

sides of the aisle—indeed, every Member of the House of Representatives—will rise to support this bill, the successor to our 2017 bipartisan bill and the successor to the bill that then-Congressman, now-Vice President Mike Pence navigated to victory in the House on a vote of 398-21 15 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her indulgence.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, I would inform you and my colleague from Texas that I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let me just comment, as I determine whether we have any further speakers, that this protection of the First Amendment rights of our journalists are so crucial, and this legislation enjoys bipartisan support.

We have already made the point that we have found some offense of this in bipartisan officeholders, government, so I think it is important, in the spirit of harmony today, that we choose no President to suggest one was more so than the others, and I can't think of any comparison to the previous administration. But, today, we are standing here and wanting to bring people together around the importance of ensuring that the press is protected and shielded, that the truth is cleansing, and that the truth is heard.

Clearly, in the Trump administration, the truth was challenged, and we are grateful that the press stood tall.

I believe this legislation is extremely important to cleanse all persons in public life so that public officials can serve in the spirit of transparency and that journalists can provide the facts to all the people of America.

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

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, as I indicated, H.R. 4330 is a bipartisan effort similar to legislation worked on by Vice President Pence.

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The Judiciary Committee reported the bill on a bipartisan basis by voice vote. In addition, H.R. 4330 is supported by numerous civil liberties and journalist organizations, including the American Civil Liberties Union, Demand Progress, the Society of Professional Journalists, the News Media Alliance, the National Association of Broadcasters, the National Press Photographers Association, the Radio Television Digital News Association, the News Leaders Association, MPA—the Association of Magazine Media, the Project for Privacy and Surveillance Accountability, and the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4330, the “Protect Reporters from Exploitative State Spying Act” or the “PRESS Act.” The PRESS Act would create a strong, but qualified, federal statutory privilege that protects journalists from being compelled by the federal government to reveal confidential sources and information.

Additionally, the bill prohibits the federal government from compelling an electronic service provider that stores a journalist's information to disclose that information, as well as information relating to the journalist's personal account or technology device, to the government, unless a court determines that there is a reasonable threat of imminent violence absent the information's disclosure, and subject to other requirements and certain specified exceptions.

H.R. 4330 is necessary and long overdue legislation.

Over the past several decades, presidential administrations of both parties have attempted to crack down on leaks of classified information to media outlets, and these investigations have included efforts to obtain journalists' records.

For example, just last year, The Washington Post, The New York Times, and CNN reported that the Department of Justice under the Trump Administration sought the information and records of their reporters.

In addition, during the Obama Administration, the Department reportedly searched Fox News reporter James Rosen's e-mails and even listed him as a co-conspirator in an Espionage Act case that it brought against the source of the leaked information.

These and other recent episodes illustrate the need for stronger federal protections for journalists and their sources.

Indeed, forty states and the District of Columbia have enacted press shield laws, while other states afford similar privileges through their state constitutions and common law.

Moreover, there has been longstanding and bipartisan support in Congress for federal protections.

In 2005, Former Vice President Mike Pence, when he was a member of this body, first introduced the “Free Flow of Information Act,” which was very similar in concept to H.R. 4330. That legislation subsequently passed the House twice, in the 110th and 111th Congresses, the first time by a 398 to 21 vote, and the second time by voice vote.

Unfortunately, the Senate never took action on those bills, but I am pleased that efforts to advance a federal reporters' shield bill continue in the House today. It is my hope that the Senate will finally take up this important issue.

I want to thank Congressmen JAMIE RASKIN, TED LIEU, and JOHN YARMUTH for their work on the PRESS Act. I also thank Judiciary Committee Ranking Member JIM JORDAN for his support.

The need for this legislation is as great, if not greater, than when it was first introduced in its earlier form many years ago.

I urge all my colleagues to vote YES on this important bipartisan legislation.

As I noted earlier, H.R. 4330 and similar federal press shield legislation has long enjoyed strong bipartisan support. The Judiciary Committee reported the bill on a bipartisan basis by voice vote.

In addition, H.R. 4330 is supported by numerous civil liberties and journalists' organiza-

tions, including the American Civil Liberties Union, Demand Progress, the Society of Professional Journalists, the News Media Alliance, the National Association of Broadcasters, the National Press Photographers Association, the Radio Television Digital News Association, the News Leaders Association, MPA—the Association of Magazine Media, the Project for Privacy and Surveillance Accountability, Protect The 1st, and the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.

Given the broad support for the bill and the pressing need for federal protections for journalists and their sources, I urge the House to pass H.R. 4330.

Mr. Speaker, given the broad support of the bill and the pressing need for Federal protections for journalists and their sources, I urge the House to pass H.R. 4330, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4330, 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.

AMENDING TITLE 28, UNITED STATES CODE, PROVIDING AN ADDITIONAL PLACE FOR HOLDING COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3034) to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide an additional place for holding court for the Western District of Washington, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3034

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

SECTION 1. ADDITIONAL PLACE FOR HOLDING COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON.

Section 128(b) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by inserting “Mount Vernon,” after “Tacoma,”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. FITZGERALD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3034.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3034 which would amend title 28 of the U.S. Code to provide an additional place for holding court in the Western District of Washington.

This one-sentence bill would allow the residents of that district which is comprised of half of Washington State from the Cascade Mountains to the Pacific Ocean to attend Federal Court in Mount Vernon, Washington, halfway between Seattle and the Canadian border.

Currently, residents of the surrounding counties, including the third most populous county in the State, have to travel significant distances to access the Federal justice system leading to increased travel time and administrative costs. Adding Mount Vernon as an additional court location would alleviate those burdens. It would also be a cost-free change because there is an existing facility available for the court to use, and no court personnel would be permanently stationed there. Making use of this existing facility would ensure that litigants, attorneys, witnesses, and other court users would have greater access to the justice that our Federal courts provide.

Mr. Speaker, the Judiciary Committee is the holder, protector, and nurturer of the Constitution. There is probably nothing as important among other elements but for the right to a trial by jury or right to be heard as a litigant in a court. This important legislation is suggesting that those who may have difficulty or are even deprived because of distance or other issues dealing with the far reaches of where this court is away from them can now have unfettered access to court in their region, in their area.

This move will benefit the many individuals who live, work, and do business in northwest Washington which is very far from the present site of the Federal Court. This legislation is broadly supported by the judges, attorneys, prosecutors, public defenders, and law enforcement in the Western District of Washington.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative SUZAN DELBENE and RICK LARSEN for calling attention to this issue and for introducing this legislation to improve the lives of the residents of Washington State. Chairman NADLER and all of the members of the Judiciary Committee were very pleased to work with this legislation, and Congresswoman DELBENE and Congressman LARSEN to be able to make this fix to provide an additional pathway of justice and the protection of the constitutional rights of individuals to have their access to courts and to trials by jury.

At this point, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, it appears that this bill has wide, bipartisan support among Members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, it is good music and good sounds to hear my colleague indicating that this legislation has widespread support, and he is absolutely right.

The only point that I would want to emphasize is that whenever this body and this Judiciary Committee can expand the rights to the protection of Americans and their rights to access justice, we should stand tall.

Today, this legislation, with a small fix of providing an additional site for the people of western Washington to access their constitutional, judicial, and legal rights, I think this is a celebration. So because of the broad support for this, we are delighted.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of H.R. 3034, and make known that it is a straightforward bill that will improve the administration of justice in Washington State and will reinforce our duty and responsibility to the American people for justice.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3034, which would amend title 28 of the U.S. Code to provide an additional place for holding court in the Western District of Washington.

This one-sentence bill would allow residents of that district, which comprises half of Washington state—from the Cascade Mountains to the Pacific Ocean—to attend federal court in Mount Vernon, Washington, halfway between Seattle and the Canadian border.

Currently, residents of the surrounding counties, including the third most-populous county in the state, have to travel significant distances to access the federal justice system, leading to increased travel time and administrative costs. Adding Mount Vernon as an additional court location would alleviate those burdens. It would also be a cost-free change because there is an existing facility available for the court to use, and no court personnel would be permanently stationed there.

Making use of this existing facility would ensure that litigants, attorneys, witnesses, and other court users would have greater access to the justice that our federal courts provide.

This move will benefit the many individuals who live, work, and do business in Northwest Washington, and this legislation is broadly supported by the judges, attorneys, prosecutors, public defenders, and law enforcement in the Western District of Washington.

I thank Representatives SUZAN DELBENE and RICK LARSEN for calling attention to this issue and for introducing this legislation to improve the lives of the residents of Washington state.

I urge all of my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3034 is a straightforward bill that will improve the administration of justice in Washington State. I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3034.

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.

ENSLAVED VOYAGES MEMORIAL ACT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4009) to authorize the Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4009

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 “Enslaved Voyages Memorial Act”.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH COMMEMORATIVE WORK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour may establish a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to commemorate the enslaved individuals, whose identities may be known or unknown, who endured the Middle Passage.

(b) COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMORATIVE WORKS.—The establishment of the commemorative work under this section shall be in accordance with chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the “Commemorative Works Act”).

(c) PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Federal funds may not be used to pay any expense of the establishment of the commemorative work under this section.

(2) RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GEORGETOWN AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORIC LANDMARK PROJECT AND TOUR.—The Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour shall be solely responsible for acceptance of contributions for, and payment of the expenses of, the establishment of the commemorative work under this section.

(d) DEPOSIT OF EXCESS FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If upon payment of all expenses for the establishment of the memorial (including the maintenance and preservation amount required by section 8906(b)(1) of title 40, United States Code), there remains a balance of funds received for the establishment of the commemorative work, the Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour shall transmit the amount of the balance to the Secretary of the Interior for deposit in the account provided for in section 8906(b)(3) of title 40, United States Code.

(2) ON EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY.—If upon expiration of the authority for the commemorative work under section 8903(e) of title 40, United States Code, there remains a balance of funds received for the establishment of the commemorative work, the Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour shall transmit the amount of the balance to a separate account with the National Park Foundation