

fighting that ruling. I remain deeply concerned about this administration's attempt to eradicate the independence of the CPSC and other independent agencies like the CPSC.

I also strongly oppose the Trump administration's ongoing plans to fold the CPSC's mission into the Department of Health and Human Services with a smaller budget, fewer expert staff, and a narrower mission.

American consumers deserve to have peace of mind that the products they bring into their homes are safe. I commend Representatives CASTOR and BALDERSON for their work and leadership on this issue. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1767, the Awning Safety Act, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BALDERSON).

Mr. BALDERSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman BILIRAKIS for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, the Awning Safety Act, which aims to enhance the safety of awnings commonly found in Ohio homes and households across the Nation.

A retractable awning can serve as a valuable source of shade and a gathering spot for families and friends. However, they can pose a significant risk to consumers.

This legislation directs the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish safety standards for fixed and free-standing awnings typically installed in homes.

My Energy and Commerce Committee colleagues and I learned of the serious risks surrounding awnings when tragedy struck the family of Olivia Shields, a staff member of the committee at the time.

As Ranking Member PALLONE said, she and her family are in the gallery today. Her father, Michael Hnat, was carrying out a routine household task of taking down the retractable awning from the family home in Ohio. He was on the ladder when the spring-loaded arm of the awning unexpectedly shot out at him, forcing his ladder to tip and causing him to fall. Michael suffered a severe spinal cord injury, and despite efforts to save him, he tragically passed away a few days later.

His passing affected his family profoundly and reverberated throughout the communities he touched.

Michael was renowned for his kindness, generosity, and selflessness, often going above and beyond to help others in need. He was a devoted family man, cherished husband to Jill, and loving father to their children, Annaliese, Olivia, Abbey, Seamus, Emma; his sons-in-law; and his grandchildren.

Michael's untimely death underscores the importance of ensuring the safety of household products like awnings, and by passing this legislation today, we can prevent further tragedies.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, obviously, this is an important bill from a

consumer safety point of view. I urge all my colleagues to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support this particular piece of legislation in memory of Dr. Michael Hnat, a cherished part of the Energy and Commerce Committee family, who tragically lost his life, as has been said, in an awning accident. I thank his family for joining us here today.

Mr. Speaker, let's pass this good bill in his memory, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1767.

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.

DEPLOYING AMERICAN BLOCKCHAINS ACT OF 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1664) to direct the Secretary of Commerce to take actions necessary and appropriate to promote the competitiveness of the United States related to the deployment, use, application, and competitiveness of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1664

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 "Deploying American Blockchains Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY OR OTHER DISTRIBUTED LEDGER TECHNOLOGY.**—The term "blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology" means a distributed digital database where data is—

(A) shared across a network of computers to create a ledger of verified information among network participants;

(B) linked using cryptography to maintain the integrity of the ledger and to execute other functions; and

(C) distributed among network participants in an automated fashion to concurrently update network participants on the state of the ledger and other functions.

(2) **COVERED NONGOVERNMENTAL REPRESENTATIVES.**—The term "covered nongovernmental representatives" means representatives as specified in the second sentence of section 135(b)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2155(b)(1)), except that such term does not include representatives of non-Federal Governments.

(3) **SECRETARY.**—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Commerce.

(4) **STATE.**—The term "State" means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, each commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States, and each federally recognized Indian Tribe.

(5) **TOKEN.**—The term "token" means a transferable, digital representation of information recorded on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology.

(6) **TOKENIZATION.**—The term "tokenization" means the process of creating a token.

SEC. 3. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE LEADERSHIP ON BLOCKCHAIN.

(a) **FUNCTION OF SECRETARY.**—The Secretary shall serve as a principal advisor to the President for policy pertaining to the deployment, use, application, and competitiveness of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization.

(b) **ACTIVITIES.**—The Secretary shall take actions necessary and appropriate to support the leadership of the United States with respect to the deployment, use, application, and competitiveness of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization, including by—

(1) developing policies and recommendations on issues and risks related to the deployment, use, application, and competitiveness of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization, including the issues of decentralized identity, cybersecurity, key storage and security systems, artificial intelligence, fraud reduction, regulatory compliance, e-commerce, health care applications, and supply chain resiliency;

(2) supporting and promoting the stability, maintenance, improvement, and security of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization;

(3) helping to promote the leadership of the United States with respect to the deployment, use, application, and competitiveness of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization through the establishment of a Blockchain Deployment Program in the Department of Commerce;

(4) promoting the national security and economic security of the United States with respect to blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization;

(5) supporting engagement with the public to promote the best practices described in subsection (c);

(6) considering policies and programs to encourage and improve coordination among Federal agencies with respect to the deployment of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization;

(7) examining—

(A) how Federal agencies can benefit from utilizing blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization;

(B) the current use by Federal agencies of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization;

(C) the current and future preparedness and ability of Federal agencies to adopt blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization; and

(D) additional security measures Federal agencies may need to take to—

(i) safely and securely use blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization, including to ensure the security of critical infrastructure; and

(ii) enhance the resiliency of Federal systems against cyber threats to blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization;

(8) supporting coordination of the activities of the Federal Government related to the security of blockchain technology and other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization; and

(9) not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, establishing advisory committees to support the adoption of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization, the membership of which shall include—

(A) the Secretary;

(B) representatives of Federal agencies (as determined necessary by the Secretary); and

(C) nongovernmental stakeholders with expertise related to blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, including—

(i) blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology infrastructure operators, suppliers, service providers, and vendors;

(ii) application developers building on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology;

(iii) developers and organizations supporting the advancement and deployment of public blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology;

(iv) subject matter experts representing industrial sectors that can benefit from blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology;

(v) small, medium, and large businesses;

(vi) think tanks and academia;

(vii) nonprofit organizations and consumer groups;

(viii) cybersecurity experts;

(ix) rural stakeholders;

(x) covered nongovernmental representatives;

(xi) artists and the content creator community; and

(xii) other stakeholders with relevant expertise (as determined necessary by the Secretary).

(c) **BEST PRACTICES.**—The Secretary shall, on an ongoing basis, facilitate and support the development and dissemination of best practices with respect to blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization that—

(1) support the private sector, the public sector, and public-private partnerships in the deployment of technologies needed to advance the capabilities of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization;

(2) support the interoperability of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization;

(3) support operations, including hashing and key storage and security systems, that form the foundation of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization;

(4) reduce cybersecurity and other risks that may compromise blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization;

(5) reduce uncertainty and risks in the use of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization; and

(6) quantify the value and potential cost savings associated with adoption of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization, including through comparative analyses of competing and existing technologies within specific industry applications.

(d) **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.**—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall—

(1) consult closely and regularly with stakeholders, including private sector individuals and entities, and incorporate industry expertise;

(2) collaborate with private sector stakeholders to identify prioritized, flexible, repeatable, performance-based, and cost-effective approaches to the deployment of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization;

(3) disseminate research and information pertaining to the use of, and marketplace for, blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization;

(4) develop standardized terminology for, and promote common understanding of, blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization;

(5) ensure the best practices described in subsection (c) facilitate the ease of use of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization;

(6) support open-source infrastructure, data management, and authentication activities with respect to blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization; and

(7) consider the needs and interests of both the private and public sector, including small businesses and Federal, State, and local governments.

(e) **RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this section may be construed to—

(1) require a private entity to share information with the Secretary;

(2) require a private entity to request assistance from the Secretary;

(3) require a private entity to implement any measure or recommendation suggested by the Secretary in response to a request by the private entity; or

(4) require the adoption of the best practices described in subsection (c).

(f) **CONSULTATION.**—In implementing this section, the Secretary may, as appropriate, consult with the heads of relevant Federal agencies.

(g) **TERMINATION OF PROGRAM.**—The Blockchain Deployment Program established pursuant to subsection (b)(3) shall terminate on the date that is 7 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall make public on the website of the Department of Commerce and submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report that includes—

(1) a description of the activities of the Secretary under this Act during the preceding year;

(2) any recommendations by the Secretary for additional legislation to strengthen the competitiveness of the United States with respect to blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization; and

(3) a description of any emerging risks and long-term trends with respect to blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, applications built on blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, tokens, and tokenization.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. **BILIRAKIS**) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. **PALLONE**) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. **BILIRAKIS**. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the **RECORD** on this particular bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1664, the Deploying American Blockchains Act of 2025, championed by my good friend and fellow Florida Gator, Representative **CAMMACK**.

This legislation directs the Secretary of Commerce to take the necessary actions to promote the competitiveness of the United States in the development and application of blockchain technology.

Blockchain technology has the potential to revolutionize industries by enhancing security, transparency, and efficiency. Whether it is used as a privacy enhancement technology, a supply chain management tool, or as a method to provide a secure ledger to enhance data security, blockchain can usher in a new era in American technological leadership.

By fostering innovation and establishing best practices, this bill positions the United States as a leader in

blockchain technology, driving economic growth and technological advancement.

I urge my colleagues to join me in passing this very good bill primarily sponsored by my good friend Mrs. CAMMACK from the State of Florida. Let's get this done.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1664, the Deploying American Blockchains Act. For decades, our Nation's technological leadership has helped build the largest, most dynamic economy in the world. We must continue working to ensure that we outcompete the rest of the world because our economic rivals are trying to close the gap.

This legislation commissions the Department of Commerce to support the leadership of the United States with respect to blockchain technology, which may have useful applications for supply chain monitoring, data security, and financial transactions. Investments that strengthen the ability of American industry to realize the benefits of new technology are essential to our global competitiveness.

I am very mindful, Mr. Speaker, that the chaos of the Trump administration is undermining U.S. leadership in technology development and deployment. If my Republican colleagues are sincere in their desire to win the race to adopt advanced technologies, they will start to speak up rather than quietly stand by while the Trump administration recklessly cuts critical Federal research programs, engages in mass firings of crucial experts, and engages in wild swings in national trade policy from week to week.

House Democrats have shown our commitment to American technological leadership. The CHIPS and Science Act, for example, makes transformational investments in research and development, science and technology, and the workforce of the future. It will help us maintain our Nation's leadership in the industries of tomorrow, including nanotechnology, clean energy, quantum computing, and artificial intelligence. The CHIPS and Science Act is already making a huge difference, but we must build on this success rather than tear it down.

One other thing to note is that this bill should already be law. It was agreed to last year as part of a bipartisan, bicameral legislative package that was set to be passed and signed into law in December before Elon Musk killed the agreement.

That package included important provisions that would have lowered costs for hardworking Americans, but instead of passing it and sending it to the President's desk to be signed into law, my Republican colleagues caved to outside pressure from Elon Musk.

I do want to commend Representatives CAMMACK and SOTO for their lead-

ership on this issue. This is an important bill, and I encourage all my colleagues to support this legislation on a bipartisan basis.

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CAMMACK), one of the most hard-working Members of Congress and my good friend.

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for his steadfast support, and I also thank the ranking member for his support.

I rise today in support of H.R. 1664, the Deploying American Blockchains Act of 2025, bipartisan legislation that I am proud to lead alongside my colleague Representative DARREN SOTO.

This bill is about far more than emerging technology. It is about securing America's future, economically, strategically, and technologically, in an increasingly digital world.

Blockchain technology is not a passing trend. It is a foundational innovation that is reshaping how we think about security, identity, data integrity, and commerce. From supply chains and finance to healthcare and identity management, blockchain is transforming the way our systems function.

Mr. Speaker, we are at a crossroads. While American entrepreneurs and technologists are ready to lead, they are operating in an environment filled with uncertainty. Too many innovators in this space face unclear rules, inconsistent Federal policies, and outdated frameworks that push investment and opportunities overseas. Meanwhile, nations like China are investing heavily in blockchain infrastructure and making it clear that their intent is to control the digital rails of the future.

We cannot afford to fall behind. American values of freedom, transparency, and accountability must guide the development of the next generation of digital infrastructure. That is what this bill ensures.

The Deploying American Blockchains Act takes a strategic, thoughtful approach by directing the Commerce Department to lead the Federal Government's blockchain effort. The Department will advise the President, establish a Blockchain Deployment Program, and ensure that the United States remains competitive in the development and application of this critical technology.

Importantly, this bill affirms that blockchain is not just a buzzword. It is the backbone of next-generation innovations in areas like supply chain security, smart contracts, digital identity, and fraud prevention. These applications aren't just theoretical. They are being deployed right now across sectors of the entire American economy. If we fail to lead, others will step in to define the rules of the road.

This bill sends a powerful message to our allies and adversaries alike: Amer-

ica intends to lead. We will lead. We will build, not just consume. We intend to shape the global standards for digital trust and transparency, and we will not allow authoritarian regimes to do so in our absence.

This bill is about leadership. It is about economic opportunity, and it is about protecting our American interests and ensuring that our technological edge continues to serve the people, our values, and our future.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in supporting this commonsense legislation. Together, we can keep America at the forefront of innovation and ensure that our digital future is one defined by liberty, accountability, and American leadership.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers. I urge support of this bill on a bipartisan basis, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I encourage a "yes" vote on this particular 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 Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1664, 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Lasky, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 42. An act to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to exclude certain payments to aged, blind, or disabled Alaska Natives or descendants of Alaska Natives from being used to determine eligibility for certain programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 43. An act to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide that Village Corporations shall not be required to convey land in trust to the State of Alaska for the establishment of Municipal Corporations, and for other purposes.

H.R. 618. An act to amend the Apex Project, Nevada Land Transfer and Authorization Act of 1989 to include the City of North Las Vegas and the Apex Industrial Park Owners Association, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2215. An act to redesignate the Salem Maritime National Historic Site as the "Salem Maritime National Historical Park", and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 154. An act to amend the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015, to reauthorize the Colorado River System conservation pilot program.

S. 282. An act to provide greater regional access to the Katahdin Woods and Waters