

speedy success in getting vaccines quickly and safely approved, and I am hopeful for their swift delivery to those most in need.

But as we continue to fight our way through this global pandemic, imagine for a moment that we could harness that same determination and goodwill to rethink how we fight numerous other diseases.

Madam Speaker, in over 50 years, there have been 50 clinical trials for ALS. ALS patients have submitted themselves to these tests in accordance with the rules of the current regulatory framework. Many of them received placebo therapies. All of them stopped receiving treatment when the trials were done, even if the therapies were affording some relief. They sacrificed their lives to science, then they quietly and gradually weakened and died.

As we all know, drug trials can drag on for a decade or longer. Most ALS victims do not live that long. This overly deliberate regulatory process does not match the urgency of the disease. It is not saving lives; it is killing hope.

Madam Speaker, when a process isn't working, it is time to change the process.

So, I am proud of something, Madam Speaker. We have a new bill. It is bipartisan and it is bicameral. The House and the Senate are working together on this. It is called Accelerating Access to Critical Therapies for ALS. Let me put it another way; it is called ACT for ALS. It accelerates access for patients with rapidly progressing diseases toward investigational treatments through a new public-private program coordinated by the Department of Health and Human Services.

The bill provides expanded access to promising therapies through public-private funding, so that more patients suffering terminal diseases, like ALS, can access potentially life-extending therapy. It also works toward a more consistent and streamlined review of drug applications.

ACT for ALS is just a beginning effort to make the regulatory and research establishment more responsive to patients suffering right now. It does so by attacking and correcting the injustices and inequities at the core of our drug development and healthcare systems.

It is nobody's fault. We set up a research paradigm. We set up a regulatory process in order to try to give order to the process of helping people. But it is now time to reexamine some fundamental premises, particularly in this disease category and others.

Currently, our ACT for ALS has 217 cosponsors, nearly half this body, more and more every day.

Key to this effort, Madam Speaker, have been the many, many courageous ALS survivors who are advocating for this bill.

Now, one of those is 36-year-old Mayuri Saxena.

I want to show you something, Madam Speaker. Four years ago, Mayuri was diagnosed with ALS and today she can no longer stand or walk, use her legs or arms, swallow without help, and she cannot speak.

But let's go back to that earlier point I made about Lou Gehrig's durability. This is Mayuri's mind. By communicating with her eyes and telling an artist what she saw, she imagined this beautiful painting.

□ 1945

I wanted to first bring it up here because it is quite extraordinary. You could apply it to so many lessons around here, Madam Speaker. The symbols of our two political parties, the elephant and the donkey, are chaining themselves to someone in need with the hope of our great country, our symbol, transcending above.

Mayuri sees that as her hope and America's hope. I have never seen something so beautifully and eloquently expressed as a call for these Washington words that we use, like bipartisanship. It is simply a call to care and to compassion and to be smart.

This act is well-researched. We have gotten technical assistance from the Food and Drug Administration, as well as the National Institutes of Health. We have worked with those who are representing and advocating for new movement to figure out the right set of processes by which we again can establish a new procedure inside the Department of Health and Human Services and expanded access to treatments. We can do this. As we are rushing to the end of the year, we have got a lot of problems, and we have very few days to solve them. But let's solve this one.

Madam Speaker, ALS affects 30,000 Americans, 6,000 of whom will die every year from the disease. One in six of those, by the way, Madam Speaker, is a veteran. One such veteran is Pat Quinn, by whom our country, through his effort, was socialized and embraced this Ice Bucket Challenge. He thought of that in order to raise global awareness of the brutality of the disease. Pat Quinn just recently died.

Madam Speaker, it has been 75 years since Lou Gehrig himself died. There is still no cure, though there are some now promising therapies and drugs. Again, the ACT for ALS would allow expanded access now to those promising therapies and drugs.

Madam Speaker, I have met so many beautiful people who have come to my office to explain their own journey with ALS. These are people of good heart. They are courageous, they are fighters, and they have created a network of solidarity trying to rethink more creatively as to how to attack through sound science the underlying disease. They represent a movement that has a strong desire for the right type of science and a real hope to stop the suffering.

Madam Speaker, COVID-19 has shown us one thing: we can act quickly

if we want to. We can act quickly if we are determined.

I think it is time to apply those lessons to diseases that have silently killed so many for so long. We can create, and we have to create, a more humane response and a responsive system for those in need. Especially for diseases like this, where the time is so narrow.

Madam Speaker, about 4 years ago now, a young man in his thirties was diagnosed with this disease. He noticed his hand trembling. He went through a battery of tests, but the moment he noticed that, he knew—for whatever reason he knew—in his heart of hearts it was the worst case scenario. He knew it was ALS. I don't know how he knew, he just knew. He and his wife struggled and hoped that it would be something else that they could possibly live with. But he died this spring, about 4 years after he contracted the disease, leaving behind his wife and his four little children. His name is Joe Gregory. He is my wife's little brother.

Madam Speaker, for Joe, for the artist, for the imaginative artistry of Mayuri, for the memory of Lou Gehrig and Pat Quinn, and for all of those who are still suffering from this cruel, relentless, and unforgiving disease, let's make hope real. Let's work to get this done.

As I said, I have worked and seen so many beautiful people, some of whom have expressed to our office that their wish on their deathbed, communicated through their families, was that this act would pass. When I reflect on that, Madam Speaker, again, we have got numerous other problems here. We have to get a budget done, we have to avoid a government shutdown, and we probably ought to come together on a new COVID-type relief package. I am working on that, too.

But how could I not speak?

Why did I read a book on Lou Gehrig when I was 8 years old that stayed with me all these years?

I don't know.

But how could I not speak on behalf of these beautiful people who just want us to do the right thing, not out of anger and not out of protest, but out of solidarity to show that we can get things done because we care?

When we act with our will and resolve, we can help.

Madam Speaker, one more thing before I leave, I keep reflecting on those words of Lou Gehrig. I don't suffer from ALS. I don't pretend to know the profound difficulty that causes in those individuals' hearts, but I can say this: I believe that I am also the luckiest man alive because I get to stand with people like this and try to help.

Madam Speaker, I thank you for listening, and I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. ADERHOLT (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today and the balance of the week on account of quarantining as precautionary measure as recommended by the Office of Attending Physician.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 4(b) of House Resolution 967, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 7 o'clock and 51 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, December 3, 2020, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the third quarter of 2020, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2020

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. <input type="checkbox"/>											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. MARK TAKANO, Oct. 27, 2020.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2020

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF, Nov. 9, 2020.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 7995, the Coin Metal Modification Authorization and Cost Savings Act of 2020, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-5689. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of General Stephen W. Wilson, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5690. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter authorizing Brigadier General Sean C. Bernabe, United States Army, to wear the insignia of the grade of major general, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 777(b)(3)(B); Public Law 104-106, Sec. 503(a)(1) (as added by Public Law 108-136, Sec. 509(a)(3)); (117 Stat. 1458); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5691. A letter from the Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's thirtieth annual report to the Congress on the Profitability of Credit Card Operations of Depository Institutions, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1637 note; Public Law 100-583, Sec. 8; (102 Stat. 2969); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-5692. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a statement with respect to a transaction involving exports to Panama, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3); July 31, 1945, ch. 341, Sec. 2 (as added by Public Law 102-266, Sec. 102); (106 Stat. 95); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-5693. A letter from the Chairman, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the 2019 Annual Report of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 78ggg; to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-5694. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting the Seven-Day-After report for the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021 (Division A of Public Law 116-159, the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021 and Other Extensions Act), pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 901(a)(7)(B); Public Law 99-177, Sec. 251(a)(7)(B) (as amended by Public Law 114-113, Sec. 1003); (129 Stat. 3035); to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-5695. A letter from the Program Analyst, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Anthropomorphic Test Devices; Q3s 3-Year-Old Child Side Impact Test Dummy; Incorporation by Reference [Docket No.: NHTSA-2020-0088] (RIN: 2127-AL04) received November 12, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5696. A letter from the Program Analyst, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Minimum Sound Requirements for Hybrid and Electric Vehicles [Docket No.: NHTSA-2020-0086] (RIN: 2127-AM26) received November 12, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5697. A letter from the Deputy Branch Chief, Pricing Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — 8YY Access Charge Reform [WC Docket No.: 18-156] received November 4, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5698. A letter from the Associate Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Call Authentication Trust Anchor [WC Docket No.: 17-97] received November 4, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5699. A letter from the General Counsel, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting the Semiannual Report of the Office of the Inspector General, pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended by the Inspector General Act Amendments of 1988; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-5700. A letter from the Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting the Board's annual submission regarding agency compliance with the Federal