

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking “violation of federal or state law” and inserting “violation of Federal or State law”; and

(ii) by striking “regulation under federal or state law” and inserting “regulation under Federal or State law”; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking paragraph (2);

(B) by striking “ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS” and all that follows through “Duties under” and inserting “AUTHORIZATION To CARRY FIREARMS—Duties under”; and

(C) by striking “any State” and inserting “any location”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. STANTON) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

I would like to thank Chairman NADLER and Ranking Member COLLINS for moving H.R. 4258, the Reauthorizing Security for Supreme Court Justices Act of 2019, through the Judiciary Committee in a swift manner.

I would also like to thank my friend and fellow member of the Judiciary Committee, Congressman STEUBE, for joining me in introducing this important piece of legislation.

The Supreme Court Police currently has permanent authority to protect Justices on Supreme Court grounds; however, its authority to protect them outside of the Supreme Court grounds is temporary and has been reauthorized in a bipartisan manner since 1928. H.R. 4258 is a bipartisan bill that will permanently reauthorize the ability to protect the Justices outside of the Supreme Court grounds.

With the increase of potential threats against the Justices of the Supreme Court in recent years and the current authorization set to expire on December 29 of this year, this bill is needed to remove the threat of disruptions and security gaps caused by the temporary authority.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4258. I hope the Senate acts swiftly and considers this bill. It is critically important that we protect the Justices of the highest court in our land.

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

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4258. The gentleman has spoken well of what it actually does and what it will not do. I support that.

I would like to congratulate Congressmen STANTON and STEUBE on their work on this legislation.

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

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. STANTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4258.

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.

□ 1245

VETERAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRAINING ACT OF 2019

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3537) to amend the Small Business Act to codify the Boots to Business Program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3537

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 “Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. BOOTS TO BUSINESS PROGRAM.

Section 32 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657b) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) BOOTS TO BUSINESS PROGRAM.—

“(1) COVERED INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘covered individual’ means—

“(A) a member of the Armed Forces, including the National Guard or Reserves;

“(B) an individual who is participating in the Transition Assistance Program established under section 1144 of title 10, United States Code;

“(C) an individual who—

“(i) served on active duty in any branch of the Armed Forces, including the National Guard or Reserves; and

“(ii) was discharged or released from such service under conditions other than dishonorable; and

“(D) a spouse or dependent of an individual described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C).

“(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—Beginning on the first October 1 after the enactment of this subsection and for the subsequent 4 fiscal years, the Administrator shall carry out a program to be known as the ‘Boots to Business Program’ to provide entrepreneurship training to covered individuals.

“(3) GOALS.—The goals of the Boots to Business Program are to—

“(A) provide assistance and in-depth training to covered individuals interested in business ownership; and

“(B) provide covered individuals with the tools, skills, and knowledge necessary to identify a business opportunity, draft a business plan, identify sources of capital, connect with local resources for small business concerns, and start up a small business concern.

“(4) PROGRAM COMPONENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Boots to Business Program may include—

“(i) a presentation providing exposure to the considerations involved in self-employment and ownership of a small business concern;

“(ii) an online, self-study course focused on the basic skills of entrepreneurship, the language of business, and the considerations involved in self-employment and ownership of a small business concern;

“(iii) an in-person classroom instruction component providing an introduction to the foundations of self employment and ownership of a small business concern; and

“(iv) in-depth training delivered through online instruction, including an online course that leads to the creation of a business plan.

“(B) COLLABORATION.—The Administrator may—

“(i) collaborate with public and private entities to develop course curricula for the Boots to Business Program; and

“(ii) modify program components in coordination with entities participating in a Warriors in Transition program, as defined in section 738(e) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (10 U.S.C. 1071 note).

“(C) USE OF RESOURCE PARTNERS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall—

“(I) ensure that Veteran Business Outreach Centers regularly participate, on a nationwide basis, in the Boots to Business Program; and

“(II) to the maximum extent practicable, use a variety of other resource partners and entities in administering the Boots to Business Program.

“(ii) GRANT AUTHORITY.—In carrying out clause (i), the Administrator may make grants to Veteran Business Outreach Centers, other resource partners, or other entities to carry out components of the Boots to Business Program.

“(D) AVAILABILITY TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—The Administrator shall make available to the Secretary of Defense information regarding the Boots to Business Program, including all course materials and outreach materials related to the Boots to Business Program, for inclusion on the website of the Department of Defense relating to the Transition Assistance Program, in the Transition Assistance Program manual, and in other relevant materials available for distribution from the Secretary of Defense.

“(E) AVAILABILITY TO VETERANS AFFAIRS.—In consultation with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Administrator shall make available for distribution and display at local facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs outreach materials regarding the Boots to Business Program which shall, at a minimum—

“(i) describe the Boots to Business Program and the services provided; and

“(ii) include eligibility requirements for participating in the Boots to Business Program.

“(5) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection and every year thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report on the performance and effectiveness of the Boots to Business Program, which may be included as part of another report submitted to such Committees by the Administrator, and which shall include—

“(A) information regarding grants awarded under paragraph (4)(C);

“(B) the total cost of the Boots to Business Program;

“(C) the number of program participants using each component of the Boots to Business Program;

“(D) the completion rates for each component of the Boots to Business Program;

“(E) to the extent possible—

“(i) the demographics of program participants, to include gender, age, race, relationship to military, military occupational specialty, and years of service of program participants;

“(ii) the number of small business concerns formed or expanded with assistance under the Boots to Business Program;

“(iii) the gross receipts of small business concerns receiving assistance under the Boots to Business Program;

“(iv) the number of jobs created with assistance under the Boots to Business Program;

“(v) the number of referrals to other resources and programs of the Administration;

“(vi) the number of program participants receiving financial assistance under loan programs of the Administration;

“(vii) the type and dollar amount of financial assistance received by program participants under any loan program of the Administration; and

“(viii) results of participant satisfaction surveys, including a summary of any comments received from program participants;

“(F) an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Boots to Business Program in each region of the Administration during the most recent fiscal year;

“(G) an assessment of additional performance outcome measures for the Boots to Business Program, as identified by the Administrator;

“(H) any recommendations of the Administrator for improvement of the Boots to Business Program, which may include expansion of the types of individuals who are covered individuals;

“(I) an explanation of how the Boots to Business Program has been integrated with other transition programs and related resources of the Administration and other Federal agencies; and

“(J) any additional information the Administrator determines necessary.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 3537, the Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act of 2019, and I thank Mr. SPANO for joining me in introducing this legislation and helping lead this effort to improve the program to ensure veterans can continue to take advantage of the Boots to Business Program.

It is an honor to be here today to celebrate and honor our Nation's veteran

entrepreneurs. Just this week we celebrated Veterans Day and last week we marked National Veterans Small Business Week.

Every member of the military has already demonstrated their love of country by committing everything, including potentially their lives, in the service of our Nation. When their service in uniform is completed, many veterans direct their passion to starting a business. Such dedication to Nation and community should be recognized every day. This is patriotism and not a partisan issue.

That is why I am pleased that the Small Business Committee can once again highlight how we put aside the differences we may have in some areas and now bring these bipartisan bills to the floor today.

Entrepreneurship has always been a bedrock of the American economy, particularly for our returning vets. That is why our committee is focused on bipartisan solutions to repay our veterans through policies designed to ease the risk of starting and running a business.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ and Ranking Member CHABOT, as well as the committee staff, for working with us to increase the opportunities and resources for veteran entrepreneurs.

H.R. 3537 bolsters the Small Business Administration's Boots to Business Program to enhance our ability to ensure that it is effectively serving aspiring veteran businessowners.

There are approximately 2.5 million veteran-owned businesses generating \$1 trillion in receipts. Such successes are a draw for many of the men and women leaving the service today to become their own bosses.

Entrepreneurship provides a promising opportunity to continue serving their country, creating jobs in their local communities, while supporting their families.

Empowering vets to succeed as entrepreneurs should be a viable option for people trained to lead, inspire, and achieve remarkable things. Their success spurs local economic development and demonstrates our commitment to their aspirations of entrepreneurship.

But starting a business can be complex and sometimes daunting. The process can seem overwhelming, but programs like Boots to Business offer resources and assistance from experts, giving aspiring entrepreneurs the lessons of others' previous experience.

Initially launched in 2012, the Boots to Business Program offers transitioning servicemembers and military spouses insights into self-employment and business ownership. The Veterans Business Outreach Centers are trained and empowered to deliver these services to over 180 military installations nationwide. In 2018, over 17,000 veterans, servicemembers, and military spouses participated in the 2-day course.

Research has shown that servicemembers are distinctly qualified to

start and run their own businesses. While serving in the military, they learn how to make good decisions in chaotic environments and are natural, confident, and driven leaders.

Each year, more than 200,000 servicemembers make the transition from military to civilian life. Transition assistance is critical to ensure that those who serve in the military have opportunities for meaningful employment.

H.R. 3537 addresses the many issues we have heard from veterans by updating many aspects of the program and also offering certainty by codifying it for the next 5 years.

Mr. Speaker, I again thank Mr. SPANO and the committee for their work on this important bill. I urge Members to support this bipartisan piece of legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I rise in support of H.R. 3537, the Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act of 2019.

Mr. Speaker, before I speak on the bill, I want to again thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ, who is unable to be with us, so then the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER), for running our committee in such a bipartisan fashion.

Today we have yet another strong package of five bills that are fully bipartisan. So, again, I want to make sure that we recognize that we all have a seat at the table on that committee.

Today's five bills focus on our Nation's heroes, our veterans, service-disabled veterans, reservists, National Guard members, and their spouses.

Last month, four veterans testified before our committee and reminded us of the incredible contributions those who have served our country make. They have made extraordinary sacrifices, put their lives on the line, and kept our country safe.

Their service to our Nation doesn't always stop when they separate from the military. Increasingly, veterans are choosing to open their own small businesses.

Research has shown that servicemembers are especially qualified to start running their own firms. While serving in the military, they learn to make good decisions in chaotic circumstances, and are confident, driven, and natural leaders.

There are a myriad of programs and services across the Federal Government that assist veterans who start businesses after leaving the military.

At the Small Business Committee, we have the unique opportunity to support our Nation's veterans as they embark on their next adventure: business ownership. The SBA offers funding, training, and Federal contracting resources tailored to meet the needs of our veterans. We are committed to making the SBA's programs and services more accessible to our Nation's veteran entrepreneurs.

At the hearing from earlier this year titled, “Continuing to Serve: From

Military to Entrepreneur," we heard firsthand from veteran small business owners that entrepreneurship has empowered current and former servicemembers and their spouses. The Boots to Business Program is a first step in their journey.

Originally launched in 2012, the Boots to Business Program offers transitioning servicemembers and military spouses information about self-employment and business ownership. Participants complete a 2-day, in-person entrepreneurship program and can access additional training through online courses.

H.R. 3537, the Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act of 2019, codifies the Boots to Business Program, solidifying a crucial piece of veteran entrepreneurs' support network. Through this program, participants are introduced to the SBA and its resource partners, who will have their back as they experience new challenges of business ownership.

The program's success is a statement to interagency collaboration, and we can give veterans the holistic support they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is another product of our committee's bipartisan cooperation, as I mentioned before, and I would like to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SPANO) for working together to increase business opportunities for our Nation's heroes.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SPANO), and I want to thank him for his leadership on this legislation.

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member CHABOT for yielding.

I rise today in support of the Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act of 2019, a bill that I was proud to introduce with Representative SCHNEIDER.

This bill authorizes the Boots to Business Program for 5 years, which provides educational opportunities to veterans and their families on how to start and manage their own small businesses.

Veterans often have the natural temperament and experience to be successful entrepreneurs. They are trained to be confident leaders and they know how to make tough decisions in very, very difficult environments. However, many veterans often retire from the service with all the right tools but lack the knowledge on how to apply them in the business world. The Boots to Business Program fills this gap.

As a pilot program, it provides a number of opportunities to educate veterans in entrepreneurship. The flagship offering of the program is the Introduction to Entrepreneurship course, a 2-day, in-person training on the fun-

damental principles of business ownership.

Specifically, the course teaches participants how to recognize business opportunities, create a business plan, and consider the legal and financial aspects of how to operate a business. This allows veterans to come to the course with the beginnings of a business idea and leave with the tools to turn it into a viable business model.

Boots to Business also follows up this introductory course with more in-depth educational opportunities on specific topics, such as conducting market research and revenue readiness.

Beyond these educational opportunities, Boots to Business provides veteran entrepreneurs access to free consultants for follow-up questions and to help them navigate loan programs offered by the Small Business Administration.

I have personally seen the positive impacts of the Boots to Business Program in my district. Introduction to Entrepreneurship classes are regularly offered at MacDill Air Force Base, and so far, 100 courses have been given throughout Florida.

The program has been a great benefit to the veterans in my community, and I am confident that it will continue to benefit veterans across the country.

Mr. Speaker, the bill passed unanimously from the Small Business Committee, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BALDERSON), and I want to commend him for his leadership on this as well.

Mr. BALDERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of a bill I cosponsored, H.R. 3537, the Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act.

This bill would authorize the Boots to Business Program, which helps our Nation's veterans who are transitioning back into the workforce launch and grow their small businesses.

Our Nation just celebrated Veterans Day, and while it is a wonderful way for us to show our appreciation for those who have served the United States honorably, it is also important we honor those veterans year-round.

We must never forget our highest commitment, which is to support our servicemembers, veterans, and their families.

The Boots to Business Program is one such way we can do that for our veterans, by providing them with the tools and resources they need to be successful entrepreneurs in our modern world.

The Boots to Business Program is an important way for our country to support two fundamentally American values: small business and military service.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 3537.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I have no further Members seeking time. If the gentleman is prepared to close, we will close now.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend, again, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SPANO) and Mr. BALDERSON for their leadership on this bill, which works to increase business opportunities for our Nation's veterans.

As Mr. BALDERSON just mentioned, many of us attended various Veterans Day events earlier this week, and I think he is absolutely right: this is something where we can continue every day of the year to help those who really do seek to start a business, to grow a business, and create more jobs for veterans and for other members of American society.

Mr. Speaker, I urge its support. It is bipartisan legislation. It supports our Nation's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time. Again, I want to thank my colleague, the ranking member, from Ohio.

By developing new products, advancing research, and creating new markets, entrepreneurs are a vital force in our economy. Over the years, we have repeatedly seen the important role veterans play in this process.

Due to their leadership, training, perseverance, knowledge of procurement processes, and other skills acquired in the military, veterans are often exceptionally well qualified to launch and manage their own business. In fact, veterans own one in ten small firms in our country and support more than 5 million jobs.

Despite being positioned to succeed as entrepreneurs, servicemembers transitioning into civilian life face obstacles starting their own small business.

The Boots to Business Program is designed to alleviate these challenges by providing a path to entrepreneurship for veterans without compelling them to attend business school, which could mean more time away from their families.

Boots to Business is unlike any other entrepreneurial development program offered by the SBA, because its curriculum focuses on educating servicemembers about the basic concepts of business, SBA resources, real world insight, and how to manage expectations, and it is directly tied in to their transition programming.

The Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act not only codifies the program for the next 5 years, but also ensures that the information is accessible and readily available to all servicemembers wishing to test the waters of entrepreneurship.

□ 1300

At our hearing on the bill, Retired Army Captain Scott Davidson perhaps

put it best when he described Boots to Business as helping servicemembers take a “step in the direction of entrepreneurship and foster and channel the warrior ethos that had them succeed in the military to boost success in the boardroom.”

H.R. 3537 is a commonsense move and one supported by The American Legion.

I, again, thank my colleague Mr. SPANO for joining me in introducing this legislation.

We all duly and respectfully observed Veterans Day on Monday. Every day, we must reinforce our obligation to servicemembers by giving them the education and tools to seize the opportunity of entrepreneurship.

Again, I thank the chairwoman and ranking member for their support, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3537.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. 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 motion will be postponed.

PATRIOTIC EMPLOYER PROTECTION ACT OF 2019

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3661) to support entrepreneurs serving in the National Guard and Reserve, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3661

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 “Patriotic Employer Protection Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF LOAN ASSISTANCE AND DEFERRAL ELIGIBILITY TO RESERVISTS BEYOND PERIODS OF MILITARY CONFLICT.

(a) SMALL BUSINESS ACT AMENDMENTS.—Section 7 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking clause (ii);

(ii) by redesignating clause (i) as clause (ii);

(iii) by inserting before clause (ii), as so redesignated, the following:

“(i) the term ‘active service’ has the meaning given that term in section 101(d)(3) of title 10, United States Code;”; and

(iv) in clause (ii), as so redesignated, by adding “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “being ordered to active military duty during a pe-

riod of military conflict” and inserting “being ordered to perform active service for a period of more than 30 consecutive days”;

(C) in subparagraph (C), by striking “active duty” each place it appears and inserting “active service”; and

(D) in subparagraph (G)(ii)(II), by striking “active duty” and inserting “active service”; and

(2) in subsection (n)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking “ACTIVE DUTY” and inserting “ACTIVE SERVICE”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking subparagraph (C);

(ii) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as subparagraphs (B) and (C), respectively;

(iii) by inserting before subparagraph (B), as so redesignated, the following:

“(A) ACTIVE SERVICE.—The term ‘active service’ has the meaning given that term in section 101(d)(3) of title 10, United States Code.”;

(iv) in subparagraph (B), as so redesigned, by striking “ordered to active duty during a period of military conflict” and inserting “ordered to perform active service for a period of more than 30 consecutive days”; and

(v) in subparagraph (D), by striking “active duty” each place it appears and inserting “active service”; and

(C) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “active duty” each place it appears and inserting “active service”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by subsection (a)(1) shall apply to an economic injury suffered or likely to be suffered as the result of an essential employee being ordered to perform active service (as defined in section 101(d)(3) of title 10, United States Code) for a period of more than 30 consecutive days who is discharged or released from such active service on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) SEMIANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and semiannually thereafter, the President shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report on the number of loans made under the Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loan program and the dollar volume of those loans. The report shall contain the subsidy rate of the disaster loan program as authorized under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)) with the loans made under the Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loan program and without those loans included.

(d) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 8(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking “The Administration” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administration”;

(2) by striking “(as defined in section

7(n)(1))”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) DEFINITION OF PERIOD OF MILITARY CONFLICT.—In this subsection, the term ‘period of military conflict’ means—

“(A) a period of war declared by the Congress;

“(B) a period of national emergency declared by the Congress or by the President; or

“(C) a period of a contingency operation, as defined in section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code.”.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

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 Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3661, the Patriotic Employer Protection Act of 2019.

Mr. Speaker, this commonsense legislation recognizes the service of our reservists and the companies they work at by broadening the ability of small business employers to access loans when a reservist is deployed.

Across the country, small business owners are doing the right thing by actively employing military reservists. Congress recognized the strain a small business can be under when key employees are deployed on missions. That is why this distinguished body created the SBA’s military reservist programs, which are the Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loan program and the Repayment Deferral for Active Duty Reservists program. These two programs provide emergency working capital and loan flexibility to small business owners who have an essential employee who is an Active Duty reservist called into action.

Over the past decade, our Reserve Forces have experienced a shift from a strategic reserve to an operational reserve. This bill addresses that shift by expanding the pool of eligible reservists through a restructuring of the programs so they are not limited to periods of conflict.

This seemingly minor modification, in addition to increased coordination between the SBA and the National Guard Bureau and State Adjutants General, will lead to targeted outreach and education about the programs while also modernizing them to meet the needs of today’s small employers.

I thank Congressman KIM and Congressman BURCHETT for working with me to improve access to affordable capital for small businesses, especially those owned by or who employ reservists.