

I thank Mr. BARRETT and Mr. FIGURES for their support of this really important bill.

This is a commonsense bill that fixes a broken system and restores accountability within the Federal Protective Service.

The Federal Protective Service, or FPS, is responsible for protecting nearly 9,000 Federal facilities nationwide. In fiscal year 2024, FPS operated with a \$2.2 billion budget and oversaw more than 15,000 contract protective security officers.

With that level of funding and manpower, taxpayers expect reliable results. Unfortunately, that is not what they are getting. A recent GAO investigation showed contract guards failed to detect banned items like batons and pepper spray in half of all covert tests. That is unacceptable, and it should never have been allowed to persist. It is also preventable.

H.R. 3425 makes sure FPS reviews these failures, documents them, identifies the root causes, and then takes corrective action.

This bill also addresses the embarrassing state of FPS's Post Tracking System. Back in 2018, FPS promised to modernize guard sign-in with a digital system. Years later, that system still doesn't work, and the agency is still relying on paper as its official record. That means Washington can't even confirm in real time whether a building is staffed and secure. In some cases, buildings have had to close because of it. That is a waste of money and a failure of leadership.

H.R. 3425 fixes this by giving FPS 6 months to either make the system work or replace it with one that does.

Mr. Speaker, this is not complicated. When Americans walk into a Federal building, they deserve to know it is staffed and secured. The American people expect their government to meet basic duties. The POST Act honors that expectation by restoring accountability and requiring results.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3425, the POST Act, so that we restore proper oversight and accountability in the Federal Protective Service and protect taxpayers from waste and failure.

Mr. FIGURES. Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 3425, and I thank my colleague, Mr. KENNEDY, for his leadership on this important matter. The POST Act of 2025 is something that I urge all of my colleagues to support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3425, as amended, strengthens oversight of the Federal Protective Service's contract guard program and ensures protective security officers are properly trained and accountable. Additionally, and importantly, this legislation modernizes critical systems to make Federal buildings safer for employees and the public.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of H.R. 3425, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BARRETT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3425, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. BARRETT. 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 motion will be postponed.

#### MID-ATLANTIC RIVER BASIN COMMISSIONS REVIEW ACT

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3428) to require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a review of the Mid-Atlantic River Basin Commissions, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3428

*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 "Mid-Atlantic River Basin Commissions Review Act".

#### SEC. 2. MID-ATLANTIC RIVER BASIN COMMISSIONS.

(a) GAO REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall initiate a review of the Mid-Atlantic River Basin Commissions.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—In conducting the review under paragraph (1), the Comptroller General shall—

(A) review the ethics policies and practices of each Mid-Atlantic River Basin Commission;

(B) review the practices each Mid-Atlantic River Basin Commission uses to communicate with the general public;

(C) review current Federal responsibilities at each Mid-Atlantic River Basin Commission, including the types of actions taken by relevant Federal agencies in carrying out such responsibilities;

(D) describe the level and sources of Federal and State funding received by each Mid-Atlantic River Basin Commission;

(E) identify duties and responsibilities of each Mid-Atlantic River Basin Commission that may be duplicative of, or overlap with, other Federal authorities; and

(F) review policies and best practices of each Mid-Atlantic River Basin Commission for reporting activities of the Commission.

(3) REPORT.—Upon completion of the review conducted under paragraph (1), the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate a report containing—

(A) the findings of such review; and

(B) any recommendations, including any recommendations for statutory or administrative changes or changes to ethics policies and practices, to increase the transparency or congressional oversight of the Mid-Atlantic River Basin Commissions.

(b) PLAN FOR COMPLIANCE.—Not later than 90 days after the Comptroller General submits the report required under subsection (a)(3), and annually thereafter for five years, each Mid-Atlantic River Basin Commission shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate a plan detailing actions such Commission has taken to comply with the recommendations contained in such report.

(c) MID-ATLANTIC RIVER BASIN COMMISSION DEFINED.—In this section, the term "Mid-Atlantic River Basin Commission" means—

(1) the Susquehanna River Basin Commission created by the Susquehanna River Basin Compact to which consent was given by Public Law 91-575 (84 Stat. 1509);

(2) the Delaware River Basin Commission created by the Delaware River Basin Compact to which consent was given by Public Law 87-328 (75 Stat. 688); and

(3) the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin created by the Potomac River Basin Compact to which consent was given by Public Law 91-407 (84 Stat. 856).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BARRETT) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. FIGURES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material into the RECORD on H.R. 3428.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRESNAHAN), for his hard work on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, the Mid-Atlantic River Basin Commissions, for the Susquehanna, Delaware, and Potomac Rivers, came into existence before the creation of the EPA and mandated Federal involvement in the commissions.

H.R. 3428 is a good government bill that directs the GAO to review the ethics, practices, funding, and Federal responsibilities of the commissions.

Congress has a duty to conduct oversight of these commissions, and I thank Mr. BRESNAHAN for ensuring that we fulfill that role.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3428, a bill to direct the GAO to review the three Mid-Atlantic River Basin Commissions and report on the practices and Federal responsibilities of each commission.

The Mid-Atlantic River Basin Commissions serve an important role in the region by managing, protecting, and improving their respective river basins.

The commissions were created to consolidate a complex web of State, interstate, and Federal efforts into one.

For example, the history of the Potomac Basin Commission reminds us how the commission was formed in response to extreme pollution levels in our Nation's River that required a regional, cooperative response by all jurisdictions.

Similarly, the Delaware River Basin Compact, signed in 1961 by President John F. Kennedy and the then-Governors of Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and New York, created a commission with the force of law to oversee a unified approach to managing the river without regard to political boundaries.

As a result of these commissions, water quality on the Delaware, Potomac, and Susquehanna Rivers has, in many ways, vastly improved, but threats such as population increases, land use changes, and the growth of impervious surfaces, chemical contaminants, and nutrient and sediment enrichment still require focused, regional attention.

This GAO study will review these partnerships and how responsibilities are split between the commissions and the Federal agencies, as well as examine the transparency and communication practices of the commissions.

Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 3428 and urge my colleagues to do the same.

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

□ 1730

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRESNAHAN).

Mr. BRESNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce H.R. 3428, the Mid-Atlantic River Basin Commissions Review Act.

This legislation will bring much-needed oversight and clarity to the activities and funding streams for the Delaware River Basin Commission, Susquehanna River Basin Commission, and the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin.

The river basin commissions in the Mid-Atlantic work across State lines to regulate the river systems within a watershed. Since their inception after World War II, the rivers they manage have grown in importance as our populations have grown and water usage has increased.

Millions of people rely on these rivers for water and wastewater needs, including my constituents in Pennsylvania's Eighth Congressional District.

These commissions also play a role in protecting rivers from pollution and ensuring the ecosystems remain vibrant and resilient.

As their roles have grown, Congress has not always had insight into the exact responsibility and tasks the river basin commissions are undertaking.

My legislation directs the Government Accountability Office to conduct a study and compile recommendations

for the Mid-Atlantic river basin commissions to ensure they have proper ethics policies in place, conduct an inventory of their Federal responsibilities, and look to see if any of their responsibilities have become duplicative since their inception.

My legislation then directs these river basin commissions to report back annually on how they are complying with these recommendations. GAO is the gold standard for Federal reports and has conducted numerous reports and studies of government agencies. In fact, according to the GAO, 75 percent of their recommendations are implemented over a 4-year period.

I trust this proper oversight will help these river basin commissions find ways to improve their services to their citizens and the rivers they serve.

I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation.

Mr. FIGURES. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Pennsylvania for his leadership on this issue. I support H.R. 3428, and I urge my colleagues to do the same. I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3428, the Mid-Atlantic River Basin Commissions Review Act, is legislation that will ensure important rivers in our communities have proper oversight and utilize taxpayer resources to carry out their missions responsibly.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BARRETT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3428.

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.

#### 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 32 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. FLOOD) 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:

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 3424; and

H.R. 3425.

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.

#### SHARED PROPERTY AGENCY COLLABORATION AND ENGAGEMENT ACT OF 2025

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. 3424) to require the Administrator of the General Services Administration to collaborate with Federal tenants with respect to shared-space arrangements, and for other purposes, 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 Michigan (Mr. BARRETT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 397, nays 1, not voting 32, as follows:

[Roll No. 240]

YEAS—397

Adams	Casten	Evans (CO)
Aderholt	Castor (FL)	Evans (PA)
Aguilar	Cherfilus-	Ezell
Alford	McCormick	Fallon
Allen	Chu	Fedorchak
Amo	Ciscomani	Feenstra
Amodei (NV)	Cisneros	Fields
Ansari	Clark (MA)	Figures
Arrington	Clarke (NY)	Fine
Auchincloss	Cleaver	Finstad
Babin	Cline	Fischbach
Bacon	Cloud	Fitzgerald
Baird	Clyburn	Fitzpatrick
Balderson	Clyde	Fleischmann
Balint	Cohen	Fletcher
Barr	Cole	Flood
Barragán	Collins	Fong
Barrett	Comer	Foster
Baumgartner	Conaway	Foushee
Bean (FL)	Costa	Foxx
Beatty	Courtney	Frankel, Lois
Begich	Craig	Friedman
Bell	Crane	Frost
Bentz	Crank	Fry
Bera	Crenshaw	Fulcher
Bergman	Crockett	Garamendi
Bice	Crow	Garbarino
Biggs (AZ)	Dauids (KS)	García (CA)
Biggs (SC)	Davidson	García (IL)
Bilirakis	Davis (IL)	García (TX)
Bishop	Davis (NC)	Gill (TX)
Boebert	De La Cruz	Gillen
Bonamici	Dean (PA)	Gimenez
Bost	DeGette	Golden (ME)
Boyle (PA)	DeLauro	Goldman (NY)
Brecheen	DelBene	Goldman (TX)
Bresnahan	Deluzio	Gomez
Brown	DeSaulnier	Gonzales, Tony
Brownley	DesJarlais	Gooden
Budzinski	Dexter	Goodlander
Burchett	Diaz-Balart	Gosar
Burlison	Dingell	Gottheimer
Bynum	Doggett	Graves
Calvert	Donalds	Gray
Cammack	Downing	Green, Al (TX)
Carbajal	Dunn (FL)	Greene (GA)
Carey	Edwards	Griffith
Carson	Elfreth	Grothman
Carter (LA)	Emmer	Guest
Carter (TX)	Escobar	Guthrie
Casar	Espallat	Hageman
Case	Estes	Hamadeh (AZ)