

It has been no surprise that we have seen a rise in fraud and criminal activity as the Nation grapples with the pandemic response. In these difficult times, scammers have sought to take advantage of our fellow Americans. Whether it is elderly individuals being preyed upon by financial scammers or people ordering fake health products, there has been a number of scams facing our constituents.

That is why I introduced the Combating Pandemic Scams Act with my good friend, Congresswoman KUSTER, to address this issue.

This bill would direct the FTC, along with other Federal partners, to disseminate information about these scams to the public to better protect themselves. That information would be user-friendly, ensuring vulnerable populations, such as senior citizens and those with disabilities, would have the same amount of access. Ensuring people have the most up-to-date information on how to protect themselves is critical to getting through these trying times.

Federal agencies, such as the FTC, have been very active in going after these offenders who have targeted Americans during this pandemic. This bill will support those Federal efforts and help prepare Americans to help protect themselves from these scams.

The bottom line is, this is common-sense legislation to go after the people preying on our neighbors and communities.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for their bipartisan support of this legislation and the committee staff for their work on getting this across the finish line.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass this legislation.

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Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), the chair of the subcommittee.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, here we have another great bipartisan bill that has come out of the committee I am so proud to chair, the Consumer Protection and Commerce Subcommittee of the Energy and Commerce Committee. I thank the authors of the legislation: Representatives CARTER, HUDSON, KUSTER, and BLUNT ROCH-ESTER.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been a time of confusion and fear for many Americans, and scammers have noticed. Fraudsters have tried to steal stimulus checks and trick consumers with fake medical treatments and even vaccines. Seniors and those with disabilities are especially vulnerable.

This legislation will protect American consumers, especially our most vulnerable, by increasing public awareness of COVID-19 scams. It directs the Federal Trade Commission to develop and disseminate information to the public about scams related to COVID-19.

The FTC will also create a comprehensive national database that tracks the COVID-19 scams in consultation with the Attorney General and the HHS Secretary. This database will protect American consumers from malicious scams. Consumers will be armed with information about the pandemic scams and how to avoid those scams. So we must act now to prevent further harm to American consumers.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank our colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their work on this legislation. I urge its passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6435, 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.

PANDEMIC EFFECTS ON HOME SAFETY AND TOURISM ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8121) to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to study the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on injuries and deaths associated with consumer products, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8121

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Pandemic Effects on Home Safety and Tourism Act”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—COVID-19 HOME SAFETY

Sec. 101. Short title.

Sec. 102. Study and report on the effect of the COVID-19 public health emergency on injuries and deaths from consumer products.

TITLE II—PROTECTING TOURISM IN THE UNITED STATES

Sec. 201. Short title.

Sec. 202. Study and report on effects of COVID-19 pandemic on travel and tourism industry in United States.

TITLE I—COVID-19 HOME SAFETY

SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “COVID-19 Home Safety Act”.

SEC. 102. STUDY AND REPORT ON THE EFFECT OF THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ON INJURIES AND DEATHS FROM CONSUMER PRODUCTS.

(a) **COVID-19 REPORT REQUIRED.**—Not later than 3 months after the date of enactment of this section and every 3 months thereafter for

the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency, the Consumer Product Safety Commission shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available, a report on the effect of the COVID-19 public health emergency on injuries and deaths from consumer products.

(b) **CONTENTS OF REPORT.**—The report shall include the following:

- (1) Relevant data and statistics from—
 - (A) the data sources of the Commission;
 - (B) other appropriate agencies;
 - (C) media reports;
 - (D) poison control centers, to the extent practical; and
 - (E) any other relevant data sources.

(2) An identification of trends in injuries and deaths from consumer products, comparing data from representative time periods before and during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

(3) An identification of subpopulations that have experienced elevated risk of injury or death from consumer products during the COVID-19 public health emergency, such as minorities, infants, people with disabilities, children, or the elderly.

(4) An identification of where most injuries or deaths from consumer products during the COVID-19 public health emergency are taking place, such as the type of building or outdoor environment.

(5) A specification about whether consumer products associated with a substantial number of injuries or deaths during the COVID-19 public health emergency are—

- (A) under recall;
- (B) subject to a voluntary consumer product safety standard; or
- (C) subject to a mandatory consumer product safety standard.

(6) An identification of emerging consumer products that are posing new risks to consumers.

(c) **COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY DEFINED.**—The term “COVID-19 public health emergency” means a public health emergency declared pursuant to section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d) as a result of confirmed cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19), including any renewal thereof.

TITLE II—PROTECTING TOURISM IN THE UNITED STATES

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Protecting Tourism in the United States Act”.

SEC. 202. STUDY AND REPORT ON EFFECTS OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON TRAVEL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY IN UNITED STATES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the United States Travel and Tourism Advisory Board and the head of any other Federal agency the Secretary considers appropriate, shall complete a study on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the travel and tourism industry, including various segments of the travel and tourism industry, such as domestic, international, leisure, business, conventions, meetings, and events.

(b) **MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION.**—In conducting the study required by subsection (a) and the interim study required by subsection (e)(1), the Secretary shall consider—

(1) changes in employment rates in the travel and tourism industry during the pandemic period;

(2) changes in revenues of businesses in the travel and tourism industry during the pandemic period;

(3) changes in employment and sales in industries related to the travel and tourism industry, and changes in contributions of the travel and tourism industry to such related industries, during the pandemic period;

(4) the effects attributable to the changes described in paragraphs (1) through (3) in the travel and tourism industry and such related industries on the overall economy of the United States during the pandemic period and the projected effects of such changes on the overall economy of the United States following the pandemic period; and

(5) any additional matters the Secretary considers appropriate.

(c) **CONSULTATION AND PUBLIC COMMENT.**—In conducting the study required by subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

- (1) consult with representatives of—
 - (A) the small business sector;
 - (B) the restaurant or food service sector;
 - (C) the hotel and alternative accommodations sector;
 - (D) the attractions or recreations sector;
 - (E) the travel distribution services sector;
 - (F) destination marketing organizations;
 - (G) State tourism offices; and
 - (H) the passenger air, railroad, and rental car sectors; and

(2) provide an opportunity for public comment and advice relevant to conducting the study.

(d) **REPORT TO CONGRESS.**—Not later than 6 months after the date on which the study required by subsection (a) is completed, the Secretary, in consultation with the United States Travel and Tourism Advisory Board and the head of any other Federal agency the Secretary considers appropriate, shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on the website of the Department of Commerce, a report that contains—

- (1) the results of such study; and
- (2) policy recommendations for promoting and assisting the travel and tourism industry.

(e) **INTERIM STUDY AND REPORT.**—Not later than 3 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, after consultation with relevant stakeholders, including the United States Travel and Tourism Advisory Board, shall—

(1) complete an interim study, which shall be based on data available at the time when the study is conducted and provide a framework for the study required by subsection (a), on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic (as of such time) on the travel and tourism industry, including various segments of the travel and tourism industry, such as domestic, international, leisure, business, conventions, meetings, and events; and

(2) submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on the website of the Department of Commerce, an interim report that contains the results of the interim study required by paragraph (1).

(f) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section—

(1) the term “pandemic period” has the meaning given the term “emergency period” in section 1135(g)(1)(B) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b-5(g)(1)(B)), excluding any portion of such period after the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act;

(2) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Commerce; and

(3) the term “travel and tourism industry” means the travel and tourism industry in the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. 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 H.R. 8121.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 8121. I want to begin by thanking Representatives CÁRDENAS and DAVIS for their leadership on the bill, the Pandemic Effects on Home Safety and Tourism Act. This bill advanced out of the Energy and Commerce Committee by a voice vote.

With the COVID-19 pandemic forcing us to spend more time at home and finding new indoor and outdoor activities suitable for social distancing, it is critically important that we keep track of any new trends in injuries and deaths that might be occurring.

This bill will require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to provide quarterly updates to the American public regarding the effects of COVID-19 on home safety, including any emerging threats from either new products or new habits from working and playing at home. This report will assemble data from a variety of sources, including media reports and poison control centers, in addition to the CPSC's traditional data sources.

The bill will also identify communities or groups that may be disproportionately affected so that we can better target efforts to protect those communities. We already know children are particularly vulnerable during these times as parents struggle to work remotely and supervise children at the same time. For example, there have been increased reports of accidental poisonings and fractures related to bicycle and trampoline usage. It is important to identify other groups that may also be vulnerable.

I want to thank Representatives CASTOR and UPTON for introducing another bill, the Protecting Tourism in the United States Act, which was incorporated in H.R. 8121 during the committee's consideration of the bill.

Their legislation will rebuild the tourism and travel industry, which has struggled under the strain of the COVID-19 pandemic. All sectors of the travel industry have been particularly hard hit, including hotels, restaurants, attractions, and passenger air, rail, and rental car sectors.

This bill requires the Department of Commerce to conduct a detailed study and report to Congress on the effects of the pandemic on the tourism industry, including on jobs and revenue, so that we will know how to best direct assistance to the 16 million American workers and families who rely on the jobs that the travel industry supports.

Again, I thank Ranking Member WALDEN and Subcommittee Ranking Member RODGERS for working with us to move this bill through the Energy and Commerce Committee. I also com-

mend our Subcommittee Chair SCHAKOWSKY for her relentless commitment to fighting for consumers, and particularly for seniors, I want to say.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 8121, the Pandemic Effects on Home Safety and Tourism Act.

I thank Representatives CÁRDENAS and DAVIS for their leadership and effort on this bill to protect consumers. I also thank Ranking Member UPTON and Chairman CASTOR, as their legislation to promote and assist the recovery of our tourism industry was adopted as part of this bill; as well as Ranking Member MCMORRIS RODGERS and Chair SCHAKOWSKY along with, obviously, Chairman PALLONE.

The Pandemic Effects on Home Safety and Tourism Act would direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to report and make available to the public information about injuries and deaths from consumer products during the COVID-19 pandemic. This would provide Americans with updates on trends of potentially hazardous products that have entered the marketplace during this critical time.

In addition to studying the trends of injuries, the bill would support further research on how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the U.S. travel and tourism industries. Many communities, particularly rural communities like those in my district, rely on tourism. We must have the information necessary to promote and assist the travel and tourism industry as we emerge from this devastating pandemic.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY).

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the authors of this legislation, Representatives CÁRDENAS and DAVIS.

As the COVID-19 pandemic worsens this winter, we must protect Americans who are spending more time in their homes. The pandemic has magnified risks associated with household consumer products. Children are particularly vulnerable, especially as parents are juggling their children while working from home.

Unsupervised children face greater risks from bikes, scooters, trampolines, and pools. Calls to the poison control centers for children ingesting hand sanitizer have increased this year as well.

This legislation will direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to study and report on injuries and deaths that are associated with consumer products during the pandemic. It will ensure Americans have up-to-date information about risks to safety as the pandemic continues. We will learn

about emergency safety threats more quickly so that action can actually be taken to protect consumers.

This legislation also deals with the issues that are being faced right now by the travel industry. This legislation directs the Department of Commerce to study and report to Congress on the impact of the pandemic on travel and tourism.

As Americans stay in their homes to protect themselves, travel and tourism have plummeted. The industry is an important part of our national economy, and over 15.7 million Americans work in the travel and tourism industries. These jobs are vital to many local communities.

The decline of travel and tourism has devastated many other parts of the economy. Live events, the arts, hotels, and restaurants have all felt the effect. We must understand the full impact of the pandemic on the travel and tourism industry so that we can help the industry recover and come back strong.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS), who has put so much work into this piece of legislation and so many others.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman PALLONE and Ranking Member WALDEN for their leadership on this very important piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Energy and Commerce Committee staff for working with us in a very bipartisan way to make sure that this bill came to the floor today with such bipartisan consensus.

I also thank my colleague and my fellow original cosponsor of this bill, Congressman CÁRDENAS from California, the vice chair of the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce. His leadership in introducing this bill was crucial, and I really appreciate him allowing me to be the bipartisan lead cosponsor.

As my colleagues before me have stated so eloquently, the COVID-19 pandemic has truly changed the world as we know it, and that includes many of our daily routines. We don't have to look much farther than the House floor to see that that has happened.

Stay-at-home orders and COVID-19 mitigation efforts mean families and individuals are obviously spending more time at home. And when not—like us—on Zoom calls, we need to be sure that, for the products that are in our homes, we understand the dangers that may exist for young children running around while parents are working to ensure that their jobs continue.

This is a commonsense, bipartisan piece of legislation. As was said, it is going to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to study the effects of COVID-19 on families and the safety of our families and children.

I ask that my colleagues remind themselves that this is another instance of true bipartisanship in a very

polarized world that we all live in and to support this bill.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friends on both sides of the aisle and our terrific staffs for their great work on these 16 pieces of legislation that we brought forward to the House floor from the Energy and Commerce Committee.

I urge passage of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8121, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to study the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on injuries and deaths associated with consumer products and to direct the Secretary of Commerce to study and report on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the travel and tourism industry in the United States."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AIRCRAFT CERTIFICATION REFORM AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8408) to direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to require certain safety standards relating to aircraft, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8408

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Aircraft Certification Reform and Accountability Act".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Safety management systems.
- Sec. 3. Expert review of organization designation authorizations for transport airplanes.
- Sec. 4. Certification oversight staff.
- Sec. 5. Disclosure of safety-critical information.
- Sec. 6. Periodic reviews of organization designation authorizations.
- Sec. 7. Limitations on delegation.
- Sec. 8. Oversight of organization designation authorization unit members.
- Sec. 9. Integrated project teams.
- Sec. 10. Oversight integrity briefing.
- Sec. 11. Appeals of certification decisions.
- Sec. 12. Employment restrictions.
- Sec. 13. Professional development and skills enhancement.
- Sec. 14. Voluntary safety reporting program.

- Sec. 15. Compensation limitation.
- Sec. 16. System safety assessments and other requirements.
- Sec. 17. Flight crew alerting.
- Sec. 18. Amended type certificates.
- Sec. 19. Whistleblower protections.
- Sec. 20. Pilot training.
- Sec. 21. Nonconformity with approved type design.
- Sec. 22. Implementation of recommendations.
- Sec. 23. Oversight of FAA compliance program.
- Sec. 24. Settlement agreement.
- Sec. 25. Human factors.
- Sec. 26. Technical corrections.
- Sec. 27. Definitions.

SEC. 2. SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall initiate a rulemaking proceeding to require each person who holds both a type certificate and a production certificate issued under section 44704 of title 49, United States Code, to adopt, not later than the earlier of the date that is 180 days after the issuance of the regulation required under this subsection or the date that is 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, a safety management system consistent with the standards and recommended practices contained in annex 19 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (61 Stat. 1180) in effect on the earlier of the date of the issuance of such regulations or the date that is 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) CONTENTS OF REGULATIONS.—The regulations issued under subsection (a) shall, at a minimum, include provisions for the Administrator's approval of, and regular oversight of adherence to, a certificate holder's safety management system adopted pursuant to such regulations.

(c) DEADLINE.—Not later than 12 months after the end of the comment period for the proposed rule issued pursuant to subsection (a), the Administrator shall issue a final rule with respect to such proposed rule.

(d) SAFETY REPORTING PROGRAM.—The regulations issued under subsection (a) shall require a safety management system to include a confidential employee reporting system through which employees can report hazards, issues, concerns, occurrences, and incidents. A reporting system under this subsection shall include provisions for non-punitive reporting of such items by employees in a manner consistent with other confidential employee reporting systems administered by the Administrator. Such regulations shall also require a certificate holder described in subsection (a) to submit a summary of reports received under this subsection to the Administrator at least twice per year.

(e) CODE OF ETHICS.—The regulations issued under subsection (a) shall require a safety management system to include establishment of a code of ethics applicable to all employees of a certificate holder, including officers, which clarifies that safety is the organization's highest priority.

(f) PROTECTION OF SAFETY INFORMATION.—Section 44735(a) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "title 5 if the report" and inserting the following: "title 5—

"(1) if the report";

(2) by striking the period at the end and inserting "; or"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) if the report, data, or other information is submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration pursuant to section 2(d) of the Aircraft Certification Reform and Accountability Act."

SEC. 3. EXPERT REVIEW OF ORGANIZATION DESIGNATION AUTHORIZATIONS FOR TRANSPORT AIRPLANES.

(a) EXPERT REVIEW.—