

Having fought her entire professional life against double standards, it is essential that a double standard not apply to her replacement.

When Justice Scalia died 8 months before a Presidential election, Republicans blocked any consideration of President Obama's nomination to the Court. Only total hypocrisy would permit Republicans to name a replacement after voting for President has already begun in a number of States.

Why Trump's big rush? Because he wants this court packed with judges that will take away healthcare and protection for preexisting conditions for millions of Americans. And just in case, when he loses the popular vote once again, he needs some judges to help him cling to power. The best tribute to Justice Ginsburg is demanding consistency and then replacing a President who shares absolutely none of her values.

With everything at stake, we need to give it everything we have got. Let's protect the equality and justice she worked a lifetime to defend.

#### AMERICAN PEOPLE DESERVE BETTER

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. America will soon pass 200,000 deaths from COVID-19. This pandemic is now the second leading cause of death in our country, only behind heart disease.

This year, it will kill more Americans than lung cancer, stroke, Alzheimer's, diabetes, and the flu, and it didn't have to be this way.

President Trump knew the dangers in January. His Deputy National Security Advisor told him to cut off travel from China, but he didn't do that.

The next month, the President told a reporter that COVID-19 was more deadly than even your most strenuous flus, but he didn't tell the American people. He did what he always does when he faces a crisis. He failed the American people.

Just yesterday, he told a crowd of his own supporters in Ohio that the disease "affects virtually nobody." Yet, 200,000 have died of this disease.

He is not up to his job. He never was. It is too big for him.

The American people deserve a President who will take this deadly virus seriously and has a plan to defeat it.

#### REPUBLICANS PUT THEMSELVES FIRST

(Ms. FUDGE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, on Friday, we lost an honorable and decent woman, Justice Ginsburg, a person who changed the world.

But for all her successes, those who are bent on choosing her successor have no decency. They have no honor.

They have no integrity. It is a shame that they did not learn the lessons of Justice Ginsburg, which were decency and honesty and integrity, one who fought for others.

All they want to do is fight for themselves. They want to take away our healthcare. They don't want to help people who are in trouble. They don't care about people who are unemployed. All they want to do is win.

But what do they win? What have they won for this Nation? They just want to benefit themselves.

We are not here for ourselves. We are here for the people who sent us here. We are here to represent the people.

When you lose sight of that, what a shame, what an absolute shame. They are a disgrace to this Nation.

#### CONGRESS MUST WORK TO SAVE LIVES, PROTECT LIVELIHOODS

(Ms. LEE of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, this pandemic has taken over 200,000 lives, bankrupted State and local governments, and destroyed our economy, not to mention nearly 20 million people have lost their jobs as a result of this devastating public health and economic crisis. Communities of color have been hit the hardest.

My condolences go out to those who have lost loved ones.

Over 4 months ago, House Democrats passed the HEROES Act, which reflects the needs of the American people and allocates the resources to save lives and to boost the economy. It has been over 130 days since we passed the HEROES Act.

Since that time, the other body and the White House have done nothing to help the American people. Instead, this administration and Senate Republicans muzzled scientists and refused to compromise.

Let me be clear: The White House intentionally downplayed the severity of the virus, and now the COVID pandemic has taken lives that could have been saved.

Time is of the essence. I urge my colleagues across the aisle to work with Democrats to save lives and protect livelihoods now more than ever.

□ 1130

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. LEE of California). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

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

#### EXTENSION OF THE CARIBBEAN BASIN ECONOMIC RECOVERY ACT

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass

the bill (H.R. 991) to extend certain provisions of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act until September 30, 2030, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 991

*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 "Extension of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act".

#### SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF THE CARIBBEAN BASIN ECONOMIC RECOVERY ACT.

Section 213 of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703) is amended as follows:

(1) EXTENSION FOR CERTAIN KNIT APPAREL ARTICLES.—In clause (iii) of subsection (b)(2)(A)—

(A) in subclause (II)(cc), by striking "September 30, 2020" and inserting "September 30, 2030"; and

(B) in subclause (IV)(dd), by striking "September 30, 2020" and inserting "September 30, 2030".

(2) EXTENSION OF LIMITATION WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN OTHER APPAREL ARTICLES.—In clause (iv)(II) of such subsection, by striking "18" and inserting "28".

(3) EXTENSION OF TRANSITION PERIOD.—In subsection (b)(5)(D)(i), by striking "September 30, 2020" and inserting "September 30, 2030".

#### SEC. 3. CUSTOMS USER FEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 13031(j)(3) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(j)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking "September 30, 2029" and inserting "October 21, 2029"; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking "September 30, 2029" and inserting "October 21, 2029".

(b) RATE FOR MERCHANDISE PROCESSING FEES.—Section 503 of the United States-Korea Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Public Law 112-41; 19 U.S.C. 3805 note) is amended by striking "September 30, 2029" and inserting "October 21, 2029".

#### SEC. 4. 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 Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. WENSTRUP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam 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 Oregon?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, let me begin by commending Representatives SEWELL and WENSTRUP for taking a leadership role on this program. Last year, they introduced this bill to reauthorize the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act, which expires at the end of the month. They helped organize a terrific hearing before the Ways and Means Trade Subcommittee to be able to focus on this.

It is imperative that the Senate act quickly on this bill and that we get it done before September 30.

In today's political climate, it is important to highlight those few areas of bipartisan consensus. The CBTPA has historically enjoyed that bipartisan and bicameral support, in part because of the shared history and close ties to the United States with the Caribbean Basin region.

There are about 13 million Americans who have Caribbean ancestors. They represent 4 percent of the American population.

The Caribbean, in particular Haiti, played a critical role in the American Revolutionary War, where hundreds of Haitians fought for America's independence.

Years later, Haiti would defend the French and become the first Black republic, influencing the rise of abolitionist and anti-colonial movements all over the world, especially here in the United States. Haiti's sacrifices and unyielding resolve continue to inspire millions.

Sadly, the United States, under the influence of slave-holding interests, actively worked against this fledgling new republic. They were threatened by the specter of a slave uprising and Black independent government.

The United States was hostile to Haiti for years, and worked to undermine its success. Rather than be a constructive partner to help this fledgling republic, the United States interfered, and more importantly, failed to embrace the emergence of the first Black republic.

Now, there are some admitted problems of governance, poverty, and corruption in Haiti and in the region. I personally strongly believe that some of those difficulties that Haiti experiences to this day are the result of failures of American policy.

That is why this Caribbean Basin Initiative is so important. It is an opportunity to continue to strengthen Haiti's economy and our working relationship.

In 2001, after that devastating earthquake in Haiti, I joined a bipartisan, bicameral delegation to Port-au-Prince to demonstrate the ongoing support in Congress to the Haitian people, to understand the challenges they face, and demonstrate our commitment to work with the Haitian Government to assist with reconstruction efforts.

Haiti, by design, is the primary beneficiary of the textile and apparel pref-

erences under CBTPA, more important now than ever.

Recently, we heard firsthand at our hearing from witnesses and some of our colleagues, including Congresswoman SEWELL, about the development challenges that persist in the region.

Like any good trading relationship, we will continue to work to improve labor conditions, political stability, and expand economic development to all countries in the region.

Passing this reauthorization is an important step toward those goals.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation and I urge the Senate to act quickly to extend the bipartisan program without delay. It is an opportunity for us to demonstrate to the country and to ourselves that despite many of the challenges, there are things we can do working together to improve the conditions.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 991, which extends the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act through 2030. This legislation enjoys wide bipartisan support, and I want to thank Congresswoman TERRI SEWELL for partnering with me to get this done.

Madam Speaker, I also thank Ranking Member BRADY and Chairman NEAL for their cooperation and support of this legislation as well.

As a Member of the House Ways and Means Committee, I am proud to support our Nation's trade preference programs, which bolster further economic expansion in truly developing nations and support jobs here in America. It is a true win-win scenario.

In particular, the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act, or CBTPA, accomplishes that goal in the Caribbean, providing trade benefits to eight Caribbean nations, most notably, Haiti.

Furthermore, the program also benefits American businesses and workers, a number of whom have created strong, reliable partnerships with suppliers in the Caribbean. This partnership helps to add value for customers and supports American jobs.

Also of note, the program requires the use of U.S. yarn, which boosts jobs in our cotton and textile industry.

In my district, Cintas Corporation, which is headquartered in Cincinnati, utilizes a strong partnership with Haitian suppliers as part of their North American supply chain.

Finally, as we step back and look at the bigger picture: The CBTPA helps American stewardship of the Western Hemisphere, where we want to support budding democracies on our doorstep and create mutually beneficial economic stability with our neighbors. Our overall trade agenda is well served by agreements like the recently passed USMCA, as well as these important

trade preference programs like the CBTPA.

Again, I want to thank Congresswoman SEWELL for her partnership on this issue, as well as Ranking Member BRADY and Chairman NEAL for their support.

Madam Speaker, this is good, sound policy which stands to benefit both Americans and our friendly neighbors in the Caribbean. I urge my colleagues to support its passage, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. SEWELL), who has played an instrumental role in this legislation.

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman BLUMENAUER for yielding me the time.

I rise today in support of H.R. 991, my legislation to reauthorize the Caribbean Basin Trade Promotion Act.

Madam Speaker, I thank my Republican colleague, BRAD WENSTRUP, for his leadership on this bill. I also want to thank Chairman NEAL and Ranking Member BRADY for all of their help.

Madam Speaker, I especially want to acknowledge my chairman of the Subcommittee on Trade, Mr. BLUMENAUER, for hosting a very meaningful hearing on the Caribbean Basin Trade Promotion Agreement and its importance of being reauthorized by September 30 of this year.

For two decades, the Caribbean Basin Trade Promotion Agreement has been a critical tool to expand our diplomatic and economic relationship with countries throughout the Caribbean Basin region. This agreement has allowed for duty- and quota-free treatment of products made with U.S. goods.

The liberalization of our trade relationship with these countries has strengthened Western Hemisphere supply chains, while providing economic development and job creation in the region.

In 2018, United States exports to CBI countries totalled \$13.4 billion, while imports totaled \$6 billion, creating a \$7.4 billion goods trade surplus for the United States.

One of those Caribbean Basin countries, Haiti, has had tremendous economic benefits by the Caribbean Basin Trade Promotion Act. The economic benefits of the CBTPA are essential, with over 90 percent of their nearly \$1 billion in exports entering the United States with the CBTPA or HOPE duty-free treatment. Moreover, the Association of Haitian Industries has estimated that the CBTPA, along with the HOPE and HELP programs, has created over 50,000 jobs in Haiti, alone.

The reauthorization of this program ahead of the September 30 deadline will allow us to continue to strengthen the foundation for long-term economic stability, while contributing to our diplomatic and security interests.

Continued economic development in the region is a goal that we should all share, and the passage of this legislation will reaffirm the commitment of the United States to this objective.

The importance of our diplomatic and economic ties with the Caribbean Basin countries is highlighted by the strong support for this legislation that we receive from the Congressional Black Caucus.

In a letter of support for H.R. 991 to congressional leadership, the CBC aptly pointed out: Millions of Americans have Caribbean ancestry and make up important segments of the United States population. Haiti is the first Black republic, influencing the rise of abolitionist and anticolonial movements all across the world, especially in the United States.

The history and the future for millions of Americans is directly tied to the economic prosperity of Caribbean Basin countries, and our relationship must reflect this reality.

Within this context, we also must continue to push our trading partners for compliance with key eligibility criteria under the agreement, including upholding the rights of workers and combating corruption. A lapse in this agreement would jeopardize the economic and social well-being of workers in the region.

Today's step forward to reauthorize this very important trade promotion program will allow for continued cooperation and enforcement on these critical issues. I look forward to remaining engaged with all of the stakeholders to support these goals, including expanding human rights and economic prosperity for all.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank the Ambassador of Haiti, Ambassador Denis, who testified before the subcommittee, for his eloquence on the importance of the Caribbean Basin Trade Promotion Agreement for Haiti, in particular.

Madam Speaker, I also want to thank all of the representatives from the eight Caribbean Basin countries that have come to my office and talked to us ad nauseam about how important it is that we extend the Caribbean Basin reauthorization.

As well, Madam Speaker, I would like to also thank Charlie Rangel, who was the member of the House Ways and Means Committee who really championed this initially, two decades ago. When I took Charlie's position on the Ways and Means Committee, he sat me down and told me how important it was that we not only reauthorize, but we strengthen the Caribbean Basin Trade Promotion Agreement.

So this is an important step in reauthorizing this very important trade agreement before its September 30 deadline.

Madam Speaker, I again want to say how proud I am that this agreement has huge bipartisan support. The reauthorization of this program would not be possible if it had not been for the bipartisan support that my colleague from Ohio, Congressman WENSTRUP, has so ably provided, a partnership in this agreement.

While debate over U.S. trade policy is often rigorous, the reauthorization of

the Caribbean Basin Trade Promotion Agreement should be something that we can all support.

Madam Speaker, I am proud that this important issue is before us for a vote, and I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this very important legislation.

Again, Madam Speaker, I want to thank Chairman BLUMENAUER for allowing me to speak on this very important measure.

□ 1145

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT), a distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, I thank Ms. SEWELL and Dr. WENSTRUP for taking this on.

My reason for being here behind the microphone is more than Arizona grows an amazingly high-quality cotton and this is one of our markets. I think, actually, it is part of a vision a number of us have, and I thank Chairman BLUMENAUER for hopefully sharing this vision, and that is thinking of the world post the change of NAFTA, USMCA.

How do we start to become more hemispheric-centric? Our neighbors, particularly our neighbors who do truly still have overwhelming poverty, how do we engage in pieces of legislation that make it so we can trade with our neighbors, trade with those who are right around us? That is what is so powerful about what is being done here.

Being someone who has spent, not a lot of time but a little time in Haiti, you see things that are optimistic, hopeful, and heartbreaking at the same time. But these are parts of the building blocks of how we build an economic circle of virtue in our region.

So I am hopeful that we move this forward and the Senate takes it up quickly, but I am also hopeful that we start to see this in a more holistic vision of we now have a change in our trade agreement with Mexico, Canada.

Now, if we can update our trade agreements with the Caribbean Basin, what else can we do to make our region economically prosperous, economically fair, economically something that the rest of the world will look forward to and say: This is what trade, when it is done properly, can bring to people who have actually had really rough times, when you think of earthquakes and of hurricanes in the region.

These are some of the good things, as a country, we can do to our brothers and sisters who are our neighbors.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close so I will defer to my colleague from Ohio. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I just want to make one final comment. It has been a pleasure with this particular issue to work

in a bipartisan fashion, not only with my friend Congresswoman SEWELL, but really with the entire committee. I think that we really came together and saw the benefits to America and to developing nations as we move forward.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter in support of this legislation from the textile, apparel, and footwear industry as well as the broader business community.

SEPTEMBER 22, 2020.

DEAR MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: On behalf of the undersigned organizations—representing the full spectrum of the textile, apparel, and footwear industry, as well as the broader business community—we urge you to vote YES on H.R. 991—Extension of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act.

By extending the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act to September 30, 2030, the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA) will also be extended. Since its inception in 2000, CBTPA has become an important element of the effort to develop and facilitate trade within the Caribbean Basin region, most notably with Haiti. Overall, CBTPA is structured in a fashion that reasonably balances the interests of U.S. textile manufacturers with those of textile and apparel manufacturers in the region. The CBTPA requires the use of U.S. or CBTPA-regional yarns and fabrics, which means Haiti, as the main country still participating in the CBTPA, has become an important export market for U.S. textiles.

Along with the Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement (HOPE) Act, and the Haiti Economic Lift Program (HELP) Act, the CBTPA now increases U.S. exports to strategic allies in the Caribbean Basin. Not only have these programs supported numerous U.S. textile, apparel, and footwear jobs, but they have also supported economic development in the region, advancing key U.S. foreign, security, and immigration policy goals.

Specifically, the CBTPA continues to play a direct and critical role in advancing the industry partnership that currently exists between the United States and Haiti. In 2019, 100 percent (by volume) of apparel that was imported into the United States under the CBTPA was imported from Haiti. And U.S. apparel imports from Haiti continue to grow. In fact, total U.S. garment imports from Haiti grew 13.4% in 2019. Because the rules of origin for these programs generally require the use of U.S. fabrics and yarns, these U.S. garment imports incorporate prior U.S. textile exports.

Those benefits are now threatened because of questions surrounding the renewal of the CBTPA. These concerns come on top of the considerable pain, costs, and uncertainty the industry is already trying to manage as a result of COVID-19 and the accompanying economic crisis. Orders have already been placed for goods that will arrive well after September 30. Companies must increasingly assume that these orders will be fully dutiable—even if using U.S. inputs—putting our Haitian customers and partners, and our U.S. textile manufacturers and exporters at a disadvantage.

The CBTPA offers a great opportunity for companies looking to diversify their supply chains close to home, but it is set to expire on September 30, 2020. We urge you to vote YES on H.R. 991—Extension of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act and extend it another ten years.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Accessories Council; American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA); Council of

Fashion Designers of America (CFDA); Footwear Distributors & Retailers of America (FDRA); INDA, Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry; National Retail Federation (NRF); North American Association of Uniform Manufacturers and Distributors; Outdoor Industry Association (OIA); Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA); Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA); Travel Goods Association (TGA); United States Fashion Industry Association (USFIA); U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

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

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

Madam Speaker, I thank the good doctor, and Ms. SEWELL for helping us facilitate the movement of this legislation and make it possible for us to actually maybe even get it enacted in this Congress before the deadline expires at the end of the month.

As I referenced, this, I think, is very, very important. The region is home to these eight countries that have provided some 13 million Americans with a country of origin. It is in our neighborhood and it is an area where the United States has been involved from the beginning.

As I mentioned in my opening comments, we have not always distinguished ourselves with honor but this is an opportunity for us to do the right thing: to build on this existing legislation; to not have it expire; to demonstrate broad, bipartisan commitment and then get back to the hard work of implementing it.

It provides a framework but it is not self-executing. It is something that we need to do with policy, with our actions and words, being able to build on this as a foundation for progress in this critical region.

I thank Madam Speaker for the opportunity to advance it, and I strongly urge all of my colleagues to approve this legislation and be able to keep it in force before it expires at the end of the month.

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

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I want to thank Dr. BRAD WENSTRUP for yielding time to me, and I want to congratulate him and Ms. SEWELL for their strong, bipartisan leadership on this important bill.

I rise today in support of this legislation. The Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership creates jobs, promotes American values abroad, and incentivizes beneficiary countries to comply with the economic rule of law, bolstering their development.

The CBTPA helps these nations grow and create opportunities for their workers, farmers, and innovators. And in return, it creates a strong market for us to sell our U.S.-produced yarn and fabrics to apparel manufacturers in the Caribbean. The program strengthens our hemispheric manufacturing integration and allows us to compete against China, whose manufacturers certainly don't care about using U.S. inputs. As a result, we can sell our goods to more customers, keep prices here lower, and promote the spirit of free enterprise.

The Caribbean countries are our neighbors, and we should work together to improve our region's competitiveness.

But we should be here today voting on two trade extensions: the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership and the Generalized System of Preferences.

Both of these programs have bipartisan support. Both of them are set to expire this year. And if we extend both of them today, our manufacturers, producers, and consumers would have more certainty right now.

In the midst of a pandemic, we should be doing everything we can to offer our job creators certainty, yet Democrats are not including an extension of GSP in today's vote.

The GSP program reduces tariffs on thousands of products from around the world. This program saves American families money on everyday products and boosts America's economy. And in my state of Texas, GSP brought our consumers and small businesses over \$76 million in cost savings in 2018 alone.

The remainder of the Congressional schedule until GSP expires at the end of the year is completely unpredictable. We should not leave GSP on the cutting room floor. GSP deserves to be a bipartisan priority, and I continue to urge House Democrats to act.

I strongly support today's bill, and I urge bipartisan passage. But we must continue to work together to get GSP's extension across the finish line without further delay. Our American businesses cannot afford to wait.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 991, 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.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 50 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1159

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. LEE of California) at 11 o'clock and 59 minutes a.m.

#### UYGHUR FORCED LABOR PREVENTION ACT

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6210) ensuring that goods made with forced labor in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China do not enter the United States market, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6210

*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 "Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) In the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of China, the Government of the People's Republic of China has, since 2017, arbitrarily detained as many as 1.8 million Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, and members of other Muslim minority groups in a system of extrajudicial mass internment camps, and has subjected detainees to forced labor, torture, political indoctrination, and other severe human rights abuses.

(2) Forced labor exists within the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region's system of mass internment camps, and throughout the region, and is confirmed by the testimony of former camp detainees, satellite imagery, and official leaked documents from the Government of the People's Republic of China as part of a targeted campaign of repression of Muslim ethnic minorities.

(3) In addition to reports from researchers and civil society groups documenting evidence that many factories and other suppliers in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region are exploiting forced labor, the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security on July 22, 2020, added eleven entities to the entity list after determining the entities had been "implicated in human rights violations and abuses in the implementation of China's campaign of repression, mass arbitrary detention, forced labor and high-technology surveillance against Uyghurs, Kazakhs, and other members of Muslim minority groups in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region".

(4) Audits and efforts to vet products and supply chains in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region are unreliable due to the extent forced labor has been integrated into the regional economy, the mixing of involuntary labor with voluntary labor, the inability of witnesses to speak freely about working conditions given government surveillance and coercion, and the incentive of government officials to conceal government-sponsored forced labor.

(5) The Department of State's June 2019 Trafficking in Persons Report found that "Authorities offer subsidies incentivizing Chinese companies to open factories in close proximity to the internment camps, and local governments receive additional funds for each inmate forced to work in these sites at a fraction of minimum wage or without any compensation."

(6) U.S. Customs and Border Protection has issued eight "Withhold Release Orders" on certain garments, hair products, cotton, processed cotton, and computer parts suspected to be produced with prison or forced labor in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region.

(7) In its 2019 Annual Report, the Congressional-Executive Commission on China (CECC) found that products reportedly produced with forced labor by current and former mass internment camp detainees included textiles, electronics, food products, shoes, tea, and handicrafts.

(8) Section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1307) states that it is illegal to import into the United States "goods, wares, articles, and merchandise mined, produced, or manufactured wholly or in part" by forced labor. Such merchandise is subject to exclusion or seizure and may lead to criminal investigation of the importer.

(9) The policies of the Government of the People's Republic of China are in contravention of international human rights instruments signed by that government, including—