

can work together in a bipartisan manner to address the inequality identified in this resolution.

Republicans on the Energy and Commerce Committee have put forward solutions to help uplift minority voices and promote media diversity, solutions that can actually become law, unlike this resolution before us today.

Mr. Speaker, in September, the House passed H. Res. 5567, the MEDIA Diversity Act sponsored by Mr. LONG, which would help us better understand the market and regulatory barriers for socially disadvantaged individuals to enter and compete in the marketplace. This bill would help us make informed policy decisions.

I have also worked with advocates and industry alike to try to find consensus on legislation to establish the long-sought broadcaster incubator program. Now, this would help increase the number of minority-owned broadcast stations.

The Broadcast Diversity in Leadership Act, H.R. 8154, would encourage large, established broadcasters to work with aspiring broadcasters to break down barriers to capital and provide mentorship and experience to new, minority entrants. That is how we can ensure their long-term success in serving their local communities. We must better understand the problem before us and how best to incentivize all media entities to create opportunities for and lift the voices of underrepresented individuals.

Today, we can affirm our commitment to working toward common ground solutions, as this solution states; but Republicans stand ready to work across the aisle to turn these common ground solutions into law.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS), the sponsor of this resolution.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to thank the chairman and the ranking member for their support on this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt that media plays a critical role in how we see the world and how we see each other. When a child sees someone on the screen who looks like them, it can change their life.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, we continue to struggle with ongoing disparities in housing, education, social justice, and even this ongoing pandemic. Whether in news, movies, TV, or music, who tells the story matters because diverse perspectives are critical to us understanding the entire story.

I am grateful for our cosponsors and for my colleagues who will vote for this resolution today, and for the media representatives who partnered with us to move this legislation forward. As we continue to work together to unite our country, break down barriers, and strengthen our future, let's continue to

utilize the powerful diverse voices who truly are our strength.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for their support on this resolution.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA), the top Republican on the Communications and Technology Subcommittee.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 549. This resolution reaffirms the importance of having diverse representation across the media to better reflect their audience and serve the public interest. I urge my colleagues to support this pledge to eliminate barriers to media diversity and to reinforce our commitment to encourage diversity in media policy.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to spend the remainder of my time to commend the leadership of my good friend, the ranking member, Mr. WALDEN. Unfortunately, Leader Walden has decided to make this his last term in Congress, but his work at the Energy and Commerce Committee and his service to the people of Oregon will continue to positively impact our Nation for decades to come. It is going to be hard to imagine going to the committee without him at the helm on our side.

You have been a steady force, just as your family, who has been a steady force when they took those wagon trains to Oregon on that trail back in 1845. You have never forgotten your roots, and you show that every day. I appreciate it because I know, under your leadership, you have helped many of us in committee. And I know, as your vice chair, you had a lot of confidence in me when you let me take over the helm on many a day and run the committee.

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But as one of your subcommittee chairs on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection and this Congress being the ranker on Communications and Technology, I appreciate that.

And I know that, again, when I think about all of the things that you have worked on, especially in the last Congress and with the opioid epidemic, which claimed over 73,000 lives in this country, and you were at the helm of H.R. 6 and brought together all those bills, over 60 pieces of legislation to help people in this country. And that is going to be a lasting legacy that we are going to have.

So, again, we are going to appreciate you, but we also hate to see you leave.

And also, with all your telecom work, to have someone with that experience, as you mentioned in your opening remarks about you and your bride of 38 years, Mylene, owning the radio stations and being able to get out there and get the work done.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) an additional 1 minute.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, again, it has been a tremendous run with all the work that you have done. You have been a gentleman and a good friend.

Something I learned from my dad from his 36 years in public service, and I will say it again on this floor. He said there is a difference between people who are politicians and public servants. He said a politician is a person who sees how much they can take from the people they represent for their own benefit, while a public servant sees how much they can give of themselves back to the people they represent.

For what you have done for not only your constituents of your great State but also here in this body, we are going to miss you.

So, GREG, and that is the first time I have ever used a first name on this floor, we are going to miss you. I am going to miss you, but we wish you all the best in the years to come.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I believe we had two other speakers planning to come down and speak, but it does not appear they have been able to free themselves from their other business.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage us all to support this very strong resolution that our colleague has offered up, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask for support on this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 549.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RELIABLE INVESTMENT IN VITAL ENERGY REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3361) to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to reauthorize hydroelectric production incentives and hydroelectric efficiency improvement incentives, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3361

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 "Reliable Investment in Vital Energy Reauthorization Act" or the "RIVER Act".

SEC. 2. HYDROELECTRIC PRODUCTION INCENTIVES AND EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS.

(a) HYDROELECTRIC PRODUCTION INCENTIVES.—Section 242 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15881) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c), by striking "10" and inserting "22";

(2) in subsection (e)(2), by striking “section 29(d)(2)(B)” and inserting “section 45K(d)(2)(B)”;

(3) in subsection (f), by striking “20” and inserting “32”; and

(4) in subsection (g), by striking “each of the fiscal years 2006 through 2015” and inserting “each of fiscal years 2019 through 2036”.

(b) **HYDROELECTRIC EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENT.**—Section 243(c) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15882(c)) is amended by striking “each of the fiscal years 2006 through 2015” and inserting “each of fiscal years 2019 through 2036”.

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. 3361.

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 in strong support of H.R. 3361, the Reliable Investment in Vital Energy Reauthorization Act, or the RIVER Act. This bipartisan bill was introduced by Representatives MCKINLEY, TONKO, and LOEBSACK.

Hydropower is a vital part of our clean energy portfolio, and the RIVER Act reauthorizes important hydroelectric production incentives established in the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The RIVER Act extends incentives that provide payments to owners or operators of hydroelectric facilities that are added to existing dams or conduits. Additionally, it reauthorizes efficiency improvement payments for improving facility efficiency.

I support this legislation, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleagues for their hard work on the 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. 3361. This is the Reliable Investment in Vital Energy Reauthorization Act.

This legislation was introduced by my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. MCKINLEY and Mr. TONKO, to reauthorize the Hydroelectric Production Incentive and hydropower efficiency improvement programs at the Department of Energy.

This legislation went through regular order, and it passed the full committee, Energy and Commerce, by a voice vote.

H.R. 3361 would authorize payments to support the development of hydropower production at existing dams and conduits. Literally, Mr. Speaker, there are thousands of existing dams in the United States that can support hydropower production while avoiding the costs and environmental effects associated with building new dams.

In addition to affordable and renewable energy, hydropower also provides ancillary services to stabilize the electric grid, to provide storage, to maintain emergency black-start capability.

I am proud to support H.R. 3361, which would reauthorize these really important Department of Energy programs and will ensure access to renewable, carbon-free, affordable hydropower for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting “yes” on H.R. 3361, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no speakers on this side, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MCKINLEY), an engineer by trade, a terrific legislator, an important member of our committee, and the sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3361, the RIVER Act, and thank Chairman TONKO and Congressman LOEBSACK for working with us in a bipartisan way on this important legislation.

This RIVER Act reauthorizes key hydropower production and efficiency incentives through 2036. Boosting hydropower production will ensure that Americans have access to affordable, clean energy.

As Congresswoman CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS has previously noted on numerous occasions, only 3 percent of America’s 91,000 dams generate electricity because in part it takes 10 years to get a permit to develop new hydropower projects.

This bill will help streamline and develop utilizing existing infrastructure and overcome barriers to future projects.

I urge my colleagues to support the RIVER Act.

Mr. Speaker, I ask a point of personal privilege to address my esteemed chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I say to my ranking member and my former chairman, colleague, since I came here 10 years ago, coming from the business sector nearly 50 years in private practice in the business of engineering, I have been so impressed with the leadership we have had in Energy and Commerce. It wasn’t what I was expecting. You and FRED, and even to some extent my friend, FRANK, to some extent—FRANK, don’t get carried away here.

I have seen you taking on some difficult issues and using humor, your approach, you have been able to work through some difficult situations coming up with solutions. So you are going to be missed. You and Mylene have earned the break. But I think of all the legislation.

You have been in my house. You have come to West Virginia—“West by God Virginia”—and I do appreciate what you have done for us, what you have done on the opioid epidemic. It is still ravaging West Virginia and across this country.

People have to understand that in West Virginia more people are going to die from opioids than from COVID this year. This is still a problem, but thanks to you, we are moving in the right direction.

I can’t express enough how much you have meant to me in my career and my confidence. The people’s House has been in good hands under you, and I very much appreciate your service. God bless all of you as you continue in your retirement.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, to my friend from West Virginia, it has been a great honor. It has been an honor and great privilege to serve with you, and I have always appreciated your leadership, your great insights, your keen intellect as we have addressed these issues, especially on this issue of opioids. I don’t think there was a more passionate player on the committee, a more engaged and informed member of the committee on this matter than you.

And the citizens of West Virginia and, indeed, the citizens of all America, Mr. Speaker, have a lot to say thank you to Mr. MCKINLEY for and others in this body certainly, for the legislation we passed into law.

We know there is more work to do, and while I may be leaving, I know Mr. MCKINLEY is only going to double down on that effort going forward.

Mr. Speaker, this is good legislation that Mr. MCKINLEY and Mr. TONKO have brought before us. I urge passage of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would also urge support for 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. 3361.

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.

TRIBAL POWER ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5541) to amend the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to reauthorize programs to assist consenting Indian Tribes in meeting energy education, planning, and management needs, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5541

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 “Tribal Power Act”.