

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER  
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CISNEROS). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on additional 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.

MAKING TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS  
TO GUAM WORLD WAR II LOYALTY RECOGNITION ACT

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1365) to make technical corrections to the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1365

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

**SECTION 1. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO GUAM WORLD WAR II LOYALTY RECOGNITION ACT.**

Title XVII of division A of Public Law 114-328 is amended—

(1) in section 1703(e)—

(A) by striking “equal to” and inserting “not to exceed”; and

(B) by striking “covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts” and inserting

“used to reimburse the applicable appropriations”;

(2) in section 1704(a) by striking “, subject to the availability of appropriations,” and inserting “from the Claims Fund”; and

(3) by striking section 1707(a).

**SEC. 2. BUDGETARY TREATMENT OF TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.**

(a) DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.—As the budgetary effects for spending provided by this Act were estimated and offset as part of the enactment of the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act (title XVII of division A of Public Law 114-328), the budgetary effects of this Act shall be determined as if the amendments made by this Act were included in the enactment of the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act (title XVII of division A of Public Law 114-328), for purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010.

(b) PAY-AS-YOU-GO COMPLIANCE.—The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. SAN NICOLAS) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CURTIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.

**H.R. 1365, A BILL TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO THE GUAM WORLD WAR II LOYALTY RECOGNITION ACT—AS REPORTED BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES ON JULY 11, 2019**

[By fiscal year, millions of dollars]

	2019	2019–2024	2019–2029
Direct Spending (Outlays) .....	0	40	40
Revenues .....	0	0	0
Deficit Effect .....	0	40	40
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays) .....	0	0	0
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply? .....	Yes	Mandate Effects	No
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2030? .....	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

H.R. 1365 would authorize a portion of customs duties and federal income taxes collected in Guam to be spent to compensate certain residents and surviving family members for their treatment during the island’s occupation by Japanese military forces dur-

ing World War II. Those customs duties and income taxes are currently deposited in the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

Using information from the Department of Justice about how much compensation is due, CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 1365

would increase direct spending by \$40 million for compensation payments as funds become available over the 2020–2023 period.

The costs of the legislation (detailed in Table 1) fall within budget function 800 (general government).

TABLE 1—ESTIMATED INCREASES IN DIRECT SPENDING UNDER H.R. 1365

[By fiscal year, millions of dollars]

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2019–2024
Estimated Budget Authority .....	0	12	12	12	4	0	40
Estimated Outlays .....	0	12	12	12	4	0	40

This estimate supersedes the CBO estimate for H.R. 1365, a bill to make technical corrections to the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act that was transmitted on July 10, 2019. Although the five-year and ten-year totals are correct, the initial estimate indicated that there would be some costs in 2019. The legislation has not yet passed either House of Congress and CBO assumes it would be enacted near the end of fiscal year 2019. Given that timing, CBO expects spending would probably commence in fiscal year 2020.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Matthew Pickford. The estimate was re-

viewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Mr. Speaker, this marks the first time that I have taken to this floor to deliver remarks as a Member of Congress. My constituents can attest to the fact that I have never been one known to shy away from a microphone. However, the gravitas of H.R. 1365 that I bring to the floor today is of such consequence that I chose to withhold the privilege of this floor until this day.

While H.R. 1365 is a bipartisan bill that would simply make technical corrections to the current Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act, it is the final component of a 75-year saga rooted in loyalty, faith, hope, and love in the midst of unimaginable suffering.

The Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act was passed by Congress and signed into law at the end of 2016, recognizing the sacrifices the people of Guam endured at the hands of foreign occupiers during World War II. Nearly 78 years ago, foreign enemies bombed

Pearl Harbor and then made their way east, taking control of Guam from United States naval forces, many of which were evacuated prior to the invasion.

The civilian population of Guam, regarded as Americans by the enemy, were left undefended, for all intents and purposes. In the 974 days of enemy occupancy, too many of the people of Guam, who today are American citizens, were injured, raped, maimed, murdered, and even forced to dig their own grave sites or those of their family and friends.

These atrocities occurred due to the unwavering patriotism of the people of Guam.

An 83-year-old survivor clearly remembers her family risking their lives to hide and care for the only living U.S. Navy soldier left on the island, who was tasked with sending information to our forces overseas. She shared her observations of enemy soldiers going village to village, looking for radioman George Tweed and leaving a trail of tortured and dead in their path.

Another 83-year-old survivor shared how he witnessed his childhood friend beaten up every day just for looking American.

One survivor, who was 5 years old at the time, testified to remembering her mother, pregnant with her sibling, after being severely beaten, hemorrhage to a slow death while performing forced labor under the grueling Sun. The baby did not survive either.

Though our people experienced such cruel acts, we remained vigilant with the hope and faith that the United States would return and liberate us from enemy forces. Seventy-five years ago this past Sunday, true to their word, our servicemen took to the shores of Guam, many of whom gave their lives to reclaim the island, and rescued those left who survived the brutality.

These stories are the memories of our survivors who continue to carry the heavy burdens of war post-liberation. These survivors, who were steadfast in their devotion to this country, the United States of America, were left out when America forgave its vanquished enemies from any form of redress to those who suffered under their occupation.

Almost 3 years ago, Congress voted to pass the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act, providing those remaining survivors with a Federal claims process to seek adjudicated compensation for wartime suffering, a Federal process that, today, 75 years later, has one final hurdle to clear with H.R. 1365 to make those who qualified whole. Of the over 14,000 who suffered, 3,663 survivors have filed claims, with many of the nearly 11,000 having passed before this process could even begin.

Nonetheless, the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, since October of last year, has certified over 600 claims, and the Commission continues to adjudicate all claims filed.

Unfortunately, pertinent technical language was left out of the original bill, preventing the Department of the Treasury from making payments for claims adjudicated and certified for compensation by the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission. H.R. 1365 makes the necessary corrections to the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act to see Congress' intent through, and it was drafted in close consultation with the Department of the Treasury and the Department of the Interior, to ensure the language's efficacy.

Mr. Speaker, it is important to note for my colleagues that the moneys used for payment of these claims does not create a new expense category for the budget. I repeat, H.R. 1365 does not create a new expense category for the Federal budget. Instead, the moneys deposited in the Guam War Claims Fund is funding that originates from Guam's section 30 Federal income tax transfer payments, essentially moneys already due to the government of Guam. As such, funding for these claims do not represent a new expense but a reprogramming of existing expenses.

It is also important to note that these claimants are not just constituents of mine. Many claimants live in 46 other States and territories and are constituents to 265 districts across our Nation. We have claimants in Alabama; Alaska; Arizona; Arkansas; California; Colorado; Connecticut; Florida; Georgia; Hawaii; Idaho; Illinois; Indiana; Iowa; Kansas; Kentucky; Louisiana; Maryland; Massachusetts; Michigan; Minnesota; Mississippi; Missouri; Montana; Nebraska; Nevada; New Hampshire; New Jersey; New Mexico; New York; North Carolina; Ohio; Oklahoma; Oregon; Pennsylvania; Rhode Island; South Carolina; South Dakota; Tennessee; Texas; Utah, the great State that my colleague this evening represents; Virginia; Washington; Washington, D.C.; Wisconsin; Wyoming; the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and Guam.

Over these past 75 years, our World War II survivors and their families have made their home throughout this country. Notwithstanding our current political status, our sons, daughters, mothers, fathers, brothers, and sisters have died defending the freedom that liberators brought to our shores 75 years ago.

□ 2115

While we struggle on Guam under inequities and supplemental security income, Medicaid, and even basic voting rights, we remain the Sparta of America, with the highest per capita armed services recruitment rates in the country.

The brutality of the enemy 75 years ago could not break the resolve of our relationship with the United States of America and the generations since then and, to this very day, reflect this exemplary patriotism in our rights of

service and those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, I humbly ask my colleagues for their support in passing H.R. 1365 so the Greatest Generation of Guam who instilled in us this faith in American democracy can finally receive the long-awaited closure they have been seeking since the end of World War II.

As a gracious victor who assumed the responsibility for postwar peace, the passage of H.R. 1365 represents an unreconciled act of grace by the United States of America to a people who suffered for their loyalty to America. Perhaps most importantly, it represents an affirmation that, while slow to turn, and sometimes too slow, the wheels of justice in the land of the free do eventually come full circle.

A loyal people await the ultimate passage of H.R. 1365. And I am humbled to not only represent them in this body, but to extend my thanks on their behalf to the Speaker, majority leader, majority whip, committee chairs of jurisdiction, my minority leader, and ranking committee members who have made this moment possible, and to my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who, today, do us the tremendous honor of seeing this measure through this House.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1365.

As the gentleman has so well already explained, this bill would authorize the release of certain funds from the Guam Treasury that have been set aside to pay Guam World War II survivor claims.

Many individuals living on the island during the Japanese occupation suffered injury and, in some cases, death.

In 2016, Congress enacted the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act to provide for the adjudication of claims and for the payment of compensation as recommended by the Guam War Claims Review Commission in their 2004 report. However, legislation and language in the act unintentionally prevented funds from being provided to World War II survivors and their heirs. This bill fixes the original act's language to ensure survivors can receive these claims.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this measure. I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleague on the other side of the aisle for his support.

Mr. Speaker, I want to extend my appreciation to various individuals and entities for their unyielding support and assistance in pushing this bill forward.

I thank Ms. Irene Sgambelluri, an 89-year-old war survivor who flew out

here on her own to take meetings at the White House and who now has a White House special assistant on speed dial; Congressman KILILI SABLAM for his assistance in moving this bill through the process; my predecessors for laying much groundwork over many years that brings us to this inflection point; my leadership counterparts in Guam; the speaker of the Legislature of Guam and the Republican Party of Guam, who recognized and endorsed this very important bipartisan measure.

Lastly, I want to thank the senior citizens of Guam, our war survivors whose sacrifices, patience, and fortitude have given us the strength and inspiration to bring this to closure on their behalf.

I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Guam (Mr. SAN NICOLAS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1365, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### EMANCIPATION NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL STUDY ACT

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 434) to designate the Emancipation National Historic Trail, and for other purposes, as amended.

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

H.R. 434

*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 "Emancipation National Historic Trail Study Act".*

##### SEC. 2. EMANCIPATION NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL STUDY.

*Section 5(c) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:*

*"(47) EMANCIPATION NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—The Emancipation National Historic Trail, extending approximately 51 miles from the Osterman Building and Reedy Chapel in Galveston, Texas, along Texas State Highway 3 and Interstate Highway 45 North, to Freedmen's Town, then to Independence Heights and Emancipation Park in Houston, Texas, following the migration route taken by newly freed slaves and other persons of African descent from the major 19th century seaport town of Galveston to the burgeoning community of Freedmen's Town, located in the 4th Ward of Houston, Texas."*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. SAN NICOLAS) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CURTIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Mem-

bers have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 434, introduced by Representative JACKSON LEE of Texas, celebrates the freedom of the last American slaves by authorizing the study of an approximately 51-mile route for inclusion as a national historic trail in the National Trails System. The study will examine the suitability of designating the Emancipation National Historic Trail from Galveston to Freedmen's Town in Houston.

Nearly 2½ years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, United States General Gordon Granger rode into Galveston, Texas, to announce the freedom of the last American slaves.

Upon gaining their freedom, many of the 250,000 newly freed slaves traversed the route from Galveston to Freedmen's Town in Houston, spreading the news to neighboring communities. This bill is a fitting tribute that honors the historic journey and lasting legacy of the last American slaves.

I want to thank the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for championing this important legislation and for her hard work moving this bill through the legislative process.

I strongly support passing this bill.

I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for yielding, and I thank him for his leadership and the leadership of Chairman GRIJALVA, for the full committee, and, certainly, the ranking member for his courtesies.

I thank the manager tonight, a friend from Utah, for their kindness in yielding to me. This is an emotional moment for me and, as well, for many in my constituency, and I am delighted to be able to rise to give strong support to H.R. 434, the Emancipation National Historic Trail Study Act.

I thank all of the Members, as I have indicated, and also thank Congresswoman HAALAND, chair of the Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, for holding the hearing that allowed the committee to learn of the strong support enjoyed by H.R. 434 and the hard work of dedicated historic preservationists to preserve the rich history of former slaves.

I also thank Naomi Mitchell Carrier of Houston, Texas, for her stalwart efforts to share the stories of newly freed slaves who settled in Freedmen's Town, a section of Houston, to begin their lives as free persons during the end of

the Civil War. I want to thank Ms. Carrier as an educator, historian, and author with expertise in African American music, Texas history, and heritage tourism.

I also thank Ms. Eileen Lawal for her April 2019 oral testimony before the Natural Resources Committee in an amazing, passionate expression of how vital this trail will be. Ms. Lawal is the president Houston Freedmen's Town Conservancy, whose mission is to protect and preserve the history of Freedmen's Town.

I also thank the Mayor of the city of Houston, Sylvester Turner; Commissioner Rodney Ellis; the mayor of the city of Galveston; my colleague, my original cosponsor, Congressman WEBER, who represents the Galveston area.

The work of H.R. 434 will result in only the second trail in the United States that chronicles the experience of African Americans.

I am hoping that this will move swiftly through the United States House, then to the United States Senate, and then is signed by the President of the United States.

Currently, the National Park Service only has one national historic trail which centers on the African American experience. It is a Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail which covers a 54-mile path between Selma and Montgomery.

But as slaves lived in this land from 1619 to 1865 as slaves, a 250-year history, to think only one trail would commemorate that historic moment—although a moment in history that all of us are saddened by—it is important to capture the bravery, the courage, the strength of those families who managed to stay together.

The establishment of the Emancipation National Historic Trail will be the second trail for which the National Park Services would have responsibility and, again, would tell the wonderful story for future generations of the rich history of this Nation and the role that African Americans played in the economic, political, religious, cultural, and governmental efforts of this Nation. It ties into the work that we are continuing to do.

The Emancipation National Historic Trail Study Act would pave the way to working to establish an important story. It will go 51 miles from the historic Osterman Building and Reedy Chapel in Galveston, Texas, along Highway 3 and Interstate 45, all the way up to Freedmen's Town and Emancipation Park and Independence Heights, which was the first city organized by African Americans here in the Southwest region.

H.R. 434 requires that we study the post-Civil War history of newly freed slaves in a major slave-holding State following the largest military campaign waged on domestic soil in the history of the United States.

It is important to take note of the fact that those of us west of the Mississippi did not know that Abraham