

home to the Kings Point Merchant Marine Academy, and the Congressional Gold Medal will be housed there at that location.

This is so wonderful that this is finally being done. I am a proud member of the Board of Visitors at the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point.

Kings Point, I want everyone to know, is the only service academy whose students engage in combat during times of war. In fact, during World War II, over 7,000 of these students answered our Nation's call to duty, and 142 students gave the supreme sacrifice.

Today, only 600 of these veterans are still alive. Ralph Crump is one of those veterans.

In 1941, Mr. Crump went on his first cruise as a freshman cadet at the United States Merchant Marine Academy. He was quickly promoted to third assistant engineer.

After his first cruise, Ralph was prepared to return to Kings Point to finish his schooling when his captain told him there was no replacement engineer and he needed to sail cargo for Russia. Over the next 8 months, Ralph and his convoy suffered heavy casualties in the Mediterranean, China, Burma, and India.

Crump later sailed ships taking exiled U.S. diplomats back to Asia, returning with prisoners of war liberated from a Japanese camp near Shanghai.

Ralph finally graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy a year later, in 1946. Today, there is a Ralph Crump wing in the National World War II Museum in New Orleans named in his honor.

This is just one example of so many merchant mariners who did so much during this time, but I especially want to point out the students who served during wartime from the Merchant Marine Academy.

Brave men and women like Ralph at the Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, as well as the mariners who served across the country, deserve this highest recognition. It is not too late. It is time we recognize their sacrifice and award them the much-deserved Congressional Gold Medal.

Madam Speaker, I applaud my colleagues again for their leadership, and I ask the whole House to support our brave merchant mariners.

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

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN), who chairs the Financial Services Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I thank the chairwoman, and I thank the ranking member as well.

Madam Speaker, we are truly the land of the free because we are the home of the brave. Unfortunately, not all of the brave have been treated the same when they have returned home from war. Such is the case with the

Merchant Marines. These merchant mariners came home, but they didn't come home to the parades that others came home to. Many of them didn't return the same way they left, and many didn't return at all.

I stand here today because I am so proud of the work that these Members of Congress have done to celebrate and appreciate the lives of the merchant mariners. Yes, it is true that they did not become actual veterans until 1988. Yes, it is true that they didn't receive all of the GI Bill benefits that some others received. But it is also true that, though it may be late, they will be properly recognized.

I am so honored to announce that Congressman GARAMENDI, Congresswoman BROOKS, and Congressman YOUNG have done a good thing, a just thing, and a righteous thing.

I would add one additional thing. There is a bill that is currently pending, H.R. 154. This bill would accord \$25,000 to each of these mariners who are alive. It is the right thing and the just thing, and we ought to do it as well.

But today, let's celebrate what has been accomplished. Let's have this Congressional Gold Medal presented, and let's make sure that if we see a merchant mariner, we give them the love that they richly deserve as well. They are truly persons who have made us the land of the free because they are members of the home of the brave.

Mr. McHENRY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to close.

Madam Speaker, on a personal note, on my team on the House Financial Services Committee and when I was chief deputy whip of the House, I had somebody work with me on my team named Phil Poe of Maryland.

Phil, out of college, was inspired by the stories of World War II merchant mariners and inspired by a family member, as well, to get licensed as a merchant mariner. He spent a little time as a merchant mariner and then paid his way through graduate school as a merchant mariner.

So I want to commend his willingness to serve, but I also want to note that, for the RECORD, these stories of World War II merchant mariners are having an impact generations later.

That inspirational story of the risks that they were willing to take, plus the family connection and inspiration he heard from those stories, have made a major difference for him. That work ethic that he developed and learned on that ship really steeled him to do better in graduate school, and by the time he came to the Hill, it was all easy compared to what he had been through.

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So these stories we hear from long ago of merchant mariners and their sacrifice still have an impact today, and I am glad we have a Congressional Gold Medal and legislative recognition around the sacrifices that merchant mariners made during World War II.

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

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I, too, join in thanking Representatives GARAMENDI, BROOKS, and YOUNG in bringing this bill to the floor of the House of Representatives and working for its passage.

I would just say a word about the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI), whom I have known for many, many years. We served in the California legislature together, and, of course, I am not surprised that he took time out to recognize those who have not been given credit for their work and what they have done in support of our country. This is typical of Mr. GARAMENDI and the way that he has conducted himself throughout his entire career.

I also thank those Members who have come to the floor today to join in this very special recognition. This is a bipartisan bill that honors those who answered our Nation's call to duty, regardless of the danger and without expectation of accolades. Now it is time that we give these courageous mariners the recognition they have more than earned.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 550, 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.

ADVANCING INNOVATION TO ASSIST LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2613) to require the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network to carry out a study on the use of emerging technologies within the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2613

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 "Advancing Innovation to Assist Law Enforcement Act".

SEC. 2. FINCEN STUDY ON USE OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.

(a) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network ("FinCEN") shall carry out a study on—

(A) the status of implementation and internal use of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence ("AI"), digital identity technologies, blockchain technologies, and other innovative technologies within FinCEN;

(B) whether AI, digital identity technologies, blockchain technologies, and other innovative technologies can be further leveraged to make FinCEN's data analysis more efficient and effective; and

(C) how FinCEN could better utilize AI, digital identity technologies, blockchain technologies, and other innovative technologies to more actively analyze and disseminate the information it collects and stores to provide investigative leads to Federal, State, Tribal, and local law enforcement, and other Federal agencies (collective, "Agencies"), and better support its ongoing investigations when referring a case to the Agencies.

(2) INCLUSION OF GTO DATA.—The study required under this subsection shall include data collected through the Geographic Targeting Orders ("GTO") program.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director shall issue a report to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives containing—

(1) all findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under subsection (a);

(2) with respect to each of subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of subsection (a)(1), any best practices or significant concerns identified by the Director, and their applicability to AI, digital identity technologies, blockchain technologies, and other innovative technologies with respect to U.S. efforts to combat money laundering and other forms of illicit finance; and

(3) any policy recommendations that could facilitate and improve communication and coordination between the private sector, FinCEN, and Agencies through the implementation of innovative approaches, in order to meet their Bank Secrecy Act (as defined under section 5312 of title 31, United States Code) and anti-money laundering compliance obligations.

(c) BANK SECRECY ACT DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term "Bank Secrecy Act" means—

(1) subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code;

(2) section 21 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act; and

(3) chapter 2 of title I of Public Law 91-508.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2613, the Advancing Innovation to Assist Law Enforcement Act, and I urge all Members to support it.

The financial services industry spends quite a bit of time considering

how it can use new technologies to improve its data collection and analysis to detect and report suspected financial crime.

This bill turns the lens onto the Financial Crime Enforcement Network, FinCen, to look at its use of artificial intelligence, digital identity technologies, blockchain, and other innovative technologies.

The study required by H.R. 2613 will examine how this essential regulatory and data-driven agency could itself better utilize these technologies to more actively analyze and disseminate the information FinCen collects and stores to provide investigative leads to its law enforcement partners.

The result of this study will help the agency and us in Congress to identify gaps that need to be filled with the same advanced tools that are being adapted by the industry.

I applaud the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GONZALEZ) for his work on this bill and recommend its passage.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2613, the Advancing Innovation to Assist Law Enforcement Act. I commend the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GONZALEZ), my colleague, for his work on this important bipartisan legislation.

This—if I am not mistaken—is the gentleman's first piece of legislation coming out of the Committee on Financial Services here on the House floor, and it is quite a good thing. His constituents should know, Madam Speaker, about the type of legislating that he is trying to achieve.

The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, what we commonly call FinCen, is tasked with receiving and maintaining financial transaction data. This includes analyzing and disseminating data for law enforcement purposes to safeguard the financial system from illicit use, to combat money laundering, and promote national security. If you think terrorism financing, if you think about laundering drug money, this is the agency that does it. In short, FinCen is in the data business.

This bill directs FinCen to carry out a study on the implementation of artificial intelligence and digital identity technology to ensure that FinCen is equipped with all the tools it needs to thwart bad actors and protect the financial system.

And so this takes, in many respects, Congressman GONZALEZ' broad background and brings that experience here to the legislative body and to this important law enforcement agency. This legislation takes the first step to revolutionize the way law enforcement works to locate and stop criminal activity in the financial services industry, including potential terrorist threats using artificial intelligence,

blockchain, and other emerging technologies.

This is a FinTech bill. This is a technology bill. I urge my colleagues to support this measure. This bill ensures that FinCen is innovating alongside industry and alongside other Federal agencies and law enforcement agencies. And it drives them to utilize the most advanced computing and advanced technology available anywhere in the world in the best practices when it comes to data analysis and use.

The use of new technologies will always help streamline government operations, allowing FinCen to move quicker in the face of emerging threats.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill. I want to commend the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GONZALEZ), my colleague, for his hard work on this bipartisan bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, we have no additional speakers on this legislation. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GONZALEZ), my colleague and author of the bill.

Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, and I thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), chairwoman of the Committee on Financial Services, and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY), my friend and ranking member, for his kind words and all his work to bring this legislation to the floor today.

The Advancing Innovation to Assist Law Enforcement Act is a bipartisan bill that I introduced along with the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER), my friend, and it is supported by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MCADAMS), my friend from across the aisle.

This bill takes a stand to block a major tool used by cartels, terrorist organizations, traffickers and the like, to finance their illegal activities and put our Nation and the people living in it at risk.

Money laundering enables the shipment of deadly drugs like opioids and fentanyl into communities like mine in Ohio that has been disseminated by the opioid crisis. Money laundering finances cartels who wreak havoc on our southern border and the communities that surround it, as I saw on my recent bipartisan trip to the border. And money laundering proliferates the horrors of human trafficking, which continues to exist across our country, despite government and private industry attempts to better identify victims and cut off trafficking routes.

My bill makes sure that we are using the best technology we have available to find and stop the money laundering that makes all these crimes not only possible, but financially profitable for cartels, traffickers, and terrorists.

My bill requires the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, or FinCen, to

study the implementation and internal use of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, digital identity technologies, blockchain, and other new and innovative technologies to better identify and prevent money laundering in our financial services industry.

Additionally, this bill would require the study of how FinCen could better utilize these technologies to more quickly disseminate the information it collects to Federal, State, Tribal, and local law enforcement.

It is my firm belief that we must leverage the use of emerging technologies in order to make our government operations more efficient and upgrade the toolkit that enables our law enforcement to effectively go after bad actors.

Finally, H.R. 2613 would require that the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Service Network report to the House Committee on Financial Services and the Senate Banking Committee on policy recommendations. The recommendations would allow the private sector, FinCen, and other Federal agencies to improve coordination and communication through advance technologies. This will help Congress ensure that we are providing the necessary support for our law enforcement community to effectively fight illicit activity based on these recommendations.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation, and I thank those who have helped push it forward.

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close if the majority has no more speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, we are prepared to close. I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I once again thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GONZALEZ) for bringing this bill before the House.

Improving the use of technologies can only improve our response to the wide range of crimes that FinCen combats. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of 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. 2613.

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.

HIDDEN FIGURES CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1396) to award Congressional Gold Medals to Katherine John-

son and Dr. Christine Darden, to posthumously award Congressional Gold Medals to Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson, and to award a Congressional Gold Medal to honor all of the women who contributed to the success of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration during the Space Race, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1396

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 “Hidden Figures Congressional Gold Medal Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) In 1935, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (referred to in this section as “NACA”) hired 5 women to serve as the first “computer pool” at the Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory where those women took on work making calculations that male engineers had made previously.

(2) During the 1940s, NACA began recruiting African-American women to work as computers and initially separated those women from their White counterparts in a group known as the “West Area Computers” where the women were restricted to segregated dining and bathroom facilities.

(3) Katherine Johnson was born on August 26, 1918, in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.

(4) In 1953, Katherine Johnson began her career in aeronautics as a computer in the segregated West Area Computing unit described in paragraph (2).

(5) As a member of the Flight Research Division, Katherine Johnson analyzed data from flight tests. After NACA was reformulated into the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (referred to in this section as “NASA”), Katherine Johnson—

(A) calculated the trajectory for Alan Shepard’s Freedom 7 mission in 1961, which was the first human spaceflight by an individual from the United States;

(B) coauthored a report that provided the equations for describing orbital spaceflight with a specified landing point, which made her the first woman to be recognized as an author of a report from the Flight Research Division;

(C) was asked to verify the calculations when electronic computers at NASA were used to calculate the orbit for John Glenn’s Friendship 7 mission; and

(D) provided calculations for NASA throughout her career, including for the Apollo missions.

(6) Katherine Johnson retired from NASA in 1986.

(7) Dr. Christine Darden was born on September 10, 1942, in Monroe, North Carolina.

(8) In 1962, Dr. Christine Darden graduated from Hampton Institute with a B.S. in Mathematics and a teaching credential.

(9) Dr. Christine Darden attended Virginia State University where she studied aerosol physics and earned an M.S. in Applied Mathematics.

(10) Dr. Christine Darden began her career in aeronautics in 1967 as a data analyst at NASA’s Langley Research Center (referred to in this section as “Langley”) before being promoted to aerospace engineer in 1973. Her work in this position resulted in the production of low-boom sonic effects, which revolutionized aerodynamics design.

(11) Dr. Christine Darden completed her education by earning a Ph.D. in Mechanical

Engineering from George Washington University in 1983.

(12) While working at NASA, Dr. Christine Darden—

(A) was appointed to be the leader of the Sonic Boom Team, which worked on designs to minimize the effects of sonic booms by testing wing and nose designs for supersonic aircraft;

(B) wrote more than 50 articles on aeronautics design; and

(C) became the first African American to be promoted to a position in the Senior Executive Service at Langley.

(13) Dorothy Vaughan was born on September 20, 1910, in Kansas City, Missouri.

(14) Dorothy Vaughan began working for NACA in 1943. Dorothy Vaughan—

(A) started at NACA as a member of the West Area Computing unit;

(B) was promoted to be the head of the West Area Computing unit, becoming NACA’s first African-American supervisor, a position that she held for 9 years; and

(C) became an expert programmer in FORTRAN as a member of NASA’s Analysis and Computation Division.

(15) Dorothy Vaughan retired from NASA in 1971 and died on November 10, 2008.

(16) Mary Jackson was born on April 9, 1921, in Hampton, Virginia.

(17) Mary Jackson started her career at NACA in 1951, working as a computer as a member of the West Area Computing unit.

(18) After petitioning the City of Hampton to allow her to take graduate-level courses in math and physics at night at the all-White Hampton High School, Mary Jackson was able to complete the required training to become an engineer, making her NASA’s first female African-American engineer.

(19) Mary Jackson—

(A) while at NACA and NASA—

(i) worked in the Theoretical Aerodynamics Branch of the Subsonic-Transonic Aerodynamics Division at Langley where she analyzed wind tunnel and aircraft flight data; and

(ii) published a dozen technical papers that focused on the boundary layer of air around airplanes; and

(B) after 21 years working as an engineer at NASA, transitioned to a new job as Langley’s Federal Women’s Program Manager where she worked to improve the prospects of NASA’s female mathematicians, engineers, and scientists.

(20) Mary Jackson retired from NASA in 1985 and died in 2005.

(21) These 4 women, along with the other African-American women in NASA’s West Area Computing unit, were integral to the success of the early space program. The stories of these 4 women exemplify the experiences of hundreds of women who worked as computers, mathematicians, and engineers at NACA beginning in the 1930s and their handmade calculations played an integral role in—

(A) aircraft testing during World War II;

(B) supersonic flight research;

(C) sending the Voyager probes to explore the solar system; and

(D) the United States landing the first man on the lunar surface.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of Congress, of 5 gold medals of appropriate design as follows:

(1) One gold medal to Katherine Johnson in recognition of her service to the United States as a mathematician.

(2) One gold medal to Dr. Christine Darden for her service to the United States as an aeronautical engineer.