

Act of 2014, as reported by the Committee on Homeland Security on June 19, 2014. There are certain provisions in the legislation that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

In order to expedite this legislation for floor consideration, the Committee will forgo action on this bill. However, this is conditional on our mutual understanding that forgoing consideration of the bill does not alter or diminish the jurisdiction of the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or to any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in the bill or similar legislation. I request you urge the Speaker to name members of the Committee to any conference committee named to consider such provisions.

Please place a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging our jurisdictional interest into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD during consideration of the measure on the House Floor.

Sincerely,

BILL SHUSTER,  
*Chairman.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,  
*Washington, DC, July 7, 2014.*

Hon. BILL SHUSTER,  
*Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN SHUSTER: Thank you for your letter regarding the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's jurisdictional interest in H.R. 4263, the "Social Media Working Group Act of 2014."

I agree that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has a valid jurisdictional interest in emergency disaster response, and that the Committee's jurisdiction will not be adversely affected by your decision to forego consideration of H.R. 4263. As you have requested, I will support your request for an appropriate appointment of outside conferees from your Committee in the event of a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation, should such a conference be convened.

Finally, I will include a copy of your letter and this response in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the Floor. Thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. McCAUL,  
*Chairman.*

16TH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL  
FIRE AND RESCUE AND EMS  
AWARDS

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize fire and rescue and EMS personnel who have provided distinguished service to the people of Florida's 16th Congressional District.

As first responders, fire departments and emergency medical service teams are summoned on short notice to serve their respective communities. Oftentimes, they arrive at scenes of great adversity and trauma, to which they reliably bring strength and composure. These brave men and women spend hundreds of hours in training so that they are prepared when they get "the call."

Two years ago, I established the 16th District Congressional Fire and Rescue and EMS

Awards to honor officers, departments, and units for outstanding achievement.

On behalf of the people of Florida's 16th District, it is my privilege to congratulate the following winners, who were selected this year by an independent committee comprised of a cross section of current and retired fire and rescue personnel living in the district.

Dr. Steven R. Newman, a Fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians and Medical Director for Sarasota County Emergency Medical Services, was chosen to receive the Career Service Award.

Manatee County EMS Lt. Mark Jones, Charge Paramedic Angie Hadlock, and Paramedic Renee Bergschneider; East Manatee Fire Rescue Battalion Chief Stacy Bailey, Lt. Sean Battick, Lt. Chad Gamble, and Firefighters Stephen Beecher, Steven Rickman, Doug Sprigg, and Andrew Stark; and Bayflight 2 Flight Nurse Kelly Long, Paramedic Mike Bull, and Pilot Joe Mattina were chosen to receive the Unit Citation award.

Firefighter/Paramedic Larry Gibbs of the Sarasota County Fire Department was chosen to receive the Dedication and Professionalism award.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF HARIS  
SULEMAN

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a profound sense of sadness, as I grieve with so many of my fellow Hoosiers over the loss of a young man who cared deeply for his community. Today, we remember Haris Suleman, a 17-year-old student who passed away last week in a plane crash.

For the past month, Haris had been piloting a single-engine aircraft around the world with the hope of setting a world record and raising money to help build schools in his family's native country of Pakistan. He was a determined young man, who took interest in being a pilot after years of flying with his father, Babar. Sadly, his father, who accompanied him on this trip, is still missing.

Haris was going to be a high school senior this fall and he dreamed of becoming an engineer like his father. Although he was only with us for a short time, Haris made a positive and lasting impact in his community, and his passing is a great loss for so many. May his determination to reach his goals and his commitment to help others serve as an example for all of us to follow.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our thoughts and prayers to Haris Suleman's family.

REMEMBERING FORMER REP.  
CALDWELL BUTLER

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor my former colleague, Rep. Caldwell Butler of Roanoke, who passed away on July 29, 2014 at the age of 89.

I will always remember Caldwell as a true Virginia gentleman. Representing Virginia's Sixth District from 1972 until 1983, I had the pleasure of serving with him during my first term in Congress. I appreciated Caldwell's golden character and the lasting impact he had on this body. He was a good, decent and honorable man—qualities that we should all aspire to emulate; qualities that are especially important for those in public service.

Rep. Butler had a great sense of humor and sharp wit. As a member of the House Judiciary Committee, he demonstrated these qualities each and every day. He served his country and his district with distinction.

Prior to serving in Congress, Caldwell joined the Navy during World War II and later attended the University of Richmond and the University of Virginia School of Law. In 1962, he was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates, where he served until his election to Congress.

Caldwell and his wife, June, were always a team. Sadly, June passed away just last month. Together, they raised four sons—Manley, Henry, James and Marshall—and have seven grandchildren and two step-grandchildren

I submit the following article from The Roanoke Times on Caldwell's life and accomplishments. I respectfully ask that my colleagues join me in extending our deepest condolences to his family and in honoring his great service to our country.

[From the Roanoke Times, July 29, 2014]

CALDWELL BUTLER, FORMER ROANOKE CONGRESSMAN WHO CAST KEY VOTE DURING WATERGATE, DIES

Caldwell Butler, a former congressman from Roanoke who was thrust into the national spotlight when he became one of the few Republicans to favor Richard Nixon's impeachment during the Watergate scandal, has died. He was 89.

Richard Cullen, a close family friend and former Virginia attorney general, confirmed Butler's death this morning. Cullen said he expects funeral services to be held Friday at St. John's Church in Roanoke. Butler's wife, June, died last month.

Rep. Bob Goodlatte, R-Roanoke County, who holds the 6th District seat today, remembered Butler in comments before the Judiciary Committee today. Longtime Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., also recalled serving with Butler. Watch the comments here.

Butler was first elected to Congress representing Virginia's 6th District in 1972, running as a member of "the Nixon team" in a district where Nixon amassed 72 percent of the vote. But less than two years later, in a dramatic reversal, Butler voted for Nixon's impeachment.

As a freshman member of the House Judiciary Committee, Butler was thrown by circumstance into the Watergate scandal, which grew out of Nixon's cover-up of a break-in at the Democratic headquarters in 1972. Through the spring and summer of 1974, as the committee investigated the actions of the president and his advisers, Butler's role became more important.

Butler had supported Nixon's legislative efforts. And some said he owed his own congressional career to the GOP landslide sparked by Nixon.

Butler was viewed as one of the half-dozen crucial swing votes on the Judiciary Committee, though. During most of the committee hearings, he had not joined the president's attackers. But neither had he joined the defenders.

Butler and the other pivotal committee members were considered bellwethers of support for impeachment. When Butler announced, in July 1974, that he backed two impeachment charges, the president's defense withered.

THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE OF  
AUTISM

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the global incidence of autism is steadily increasing. About 1 in 68 children has been identified with autism spectrum disorder, or ASD, according to estimates from the Center for Disease Control's Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network. ASD is reported to occur in all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups, but is almost 5 times more common among boys (1 in 42) than among girls (1 in 189).

Studies in Asia, Europe, and North America have identified individuals with ASD with an average of about 1% of the population. The prevalence of autism in Africa is unknown, but there is no reason to believe that it is any different than other parts of the world. A new study recently found that each case of autism costs \$2.4 million over a lifetime, including the expense of special education and lost productivity for their parents. Meanwhile, 85 percent of autistic adults are jobless or underemployed.

It is, therefore imperative that people with ASD are empowered to be self-sufficient so that they can not only earn money to meet their own needs, but also so they can utilize the talents they possess to contribute to society at large. A hearing that I held last week examined some innovative strategies to achieve this goal.

SAP, a global software company, is working to rectify this problem. SAP partnered with Thorkil Sonne, CEO and Founder of Specialisterne, to develop its highly successful "Autism at Work" program. Mr. Sonne, whose 17-year-old son Lars is autistic, realized that, while those with autism might lack the social skills recruiters are looking for, they possess many attributes high on their radar as well: intelligence and memory, the ability to see patterns and attention to detail on repetitive tasks. He reasoned that it would be phenomenal if we could use skills like we see among people with autism in software testing, data analysis, and quality control. He said that there is no reason why we should leave these people unemployed when they have so much talent and there are so many vacant jobs in

the high-tech sector. SAP and Mr. Sonne provided further details of their extraordinary program at last week's hearing.

In her testimony, Theresa Hussman of Autism Society of America said, "In school, at work and in the community, people with autism are often faced with segregation, low expectations, impoverished conditions and denial of opportunity that a society committed to civil rights should find unacceptable. Today, if you are an adult living with autism, you will likely be unemployed or vastly under-employed, living well below the poverty level, and denied access to affordable housing and so much more."

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, Ron Suskind testified in part about success with an "affinity" approach, and he says, "for every visible deficit, there is an equal and opposing strength. This population is just like the rest of us, only less so and more so. The question increasingly is not 'if' these 'more so' qualities exist, but 'where'?"

Autism used to be described as a disorder characterized by delays or abnormal functioning before the age of three years in social interaction, communication or restricted, repetitive and stereotyped patterns of behavior, interests and activities. More recently, behavioral scientists describe a range of such behavior now referred to as autism spectrum disorder, which includes a more high-functioning version known as Asperger syndrome.

It is medically possible to diagnose someone with ASD as early as 18 months or even younger, and a reliable diagnosis can be made by the age of two. However, symptoms might not present themselves until later in life. Those with some form of autism may never be diagnosed at all.

This has led to a debate over famous, productive people, often considered geniuses, who appear to have symptoms of autism, especially Asperger syndrome. In the April 30, 2003 issue of *New Scientist* magazine, writer Hazel Muir revealed the debate over whether geniuses Albert Einstein and Isaac Newton had Asperger syndrome.

Simon Baron Cohen, an autism expert based at Cambridge University, and Oxford University mathematician Ioan James speculated that Newton, the noted English physicist and mathematician, exhibited Asperger traits such as hardly speaking, forgetting to eat and giving scheduled lectures even to an empty room. Einstein, the German physicist, was said to have obsessively repeated sentences until he was seven years old and was a notoriously confusing lecturer. Both were highly productive scientists, perhaps because of the kind of focus ASD produces rather than in spite of it.

In a February 2, 2005, report on CNBC, anchor Sue Herara presented an interview with

2002 Nobel laureate Vernon L. Smith in which he spoke of the way in which his autism has allowed him to excel. "I can switch out and go into a concentrated mode and the world is completely shut out," Smith is quoted as saying. "If I'm writing something, nothing else exists."

During the interview, Smith, who won the Nobel Prize for inventing the field of experimental economics, admitted that he is sometimes "not there" in social situations. He said that teaching had forced him to be more social, but it was only because he was talking about issues on which he was already focused.

I raise the issue of intelligence and functionality because we too often see people with ASD as victims who must be cared for when the focus their condition produces may allow them to be highly successful in certain endeavors. When we begin to look at people with ASD in this light, we can better see how they can be enabled to contribute to society. It just requires understanding of their potential as well as their limitations.

Many fields involving mathematics and science would allow for the intense focus exhibited by many people with ASD to be quite useful. Think also of fields of analysis—intelligence, actuarial science, and other positions requiring what we commonly call "numbers crunching." The ability to analyze data and see patterns most people would not recognize would be invaluable in analytical jobs.

As Nobel laureate Vernon Smith said, his disconnection from social relationships enables him to think outside the box, as it were, without concern for violating social norms. Smith found his condition to be an advantage in enabling greater creativity. In our increasingly technical world, people with ASD actually are becoming more valuable, if we can help them overcome social disconnection and allow them to find fields in which what we have thought to be their disability is actually their advantage.

We hope today's hearing can be instructive in at least initiating a change in perspective on what people with ASD can do to help themselves and to make a contribution to society as a whole. We must not continue to waste the talents of people who could make their lives and ours much better.

Finally, I'd like to thank the amazing group of individuals who testified last week who made a historic difference in the lives of those on spectrum.

As Michael Rosanoff put it in his testimony "our mission at Autism Speaks is to change the future for all who struggle with autism spectrum disorders." Each of you on the expert witness panel did just that.