are in plans that are less than 50 percent funded.

This is a disaster. This is a terrible precedent. This is a moral hazard if I have ever seen it because we will do this for \$100 billion, but we won't fix the problem. We don't do anything to get at the root cause that brought us here, and there will be a line as long as the eye can see to bail out the next \$100 billion and the next \$100 billion. It won't be the multiemployer pension. It will be State pensions and local pensions.

We are bankrupt, Mr. Speaker. We are bankrupt in this country, and this is the most irresponsible way to try to solve this problem of underfunded and unfunded liabilities for these workers.

Hold the people who are responsible accountable. Don't just give a blank check from the taxpayers to bail out this program and be right back here doing the same thing.

I was a regulator at the FDIC. We would close down a bank that gave these so-called loans so fast that your heads would spin.

This is not a loan. This is a complete write-off of irresponsible behavior. We shouldn't have anything to do with this.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reject this bill. I oppose it. I hope they will, too.

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, painting this greedy picture of union bosses who mismanage funds and overpromise benefits doesn't get us anywhere, and it is simply not true.

I will tell you what is true. What is true is that 399 retirees in Texas' Congressional District 19 will lose. But guess what? Democrats got your back in Texas 19. Know that.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. RUIZ).

□ 1300

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the rule for H.R. 3239, the Humanitarian Standards for Individuals in CBP Custody Act, my legislation to ensure CBP upholds basic standards to meet the humanitarian needs of children, women, and families.

My bill is an American-values-based, basic public health approach to prevent the deaths of children under CBP's custody and responsibility, and to develop

a professional, humane response to the humanitarian challenges at our border.

Why are these humanitarian standards needed, you might ask?

Because when I visited the border, I saw open toilets in crowded cells without privacy, and babies who were dirty and didn't have diapers sleeping on cold cement floors; because these inhumane and unsanitary conditions threaten the mental and physical health of CBP agents; and because six children have now died in the custody and responsibility of CBP.

To address this crisis, we need to do more than send money to an administration that has urged, in court, that children in CBP custody do not need soap and toothbrushes for basic hygiene needs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from California.

Mr. RUIZ. Passing this rule is the first step to ensure CBP facilities have basic necessities like humane sleeping conditions, private and clean bathrooms, sufficient water and nutrition, and showers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my fellow representatives to support my bill, the Humanitarian Standards for Individuals in CBP Custody Act, to protect the health of our agents, prevent the deaths of children, and restore humanity to our treatment of children and families seeking asylum.

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

Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, Republicans will amend the rule to add H. Con. Res. 54 that will reconstitute the Joint Select Committee on Multiemployer Pensions through February of 2020. The select committee worked to find solutions to reestablish the solvency of multiemployer plans. While a draft proposal was released, ultimately, no legislative solution was achieved.

By reconstituting the select committee through February of 2020, we will build upon the work of a previous committee to finally ensure the solvency of the multiemployer pension plans. This is an opportunity to work across the aisle on an issue that affects millions of Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a no vote on the previous question so that we can come together to protect Americans in retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment in the RECORD, along with extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. STEIL).

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I came to Washington to fight for workers. I also came to Congress to make tough choices, not easy ones. That is why we are here today: to stand up for workers throughout Wisconsin and across the country.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose the previous question so that my resolution, H. Con. Res. 54, can be voted on. My resolution, H. Con. Res. 54, will reestablish the congressional joint select committee to address the multiemployer pension crisis, bringing together a nonpartisan group to take this problem head on.

Pension plans for nearly half a million Americans are in jeopardy. Roughly, 130 union-managed pension funds, covering over 1.3 million workers, are severely underfunded. This accounts for more than 23,000 workers from the Central States' plan in Wisconsin alone. In just 5½ years, their pension fund may become insolvent. Unfortunately, the actions of a few have resulted in uncertainty for many.

We all know that Central States and other pension plans are in crisis. These underfunded plans pose a threat to workers, to retirees, and to our economy. We need to address this now.

I have offered H. Con. Res. 54 as a real solution to this problem. This is a good-faith effort to protect pensions. This is an opportunity to make real change in Americans' lives. This is a path for Democrats and Republicans to protect pension benefits for thousands of Americans.

The joint select committee will be required to come to a legislative solution no later than April 30, 2020. This holds Members accountable and gives the issue the urgency it requires.

Like many Federal programs, we should look at the States. For example, in Wisconsin, the State's public employee pension system is designed to avoid the challenges that we see in today's multiemployer pensions. Contributions to the State's pension fund are recalculated yearly to ensure the pension fund continues to be funded.

Wisconsin's retirement system is fully funded. It isn't reliant on political wins, and it has a formula that protects retirees by making proactive, not reactive changes. This is one of many possible solutions that should be on the table.

H.R. 397 does not solve the actual problem. Why? Because it does not prevent this crisis from happening again in 5 years, in 10 years, or in 20 years. We owe it to workers to provide them with the certainty that they will have a retirement living in dignity. H.R. 397 does not do that.

Democrats and Republicans agree: the retirees and future retirees are the victims here. We need to protect them. These are men and women who have or are currently working and supporting their families. They have planned for retirement and, through no fault of their own, their financial future is at risk.

Are we capable of working together in the House? We must.

However, throughout this process, the majority did not allow other voices to be heard. H.R. 397 did not even receive a public hearing. We can do better. We must do better.

My resolution would require us to work together. As my resolution says, we should establish the select committee focused solely on this issue. We should support hardworking Americans who are vested in the system. Democrats and Republicans should protect workers and retirees and ensure new benefits are adequately funded. Reform the broken system to prevent this from occurring again. And use this as an opportunity to work together.

Just like the pension system is broken, so is our political system. We can do better. We must do better. The clock is ticking. This is an opportunity to protect retirees and workers. They deserve it.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote against the previous question so that we can immediately consider my resolution and reconstitute the joint committee and fix this problem for the long term.

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the joint select committee held five hearings. Enough with the talk. These hardworking American retirees are demanding action. They want Congress to act.

We are here because of failed IRS regulations in the eighties and nineties that deterred employers from increasing contributions in times of surplus. We are here because when a contributing employer went bankrupt, the remaining employers got saddled with the unfunded liabilities.

Most importantly, we are not here because of the millions of Americans participating in these plans. They did nothing wrong.

I want to point to one plan in Wisconsin's First District. There are 3,285 retirees. And, to them, I want to repeat and say: Democrats in Congress have your back.

Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 3 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I want to talk on reconstituting the select committee that Mr. STEIL just spoke of on the issue on the previous question.

Mr. Speaker, I want to bring the House's attention to an editorial in The Washington Post from April 25. Before we initiated this discussion today, they wrote that the retirement livelihoods of hundreds of thousands of working class Americans are in jeopardy. So, too, are many businesses for which pension obligations have become a growth-stifling burden.

Quoting The Washington Post:

"A meltdown must be avoided, but so, too, must a massive Federal bailout that would soak the rest of society, including many taxpayers who do not even have pensions. Between those

poles lie inevitable shared sacrifices: a significant but finite injection of public funds, offset by limited benefit reductions, conditioned on long-term reforms to stabilize the system."

And they go on to say:

"Congress actually adopted such a proposal on a bipartisan basis in 2014, but the Obama administration balked at implementing the required benefit haircut for Central States' retirees on the eve of the 2016 election, which sent Congress back to the drawing board. Lawmakers from both parties and both Chambers formed a committee to write a new bill, which would have gotten expedited consideration on the floors of both Chambers. Unfortunately, the committee missed a self-imposed November 30, 2018 deadline."

Leaving The Washington Post for a moment, now we are talking about reconstituting that select committee. And, in fact, that is what the editorial board of The Washington Post was suggesting last April. We find ourselves at that juncture now.

Mr. Speaker, again, I urge my colleagues to vote against the previous question and defeat the previous question so we can consider the amendment brought by Mr. STEIL.

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

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI).

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Rehabilitation for Multiemployer Pensions Act, also known as the Butch Lewis Act.

Without this bill, millions of retired workers, including truck drivers, electricians, steelworkers, locomotive engineers, boilermakers, machinists, and others will lose their earned pension benefits. We should all agree that these pensions should not be cut.

This is about basic fairness. These are hardworking people who agreed to exchange some of their pay during their working years for the promise of a secure retirement. This bill will provide loans to pension plans in need of help to pay these benefits. These are loans.

Many of us remember the dark days of the financial crisis. During this crisis, pension plans took a big hit. Back then, Congress bailed out Wall Street. Although I did not support that bill, I think we should all agree now that we should help support pensions for retirees. Let's do right by the everyday families who count on these plans. Let's pass this rule and pass the Rehabilitation for Multiemployer Pensions Act. It is the right thing to do.

□ 1315

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

In closing, Mr. Speaker, both bills under consideration as part of this rule provide Band-Aids to what are much more systemic problems. We simply cannot keep placing Band-Aids on open wounds.

Republicans agree that there is a multiemployer pension crisis, but as my Republican colleagues on the committees of jurisdiction have stated many times before, it has to be addressed through reforms to the financial structure of these plans to ensure that the plans will not be underfunded in the future.

The security humanitarian crisis on the southern border continues. At least we are to a point right now that we admit that it is a crisis. Republicans will keep working on solutions to secure the border and help stabilize Central American countries in order to eliminate the surge in irregular migration.

These are not problems that can be solved on a partisan basis alone. I hope our Democratic colleagues will join us in finding a long-lasting solution.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a “no” vote on the previous question, a “no” vote on the underlying measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, at the core, how we choose to vote on these bills reflects our values.

This morning, I read a report that a school district in Pennsylvania tried to create a family separation program in order to collect school lunch debts. Imagine that. Family separation because children are too poor to pay for their lunch.

This maltreatment at our southern border is spreading across our Nation, dehumanizing people because they are poor. This is how we want to treat the weakest among us?

Will we lock children in cages and allow babies to sit in dirty diapers for days, give asylees toothbrushes but no toothpaste, and deny children regular showers and proper medical care?

Will we turn a blind eye when children are dying at the hands of the CBP officers?

Will we watch as retirees are forced to choose between paying for rent, paying for groceries, or paying for their medication?

Will we stand by and watch as our neighbors, our parents are forced to stretch their medication because they are being denied the pension that they were promised, that they worked for?

We are a country where migrants and asylees can come for a better life. We are a nation where you can work hard and retire with the peace of mind that you have earned your keep.

Democrats are fighting to protect the promise of the American Dream for everyone. Mr. Speaker, I can only speak for myself when I say this, but I refuse to be a party to breaking that promise, because it means that much to me.

I urge my colleagues to vote “yes” on the rule and to pass these critical pieces of legislation.

The material previously referred to by Mr. BURGESS is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 509

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 10. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the consideration in the House of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 54) establishing the Joint Select Committee on Solvency of Multiemployer Pension Plans. The concurrent resolution shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the concurrent resolution to adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader or their respective designees.

SEC. 11. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 54.

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

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

COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2019

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3409) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3409

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 “Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title.
- Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATIONS

- Sec. 101. Authorizations of appropriations.
- Sec. 102. Authorized levels of military strength and training.
- Sec. 103. Determination of budgetary effects.

TITLE II—COAST GUARD

- Sec. 201. Grade on retirement.
- Sec. 202. Congressional affairs; Director.
- Sec. 203. Limitations on claims.

- Sec. 204. Authority for officers to opt out of promotion board consideration.
- Sec. 205. Temporary promotion authority for officers in certain grades with critical skills.
- Sec. 206. Career intermission program.
- Sec. 207. Major acquisitions; operation and sustainment costs.
- Sec. 208. Employment assistance.
- Sec. 209. Reports on gender diversity in the Coast Guard.
- Sec. 210. Disposition of infrastructure related to E-LORAN.
- Sec. 211. Positions of importance and responsibility.
- Sec. 212. Research projects; transactions other than contracts and grants.
- Sec. 213. Acquisition workforce authorities.
- Sec. 214. Report on Coast Guard defense readiness resources allocation.
- Sec. 215. Report on the feasibility of liquefied natural gas fueled vessels.

TITLE III—SHIPPING

- Sec. 301. Electronic charts; equivalency.
- Sec. 302. Passenger vessel security and safety requirements; application.
- Sec. 303. Non-operating individual.
- Sec. 304. Small passenger vessels and uninspected passenger vessels.
- Sec. 305. Installation vessels.
- Sec. 306. Advisory committees.
- Sec. 307. Expired maritime liens.
- Sec. 308. Training; emergency response providers.
- Sec. 309. Aiming a laser pointer at a vessel.
- Sec. 310. Maritime transportation assessment.
- Sec. 311. Safety of special activities.
- Sec. 312. Engine cut-off switches; use requirement.
- Sec. 313. Exemptions and equivalents.
- Sec. 314. Security plans; reviews.
- Sec. 315. Waiver of navigation and vessel inspection laws.
- Sec. 316. Requirement for small shipyard grantees.
- Sec. 317. Independent study on the United States Merchant Marine Academy.
- Sec. 318. Centers of excellence for domestic maritime workforce training and education.
- Sec. 319. Renewal of merchant mariner licenses and documents.

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS

- Sec. 401. Coastwise trade.
- Sec. 402. Unmanned maritime systems and satellite vessel tracking technologies.
- Sec. 403. Expedited transfer in cases of sexual assault; dependents of members of the Coast Guard.
- Sec. 404. Towing vessels; operation outside the boundary line.
- Sec. 405. Coast Guard authorities study.
- Sec. 406. Cloud computing strategy.
- Sec. 407. Report on effects of climate change on Coast Guard.
- Sec. 408. Shore infrastructure.
- Sec. 409. Physical access control system report.
- Sec. 410. Coastwise endorsements.
- Sec. 411. Polar security cutter acquisition report.
- Sec. 412. Sense of the Congress on the need for a new Great Lakes ice-breaker.
- Sec. 413. Cargo preference study.
- Sec. 414. Insider Threat program.
- Sec. 415. Fishing safety grants.
- Sec. 416. Plans for demonstration programs.
- Sec. 417. Waters deemed not navigable waters of the United States for certain purposes.
- Sec. 418. Coast Guard housing; status and authorities briefing.