

percent graduation rate for the 12,000 veterans who have already completed it. By reauthorizing this program, we are creating the same opportunity for thousands of veterans to come.

Additionally, I want to highlight that it authorizes appropriations for the Office of Women's Health at the VA to expand access for women to mobile mammography units and outreach.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, to ensure we provide our veterans and their families with the support and benefits they earned through their service.

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

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the Representative from Nebraska (Mr. BACON).

Mr. BACON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act.

One percent of Americans answered the call to defend our Nation with: Send me. We owe them a debt of gratitude. Our veterans should receive healthcare and benefits they have earned without having to battle the VA.

The Dole act expands economic opportunities, broadens nontraditional educational programs, and does so much for our veterans. Today, 60 percent of our Nation is veterans. We owe them a debt of gratitude.

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

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BAIRD).

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, I am a decorated Army combat veteran who served in the Vietnam war. I know how well and how much the sacrifices our servicemembers make to defend our Nation. Access to timely healthcare for our veterans is mission critical for the VA, and failure to deliver is unacceptable.

In 2014, the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs discovered that 40 veterans died while waiting for medical care. This is just one example. My bill, the VA Same-Day Scheduling Act, will ensure that no veteran is more than one phone call away from the care they have been promised.

I am encouraged that the spirit of the bill is included in the Elizabeth Dole act which requires a plan to get the VA to same-day scheduling. This is a step in the right direction to fix that bureaucratic travesty.

□ 1715

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, may I inquire of the Chair as to how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS). The gentleman from Illinois has 4½ minutes remaining.

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

I have said as much as I can about this important piece of legislation. What I will finally say is I am very glad that we got here, and I thank the chairman. We spent all this time, and we have reached a compromise. That is what we have to do in Congress, put our veterans and the people first. I think the American people want to see more of this sort of thing happening.

Madam Speaker, I am very pleased that we could get this done before the Thanksgiving weekend.

I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 8371, the Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close. I offer a very special thank-you to the ranking member, the staff who have been involved in the negotiations back and forth, the Senate, all of our VSOs that came out—as I said in my opening, there were over 50—in support of this bill, and for the hard work and pushing forward that Senator Elizabeth Dole has done on this bill. We are so glad that we can call it up tonight.

Madam Speaker, I encourage all Members to support H.R. 8371, as amended, the Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act.

This bipartisan legislation contains consequential reforms that will significantly improve the lives of veterans and their families across the country.

I'm very proud that my bill, the Caregiver Outreach and Program Enhancement Act, is included in this package.

Known as the COPE Act, my bill would authorize the VA to award grants to organizations that provide mental health resources to those who care for our nation's veterans.

Caregivers play a critical role in the lives of older Americans—especially our veterans—and as the only geriatric nurse practitioner in Congress, I know being a caregiver comes with immense emotional challenges.

By ensuring veteran caregivers can properly take care of their mental health, the COPE Act will improve the lives of our nation's heroes and solidify the support system they need to age with dignity.

In addition to the COPE Act, this package also includes the VA Medical Center Security Report Act of 2023, which I introduced to increase veterans' safety and support police officers at VA Medical Centers amid an uptick in violent crime.

Madam Speaker, I am the granddaughter of a veteran, the daughter of a veteran, the wife of a veteran, the mother of future veterans, and I served 10 years in the U.S. Navy myself.

I'm blessed to represent one of the largest veteran populations in the U.S. in Hampton Roads.

Improving the lives of our nation's heroes is, and always will be, one of my top priorities in Congress . . . and the legislation before us on the House Floor today helps Congress do just that.

I'd like to thank my colleagues on the other side of the aisle—Representatives CHRISSEY HOULAHAN and CHRIS PAPPAS—who joined me in originally introducing the COPE Act.

I'd also like to thank Chairman BOST for his commitment to our veterans and for spearheading the Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act.

I'm confident with the passage of this impactful legislation, we will move closer to fulfilling our promise to provide for America's veteran population and those who care for them.

I urge all my colleagues on both sides to support the Elizabeth Dole Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8371, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. NEWHOUSE) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 8371; and

H.R. 5658.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

# SENATOR ELIZABETH DOLE 21ST CENTURY VETERANS HEALTHCARE AND BENEFITS IMPROVEMENT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8371) to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 389, nays 9, not voting 34, as follows:

[Roll No. 466]

YEAS—389

Adams	Cloud	Gonzales, Tony
Aderholt	Clyburn	Gonzalez, V.
Aguilar	Clyde	Gooden (TX)
Alford	Cohen	Graves (MO)
Allen	Cole	Green (TN)
Allred	Collins	Green, Al (TX)
Amo	Comer	Greene (GA)
Amodei	Correa	Griffith
Arrington	Costa	Grothman
Auchincloss	Courtney	Guest
Bacon	Craig	Guthrie
Baird	Crawford	Hageman
Balderson	Crockett	Harder (CA)
Balint	Crow	Harris
Banks	Cuellar	Harshbarger
Barr	Curtis	Hayes
Barragán	Daids (KS)	Hern
Bean (FL)	Davidson	Higgins (LA)
Beatty	Davis (IL)	Hill
Bentz	Davis (NC)	Himes
Bera	Dean (PA)	Hinson
Bergman	DeGette	Horsford
Beyer	DeLauro	Houchin
Bice	DelBene	Houlihan
Bilirakis	Deluzio	Hoyer
Bishop (GA)	DeSaulnier	Hoyle (OR)
Bishop (NC)	Diaz-Balart	Hudson
Blumenauer	Dingell	Huffman
Blunt Rochester	Doggett	Huizenga
Bonamici	Duarte	Hunt
Bost	Dunn (FL)	Issa
Bowman	Edwards	Ivey
Boyle (PA)	Ellzey	Jackson (IL)
Brown	Emmer	Jackson (NC)
Brownley	Escobar	Jackson (TX)
Buchanan	Eshoo	Jacobs
Bucshon	Espallat	James
Budzinski	Estes	Jayapal
Burchett	Ezell	Jeffries
Burgess	Fallon	Johnson (GA)
Burlison	Feenstra	Johnson (SD)
Bush	Ferguson	Joyce (OH)
Calvert	Finstad	Joyce (PA)
Cammack	Fischbach	Kamlager-Dove
Caraveo	Fitzgerald	Kaptur
Carbajal	Fitzpatrick	Kean (NJ)
Cárdenas	Fleischmann	Keating
Carey	Fletcher	Kelly (IL)
Carl	Flood	Kelly (MS)
Carson	Fong	Kelly (PA)
Carter (GA)	Foster	Kennedy
Carter (LA)	Foushee	Khanna
Carter (TX)	Fox	Kiggans (VA)
Casar	Frankel, Lois	Kildee
Case	Franklin, Scott	Kiley
Casten	Frost	Kilmer
Castor (FL)	Fry	Kim (CA)
Castro (TX)	Fulcher	Kim (NJ)
Chavez-DeRemer	Galleo	Krishnamoorthi
Cherfilus-	Garamendi	Kuster
McCormick	Garbarino	Kustoff
Chu	Garcia (IL)	LaLota
Ciscomani	Garcia (TX)	LaMalfa
Clark (MA)	Garcia, Robert	Lamborn
Clarke (NY)	Gimenez	Landsman
Cleaver	Golden (ME)	Langworthy
Cline	Goldman (NY)	Larsen (WA)

Larson (CT)	Neguse	Smith (WA)
Latta	Nehls	Smucker
LaTurner	Newhouse	Sorensen
Lawler	Nickel	Soto
Lee (CA)	Norcross	Spanberger
Lee (FL)	Nunn (IA)	Stansbury
Lee (PA)	Obornolte	Stanton
Lee Carter	Ocasio-Cortez	Staubert
Leger Fernandez	Ogles	Steel
Lesko	Omar	Stefanik
Letlow	Owens	Steil
Levin	Pallone	Stevens
Lieu	Palmer	Strickland
Lofgren	Panetta	Strong
Lopez	Pappas	Suozzi
Loudermilk	Peltola	Sykes
Lucas	Pence	Takano
Luetkemeyer	Perez	Tenney
Luna	Perry	Thanedar
Luttrell	Peters	Thompson (CA)
Lynch	Pettersen	Thompson (MS)
Mace	Pfluger	Thompson (PA)
Magaziner	Phillips	Tiffany
Malliotakis	Pingree	Timmons
Maloy	Pocan	Titus
Mann	Porter	Tlaib
Manning	Posey	Tokuda
Massie	Pressley	Tonko
Mast	Quigley	Torres (CA)
Matsui	Ramirez	Torres (NY)
McBath	Raskin	Trahan
McCaul	Reschenthaler	Trone
McClain	Rodgers (WA)	Turner
McClellan	Rogers (AL)	Underwood
McClintock	Rogers (KY)	Rose
McCollum	Ross	Valadao
McCormick	Rouzer	Van Drew
McGarvey	Ruiz	Van Dwyne
McGovern	Rulli	Van Orden
McHenry	Ruppersberger	Vargas
McIver	Rutherford	Vasquez
Meeks	Ryan	Veasey
Menendez	Salazar	Velazquez
Meuser	Salinas	Wagner
Mfume	Sánchez	Walberg
Miller (IL)	Sarbanes	Wasserman
Miller (OH)	Scallise	Schultz
Miller-Meeks	Scanlon	Watson Coleman
Mills	Schakowsky	Weber (TX)
Molinaro	Schiff	Webster (FL)
Moolenaar	Schneider	Westrup
Moore (AL)	Scholten	Westerman
Moore (UT)	Schrier	Wied
Moore (WI)	Schweikert	Wild
Moran	Scott (VA)	Williams (GA)
Morelle	Scott, Austin	Williams (NY)
Moskowitz	Sessions	Williams (TX)
Moulton	Sewell	Wilson (FL)
Mrvan	Sherman	Wilson (SC)
Mullin	Simpson	Wittman
Murphy	Slotkin	Womack
Nadler	Smith (MO)	Yakym
Napolitano	Smith (NJ)	Zinke
Neal		

NAYS—9

Brecheen	Good (VA)
Crane	Gosar
Duncan	Norman

NOT VOTING—34

Armstrong	Garcia, Mike	Pelosi
Babin	Gomez	Scott, David
Biggs	Gottheimer	Sherrill
Boebert	Granger	Smith (NE)
Cartwright	Graves (LA)	Spartz
Connolly	Grijalva	Steube
Crenshaw	Jordan	Swalwell
D'Esposito	LaHood	Waltz
De La Cruz	Lee (NV)	Waters
DesJarlais	Meng	Wexton
Donalds	Miller (WV)	
Evans	Mooney	

□ 1852

Messrs. LARSON of Connecticut and CLEAVER changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 466.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 466.

## VOTE BY MAIL TRACKING ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5658) to amend title 39, United States Code, to require mail-in ballots to use the Postal Service barcode service, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. FRY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 396, nays 6, not voting 30, as follows:

[Roll No. 467]

YEAS—396

Adams	Cherfilus-	Fleischmann
Aderholt	McCormick	Fletcher
Aguilar	Chu	Flood
Alford	Ciscomani	Fong
Allen	Clark (MA)	Foster
Allred	Clarke (NY)	Foushee
Amo	Cleaver	Fox
Amodei	Cline	Frankel, Lois
Arrington	Cloud	Franklin, Scott
Auchincloss	Clyburn	Frost
Babin	Clyde	Fry
Balderson	Cohen	Fulcher
Balint	Cole	Garamendi
Banks	Collins	Garbarino
Barr	Comer	Garcia (IL)
Barragán	Correa	Garcia (TX)
Bean (FL)	Costa	Garcia, Robert
Beatty	Courtney	Gimenez
Bentz	Craig	Golden (ME)
Bera	Crane	Goldman (NY)
Bergman	Crawford	Gomez
Beyer	Crenshaw	Gonzales, Tony
Bice	Crockett	Gonzalez, V.
Bilirakis	Crow	Good (VA)
Bishop (GA)	Cuellar	Gooden (TX)
Bishop (NC)	Curtis	Gosar
Blumenauer	D'Esposito	Graves (LA)
Blunt Rochester	Daids (KS)	Graves (MO)
Bonamici	Davidson	Green (TN)
Bost	Davis (IL)	Green, Al (TX)
Bowman	Davis (NC)	Greene (GA)
Boyle (PA)	Dean (PA)	Griffith
Brecheen	DeGette	Grothman
Brown	DeLauro	Guest
Brownley	DelBene	Guthrie
Buchanan	Deluzio	Harder (CA)
Bucshon	DeSaulnier	Harris
Budzinski	Diaz-Balart	Harshbarger
Burchett	Dingell	Hayes
Burgess	Doggett	Hern
Burlison	Duarte	Higgins (LA)
Bush	Duncan	Hill
Calvert	Dunn (FL)	Himes
Cammack	Edwards	Hinson
Caraveo	Ellzey	Horsford
Carbajal	Emmer	Houchin
Carey	Escobar	Houlihan
Carl	Eshoo	Hoyer
Carson	Espallat	Hoyle (OR)
Carter (GA)	Estes	Hudson
Carter (LA)	Ezell	Huffman
Carter (TX)	Fallon	Huizenga
Casar	Feenstra	Hunt
Case	Ferguson	Issa
Casten	Finstad	Ivey
Castor (FL)	Fischbach	Jackson (IL)
Castro (TX)	Fitzgerald	Jackson (NC)
Chavez-DeRemer	Fitzpatrick	Jackson (TX)