

Yeah, unfortunately, for people who think like me, Donald Trump became President. I think that is a terrible thing for the country, but that is what ended up happening.

At the same time, the American people voted to lower their margin here in the House. Maybe that is because the American people are paying more attention to what is happening in this Chamber and not liking what they are seeing, what they are hearing.

I think the message of the last election, given how close everything is, is the American people want us to work together, because if not, we are not going to get very much done. I think there are a lot of things that we need to do.

I began my opening today referring to the terrible tragedy in Madison, Wisconsin. I think the American people would like us to do something to prevent gun violence in this country.

I think they want us to do more to lower prices. I think they want us to do more to increase wages, to make housing more affordable and accessible for people. I think they want us to take on the pharmaceutical industry, which we have tried to do under the last two Democratic Presidents, but my Republican friends seem to always be critical of those efforts to lower prescription drug prices, but they want to have healthcare costs lower.

They want us to take on everyday problems. I don't think you can do that if all you bring to the floor are extremist measures, measures that, quite frankly, play well with a small group of hard, rightwing conservatives in this country, but have no appeal to anybody else.

Mr. Speaker, we are here in the aftermath of yet another senseless gun massacre, another preventable loss of life. Yet, this majority would rather do the bidding of special interests than address an actual crisis facing our Nation.

The bill we are talking about here today on regulations, again, is big corporations' dream come true. It is a way to eliminate regulation designed to protect the well-being and the safety of the American people without having a lot of debate and just doing it all at once with a bunch of repeals all bunched together, and just giving big corporations what they want. I think that is a terrible idea.

Big corporations don't speak for the people I represent in Worcester. Big corporations, quite frankly, are working overtime to try to deny my constituents the fair shake that they all want so that they can make more profits.

My colleagues on the other side need to take a hard look in the mirror. They need to ask themselves, again, on the issue of gun violence, how many more shootings until they find the courage to stand up to the gun lobby and actually do something.

The American people are watching, and they are tired of this cowardice.

They want us to act. They want us to keep people safe. They sure as hell don't want us wasting their time on corporate giveaways like the ones contained in the legislation that we are going to be debating later today.

Mr. Speaker, enough is enough. I urge my colleagues to reject this shameful bill and start doing the job we were sent here to do, protecting the people we serve, helping to even the playing field, helping to give people more hope that their life will improve in the future.

I urge a "no" vote on this rule, a "no" vote on the underlying bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Review Act, a lot of times, people don't think about it. It is not something that registers or strikes a lot of cords in people's souls, but let me just tell you something, we all have those moments in our lives: I remember where I was when the man landed on the Moon. I remember where I was when a world leader died. I remember where I was when the Congressional Review Act was allowed to go into law under George W. Bush early in his administration that prevented the institution of what was called the repetitive injury rule.

I ran a small medical practice at the time, not a big business. I had 50 employees in my office, and I was going to have to change every computer terminal, every keyboard, and every keyboard rest to be in compliance with the repetitive injury rule that some agency in the Federal Government had produced.

Congress, early in the days of the Bush administration, passed the Congressional Review Act, which reversed this rule. I remember pulling into my driveway one evening, probably early the year 2001. We didn't have cable news and 24-hour news back then. I was listening to NPR on the radio.

The news came across the wire that Congress had repealed this Federal rule that was going to cost me tens of thousands of dollars in my small medical practice. Although that was a small step for man, a giant leap for mankind, it was at that moment I realized in my mind the importance of my Representative looking at the rules that are produced by a Federal agency. I didn't need more paperwork to make my life safe at that point.

Clearly, I urge this body to support the rule and the underlying legislation. The bill allows Congress to more efficiently review rules issued during the midnight hours of the President's term by reviewing more than one rule at a time. This change would let Congress properly oversee agency rulemaking in the period when a disproportionate amount of rulemaking historically occurs.

Mr. Speaker, for perhaps the last time, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. 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 question will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1330

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BOST) at 1 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:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 1616; and

Adoption of House Resolution 1616, if ordered.

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.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 115, MIDNIGHT RULES RELIEF ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 1616) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 115) to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for en bloc consideration in resolutions of disapproval for "midnight rules", and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 207, nays 192, not voting 30, as follows:

[Roll No. 506]

YEAS—207

Aderholt
Alford

Allen
Amodei

Arrington
Babin

Bacon Graves (LA)
 Baird Graves (MO)
 Balderson Green (TN)
 Banks Greene (GA)
 Barr Griffith
 Bean (FL) Grothman
 Bentz Guest
 Bergman Guthrie
 Bice Hageman
 Biggs Harris
 Bilirakis Harshbarger
 Bishop (NC) Hern
 Boebert Higgins (LA)
 Bost Hill
 Buchanan Hinson
 Bucshon Houchin
 Burchett Hudson
 Burgess Huizenga
 Burlison Hunt
 Calvert Issa
 Cammack Jackson (TX)
 Carey James
 Carl Johnson (SD)
 Carter (GA) Jordan
 Carter (TX) Joyce (OH)
 Ciscomani Joyce (PA)
 Cline Kean (NJ)
 Cloud Kelly (MS)
 Clyde Kiggans (VA)
 Cole Kiley
 Collins Kim (CA)
 Comer Kustoff
 Crane LaHood
 Crawford LaLota
 Crenshaw LaMalfa
 Curtis Lamborn
 D'Esposito Langworthy
 Davidson Latta
 De La Cruz LaTurner
 DesJarlais Lawler
 Donalds Lee (FL)
 Duncan Lesko
 Dunn (FL) Letlow
 Edwards Lopez
 Ellzey Loudermilk
 Emmer Lucas
 Estes Luetkemeyer
 Ezell Luna
 Fallon Luttrell
 Feenstra Mace
 Ferguson Malliotakis
 Finstad Maloy
 Fischbach Mann
 Fitzgerald Massie
 Fitzpatrick Mast
 Fleischmann McCaul
 Flood McClain
 Fong McClintock
 Foxx McCormick
 Franklin, Scott McHenry
 Fry Meuser
 Fulcher Miller (IL)
 Garbarino Miller (OH)
 Gonzales, Tony Miller (WV)
 Good (VA) Miller-Meeks
 Gooden (TX) Mills
 Gosar Molinaro

NAYS—192

Adams Clark (MA)
 Aguilar Clarke (NY)
 Allred Cleaver
 Amo Clyburn
 Auchincloss Cohen
 Balint Connolly
 Barragán Correa
 Beatty Costa
 Bera Courtney
 Beyer Craig
 Bishop (GA) Crockett
 Blunt Rochester Cuellar
 Bonamici Davids (KS)
 Boyle (PA) Davis (IL)
 Brown Davis (NC)
 Brownley Dean (PA)
 Budzinski DeGette
 Bush DelBene
 Caraveo Deluzio
 Carbajal DeSaulnier
 Carson Dingell
 Carter (LA) Doggett
 Cartwright Escobar
 Casar Eshoo
 Casten Espallat
 Castor (FL) Fletcher
 Castro (TX) Foster
 Cherfilus-Foushee
 McCormick Frankel, Lois
 Chu Frost

Moolenaar
 Mooney
 Moore (AL)
 Moore (UT)
 Moran
 Murphy
 Nehls
 Newhouse
 Norman
 Nunn (IA)
 Obernolte
 Ogles
 Owens
 Palmer
 Pence
 Perry
 Pfluger
 Posey
 Reschenthaler
 Rogers (AL)
 Rogers (KY)
 Rose
 Rosendale
 Rouzer
 Roy
 Rulli
 Rutherford
 Scalise
 Schweikert
 Scott, Austin
 Self
 Sessions
 Simpson
 Smith (MO)
 Smith (NE)
 Smith (NJ)
 Smucker
 Spartz
 Stauber
 Steel
 Stefanik
 Steil
 Steube
 Strong
 Tenney
 Thompson (PA)
 Tiffany
 Timmons
 Turner
 Valadao
 Van Drew
 Van Duyne
 Van Orden
 Wagner
 Walberg
 Weber (TX)
 Webster (FL)
 Wenstrup
 Westerman
 Wied
 Williams (NY)
 Williams (TX)
 Wilson (SC)
 Wittman
 Womack
 Yakym
 Zinke

Khanna
 Kildee
 Kilmer
 Krishnamoorthi
 Kuster
 Landsman
 Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT)
 Lee (CA)
 Lee (NV)
 Lee (PA)
 Lee Carter
 Leger Fernandez
 Levin
 Lofgren
 Lynch
 Magaziner
 Manning
 Matsui
 McBeth
 McClellan
 McCollum
 McGarvey
 McGovern
 McIver
 Meeks
 Menendez
 Meng
 Mfume
 Moore (WI)
 Morelle
 Moulton
 Mrvan
 Mullin
 Nadler
 Napolitano
 Neal
 Neguse
 Nickel
 Norcross
 Ocasio-Cortez
 Omar
 Pallone
 Panetta
 Pappas
 Peltola
 Perez
 Peters
 Pettersen
 Pingree
 Pocan
 Quigley
 Ramirez
 Raskin
 Ross
 Ruiz
 Ruppertsberger
 Ryan
 Salinas
 Sánchez
 Sarbanes
 Scanlon
 Schakowsky
 Schneider
 Scholten
 Schrier
 Scott (VA)
 Scott, David
 Sewell
 Sherman
 Sherrill
 Slotkin
 Smith (WA)
 Sorensen
 Soto
 Spanberger
 Stansbury
 Stanton
 Stevens
 Strickland
 Suozzi
 Swalwell
 Sykes
 Takano
 Thanedar
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Tlaib
 Tokuda
 Tonko
 Torres (CA)
 Torres (NY)
 Underwood
 Vargas
 Vasquez
 Veasey
 Velázquez
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Waters
 Watson Coleman
 Wild
 Williams (GA)
 Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—30

Blumenauer
 Bowman
 Brecheen
 Cardenas
 Case
 Chavez-DeRemer
 Crow
 DeLauro
 Diaz-Balart
 Duarte
 Evans
 Gallego
 Garcia, Mike
 Gimenez
 Granger
 Grijalva
 Kelly (PA)
 Lieu
 Moskowitz
 Pelosi
 Phillips
 Porter
 Pressley
 Rodgers (WA)
 Salazar
 Titus
 Trahan
 Trone
 Waltz
 Wexton

□ 1354

Mr. NEAL, Ms. PEREZ, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, and Ms. BROWN changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. MAST changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the floor today. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 506 on the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 1616.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was delayed by an elevator outside of the House chamber that suffered a mechanical failure during the roll call. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 506.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the adoption of the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 212, noes 197, not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 507]

AYES—212

Garbarino
 Gimenez
 Gonzales, Tony
 Good (VA)
 Gooden (TX)
 Gosar
 Graves (LA)
 Graves (MO)
 Green (TN)
 Greene (GA)
 Griffith
 Grothman
 Guest
 Guthrie
 Hageman
 Harris
 Harshbarger
 Hern
 Higgins (LA)
 Hill
 Hinson
 Houchin
 Rogers (AL)
 Hudson
 Huizenga
 Hunt
 Issa
 Jackson (TX)
 James
 Johnson (SD)
 Jordan
 Joyce (OH)
 Joyce (PA)
 Kean (NJ)
 Kelly (MS)
 Kiggans (VA)
 Kiley
 Kim (CA)
 Kustoff
 Smith (MO)
 Smith (NE)
 Smith (NJ)
 Smucker
 Spartz
 Stauber
 Steel
 Stefanik
 Steil
 Steube
 Strong
 Tenney
 Thompson (PA)
 Tiffany
 Timmons
 Turner
 Valadao
 Van Drew
 Van Duyne
 Van Orden
 Wagner
 Walberg
 Weber (TX)
 Webster (FL)
 Wenstrup
 Westerman
 Wied
 Williams (NY)
 Williams (TX)
 Wilson (SC)
 Wittman
 Womack
 Yakym
 Zinke

NOES—197

Cartwright
 Casar
 Case
 Casten
 Castro (TX)
 Cherfilus-McCormick
 Chu
 Clark (MA)
 Clarke (NY)
 Cleaver
 Clyburn
 Cohen
 Connolly
 Costa
 Courtney
 Craig
 Crockett
 Cuellar
 Davids (KS)
 Davis (IL)
 Davis (NC)
 Dean (PA)
 DeGette
 DeLauro
 DelBene
 Deluzio
 DeSaulnier
 Dingell
 Doggett
 Escobar
 Eshoo
 Espallat
 Fletcher
 Foster
 Foushee
 Frankel, Lois
 Frost
 Garamendi
 Garcia (IL)
 Garcia (TX)
 Garcia, Robert
 Goldman (ME)
 Goldman (NY)
 Gomez
 Gonzalez, V.

Gottheimer	McGarvey	Schrier
Green, Al (TX)	McGovern	Scott (VA)
Harder (CA)	McIver	Scott, David
Hayes	Meeks	Sewell
Himes	Menendez	Sherman
Horsford	Meng	Sherrill
Houlahan	Mfume	Slotkin
Hoyer	Moore (WI)	Smith (WA)
Hoyle (OR)	Morelle	Sorensen
Huffman	Moskowitz	Soto
Ivey	Moulton	Spanberger
Jackson (IL)	Mrvan	Stansbury
Jackson (NC)	Mullin	Stanton
Jacobs	Nadler	Stevens
Jayapal	Napolitano	Strickland
Jeffries	Neal	Suozi
Johnson (GA)	Neguse	Swalwell
Kamlager-Dove	Nickel	Sykes
Kaptur	Norcross	Takano
Keating	Ocasio-Cortez	Thanedar
Kelly (IL)	Omar	Thompson (CA)
Kennedy	Pallone	Thompson (MS)
Khanna	Panetta	Titus
Kildee	Pappas	Tlaib
Kilmer	Peltola	Tokuda
Krishnamoorthi	Perez	Tonko
Kuster	Peters	Torres (CA)
Landsman	Pettersen	Torres (NY)
Larsen (WA)	Pingree	Trahan
Larson (CT)	Pocan	Trone
Lee (CA)	Quigley	Underwood
Lee (NV)	Ramirez	Vargas
Lee (PA)	Raskin	Vasquez
Lee Carter	Ross	Veasey
Leger Fernandez	Ruiz	Velázquez
Levin	Ruppersberger	Wasserman
Lofgren	Ryan	Schultz
Lynch	Salinas	Waters
Magaziner	Sánchez	Watson Coleman
Manning	Sarbanes	Wild
Matsui	Scanlon	Williams (GA)
McBath	Schakowsky	Wilson (FL)
McClellan	Schneider	
McCollum	Scholten	

NOT VOTING—20

Blumenauer	Gallego	Phillips
Bowman	Garcia, Mike	Porter
Castor (FL)	Granger	Pressley
Chavez-DeRemer	Grijalva	Rodgers (WA)
Correa	Kelly (PA)	Waltz
Crow	Lieu	Wexton
Evans	Pelosi	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1401

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MIDNIGHT RULES RELIEF ACT

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1616, I call up the bill (H.R. 115) to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for en bloc consideration in resolutions of disapproval for “midnight rules”, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KEAN of New Jersey). Pursuant to House Resolution 1616, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary, printed in the bill, is adopted, and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 115

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 “Midnight Rules Relief Act”.

SEC. 2. EN BLOC CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS OF DISAPPROVAL PERTAINING TO “MIDNIGHT RULES”.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 801(d) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4) In applying section 802 to rules described under paragraph (1), a joint resolution of disapproval may contain one or more such rules if the report under subsection (a)(1)(A) for each such rule was submitted during the final year of a President’s term.”.

(b) TEXT OF RESOLVING CLAUSE.—Section 802(a) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting after “resolving clause of which is” the following: “(except as otherwise provided in this subsection)”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following: “In the case of a joint resolution under section 801(d)(4), the matter after the resolving clause of such resolution shall be as follows: ‘That Congress disapproves the following rules: the rule submitted by the ___ relating to ___; and the rule submitted by the ___ relating to ___. Such rules shall have no force or effect.’ (The blank spaces being appropriately filled in and additional clauses describing additional rules to be included as necessary).”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill, as amended, shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and the ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of H.R. 115, the Midnight Rules Relief Act.

This is an important piece of legislation that will allow Congress to more effectively and efficiently oversee Federal agency rulemaking.

Under the Congressional Review Act, known as the CRA, executive agencies must report all promulgated rules to both Chambers of Congress. This reporting requirement allows Congress to properly consider Federal regulations before they take effect. The CRA gives Congress the ability to pass a joint resolution to prevent an agency’s rule from taking effect.

The CRA’s disapproval mechanism gives Congress a critical check on Federal administrative overreach. Currently, however, the CRA forces Congress to introduce a single, separate joint resolution for each agency rule it seeks to render unenforceable. This one-by-one limited joint resolution under the CRA slows Congress’ oversight of agency rulemaking.

Its inefficiency is most clear during the midnight rulemaking period of the last year of a President’s term, when executive agencies historically issue substantially more regulations than last year of a President’s term.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 115 would make Congress’ oversight more efficient during this midnight rulemaking period by allowing Congress to introduce joint resolutions covering multiple agency rules during the final year of a President’s term.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle may claim that this bill is only an attempt to slow down agency rulemaking or disincentivize Federal agencies from issuing rules on important issues, but that is incorrect. There are no provisions in this bill designed to slow down rulemaking. Rather, this bill would merely allow Congress to more efficiently exercise the oversight authority it already has and respond to the influx in agency regulations during the midnight hours of a President’s term.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, despite the bill’s title, H.R. 115 is not really intended to address midnight rules, but rather is an effort by our Republican colleagues to advance their antigovernment, deregulatory agenda under cover of darkness.

This legislation may appear to be a modest change to the Congressional Review Act, but do not be fooled. It would enable the Republican-controlled 119th Congress to use a turbocharged CRA to nullify every rule issued by public agencies under the Biden administration for the entire year of 2024 in a single party-line vote.

Under the CRA, if a rule is overturned, agencies are forever prohibited from considering, without new congressional authorization, a “substantially similar” rule, an unreviewable, vague, and harmful standard that would undermine agencies’ statutory missions.

Doing away with dozens of rules at once, as the Republicans intend with this bill, would substantially weaken agencies’ ability to protect the public long into the future.

While historically the CRA has been used sparingly, after Donald Trump’s first inauguration in 2017, the Republican-controlled Congress used the CRA to repeal 16 rules issued by the Obama administration, an all-time high. Critical rules on teacher training, internet privacy protection, and the prevention of water pollution from coal mines, among many others, were all repealed over a few short weeks.

It seems that Republicans have even bigger ambitions for the next deregulatory spree as they pursue their unabashedly antigovernment agenda.

Rather than consider agency rules on their individual merits, they want to package as many rules as possible into a single resolution to eliminate them