

to be a cosponsor. This bill was introduced by the gentleman from New Jersey, the subcommittee's ranking member, Mr. PAYNE.

The bill amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to include, among the responsibilities of the Department of Homeland Security's Under Secretary for Management, achieving and maintaining interoperable communications among the Department's components.

H.R. 615 addresses the findings and recommendations of a November 2012 DHS Office of Inspector General report, which stated that the Department does not have the appropriate oversight or governance structure to ensure communications interoperability among its components. It is vital that the Department's components are able to effectively communicate day to day and, most importantly, during emergencies.

In response to the findings of this inspector general's report, I joined Chairman McCaul and Oversight and Management Efficiency Subcommittee Chairman PERRY in requesting a review of this issue by the Government Accountability Office. Their report, which was released in March, found that nearly 3 years after the inspector general's report, communications problems persist in the Department and among its components. In particular, Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Customs Enforcement personnel reported to the GAO that the lack of interoperability in some cases along the border resulted in missed apprehensions and jeopardized agent safety.

My district is on the southwest border. I know the challenges our Border Patrol agents, CBP officers, and ICE agents face in meeting their vital missions. It is unacceptable that they lack the tools and training necessary to communicate with each other. This bill seeks to make this more of a priority at the headquarters level.

In order to ensure the Department is taking the necessary steps to achieve and maintain interoperable communications capabilities, H.R. 615 requires the Department's Under Secretary for Management to submit an interoperable communications strategy to the Committee on Homeland Security no later than 180 days after enactment and to periodically report to Congress on efforts to implement this strategy.

This bill passed the House in February by a vote of 379-0. I appreciate the swift action of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee under the leadership of my friend, Chairman JOHNSON. Their thoughtful additions have served to further improve this bill. I urge all Members to join me in supporting it.

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of the Senate amendment to H.R. 615, the Department of Homeland Security Interoperable Communications Act.

In November 2012, the inspector general of the Department of Homeland Security issued an assessment of the interoperable communications capability among DHS components. The inspector general found that, of the 479 field radios that attempted to communicate on a specific common channel, only one user could do so. That is a 99 percent failure rate.

In short, DHS, which is the Federal entity charged with providing guidance to State and local governments to improve interoperable emergency communications, was not practicing what it preached. The inspector general found that DHS' interoperable challenges were not technological in nature. Rather, they were attributed to the fact that there was no one leading the effort to drive changes in the field. Further, there were no policies in place to ensure that the 123,000 radio users at DHS understood how to use the communications equipment issued to them.

Throughout my tenure on the Committee on Homeland Security, I have repeatedly sought opportunities to drive home the message that interoperable communications are critical to the Homeland Security mission at the Federal, State, and local levels.

Addressing this fundamental operational challenge is consistent with the DHS Unity of Effort initiative. So it would seem that the timing is right for real progress. However, late last month, we learned from the inspector general that, nearly 3 years after the issuance of the first report, DHS' components' inability to communicate effectively on the DHS common channel persists and that DHS has not completed the corrective actions necessary to resolve the problem. The inspector general's most recent findings confirm that it is going to take directing the Department in law to get this done. That is why I was happy to support Ranking Member Donald Payne, Jr., when he introduced this legislation.

H.R. 615 would put DHS components on the path to achieving interoperable communications by directing the Department's Under Secretary for Management to develop a strategy to achieve interoperability. The taxpayers have spent \$430 million on interoperable communications capabilities at the Department so far. In this austere fiscal climate, we cannot afford to waste more money investing in communications capabilities when DHS lacks the policies that are sure to be effective.

With the help of full committee Chairman McCaul and subcommittee Chairwoman MCSALLY, the Department of Homeland Security Interoperable Communications Act passed the House unanimously earlier this year. Subsequently, our Senate counterparts approved H.R. 615 by unanimous consent with some enhancements. I urge my colleagues to concur with the Senate amendment to H.R. 615 and send this bill to the President's desk.

The inspector general's report identifying the urgent interoperable commu-

nications problem at DHS came out 3 years ago. A comprehensive solution is long overdue. Unfortunately, the Department has still not implemented appropriate corrective action. I commend subcommittee Ranking Member PAYNE for introducing this important legislation and for his efforts to get it enacted into law. I urge my colleagues to concur with the Senate amendment of H.R. 615.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I, once again, urge my colleagues to support H.R. 615, which seeks to enhance interoperable communications at the Department of Homeland Security.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 615.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

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 28 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1831

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DENHAM) at 6 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Passage of H.R. 1190, and motions to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 805 and H.R. 2576.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

PROTECTING SENIORS' ACCESS TO MEDICARE ACT OF 2015

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on passage of the bill (H.R. 1190) to repeal the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act providing for the Independent Payment Advisory Board,

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 passage of the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 244, nays 154, not voting 35, as follows:

[Roll No. 376]

YEAS—244

Abraham	Griffith	Paulsen
Allen	Grothman	Pearce
Amash	Guinta	Perry
Amodei	Guthrie	Peterson
Ashford	Hanna	Pittenger
Babin	Hardy	Pitts
Barletta	Harper	Poe (TX)
Barr	Harris	Poliquin
Barton	Hartzler	Pompeo
Benishkek	Heck (NV)	Posey
Bilirakis	Hensarling	Price, Tom
Bishop (MI)	Herrera Beutler	Ratcliffe
Bishop (UT)	Hice, Jody B.	Reed
Black	Hill	Reichert
Blackburn	Holding	Renacci
Blum	Hudson	Ribble
Bost	Huelskamp	Rice (SC)
Boustany	Huizenga (MI)	Rigell
Brady (TX)	Hultgren	Roby
Brat	Hunter	Roe (TN)
Bridenstine	Hurd (TX)	Rogers (AL)
Brooks (AL)	Hurt (VA)	Rogers (KY)
Brooks (IN)	Issa	Rokita
Buchanan	Jenkins (KS)	Rooney (FL)
Buck	Jenkins (WV)	Ros-Lehtinen
Bucshon	Johnson (OH)	Roskam
Burgess	Johnson, Sam	Ross
Byrne	Jolly	Rothfus
Calvert	Jones	Rouzer
Capuano	Jordan	Royce
Carter (GA)	Joyce	Ryan (WI)
Chabot	Katko	Salmon
Chaffetz	Kelly (PA)	Sanford
Clawson (FL)	King (IA)	Scalise
Coffman	King (NY)	Schweikert
Cole	Kinzinger (IL)	Scott, Austin
Collins (GA)	Kline	Scott, David
Collins (NY)	Knight	Sensenbrenner
Comstock	Labrador	Sessions
Conaway	LaMalfa	Shimkus
Costello (PA)	Lamborn	Shuster
Cramer	Lance	Simpson
Crawford	Latta	Sinema
Crenshaw	LoBiondo	Smith (MO)
Culberson	Long	Smith (NE)
Curbelo (FL)	Loudermilk	Smith (NJ)
Davis, Rodney	Love	Smith (TX)
Denham	Lucas	Stefanik
Dent	Luetkemeyer	Stewart
DesJarlais	Lummis	Stivers
Diaz-Balart	MacArthur	Stutzman
Dold	Maloney, Sean	Thompson (PA)
Donovan	Massie	Thornberry
Duffy	McCarthy	Tiberi
Duncan (SC)	McCaul	Tipton
Duncan (TN)	McClintock	Trott
Ellmers (NC)	McHenry	Turner
Emmer (MN)	McKinley	Upton
Farenthold	McMorris	Valadao
Fitzpatrick	Rodgers	Walberg
Fleischmann	McSally	Walden
Fleming	Meadows	Walker
Flores	Meehan	Walorski
Forbes	Messer	Walters, Mimi
Fortenberry	Mica	Weber (TX)
Foster	Miller (FL)	Webster (FL)
Fox	Miller (MI)	Wenstrup
Franks (AZ)	Moolenaar	Westerman
Frelinghuysen	Mooney (WV)	Whitfield
Gabbard	Mullin	Williams
Garrett	Mulvaney	Wilson (SC)
Gibbs	Murphy (PA)	Wittman
Gibson	Neal	Womack
Gohmert	Neugebauer	Woodall
Goodlatte	Newhouse	Yoder
Gosar	Noem	Yoho
Gowdy	Nugent	Young (AK)
Graham	Nunes	Young (IA)
Granger	O'Rourke	Young (IN)
Graves (GA)	Olson	Zeldin
Graves (LA)	Palazzo	Zinke
Graves (MO)	Palmer	

NAYS—154

Adams	Bass	Becerra
Aguilar	Beatty	Bera

Beyer	Garamendi	Norcross
Bishop (GA)	Green, Al	Pallone
Blumenauer	Green, Gene	Pascarell
Bonamici	Hahn	Pelosi
Boyle, Brendan F.	Hastings	Perlmutter
Brady (PA)	Heck (WA)	Peters
Brownley (CA)	Higgins	Pingree
Bustos	Himes	Pocan
Butterfield	Hinojosa	Polis
Capps	Honda	Price (NC)
Cárdenas	Hoyer	Quigley
Carney	Israel	Rangel
Carson (IN)	Johnson (GA)	Rice (NY)
Cartwright	Johnson, E. B.	Richmond
Castor (FL)	Kaptur	Ruiz
Cicilline	Keating	Ruppersberger
Clark (MA)	Kelly (IL)	Rush
Clarke (NY)	Kennedy	Ryan (OH)
Clay	Kildee	Sanchez, Linda T.
Cleaver	Kilmer	Sarbanes
Cohen	Kind	Schakowsky
Connolly	Kuster	Schiff
Conyers	Langevin	Schrader
Cooper	Larsen (WA)	Scott (VA)
Costa	Larson (CT)	Serrano
Crowley	Lawrence	Sewell (AL)
Cuellar	Lee	Sherman
Cummings	Levin	Sires
Davis (CA)	Lewis	Slaughter
Davis, Danny	Lieu, Ted	Smith (WA)
DeFazio	Lipinski	Speier
DeGette	Loebsack	Swalwell (CA)
Delaney	Lowenthal	Takai
DeLauro	Lowe	Takano
DelBene	Lujan Grisham (NM)	Thompson (CA)
DeSaulnier	Lujan, Ben Ray (NM)	Thompson (MS)
Deutch	Lynch	Tonko
Dingell	Maloney,	Torres
Doggett	Carolyn	Tsongas
Ross	Matsui	Van Hollen
F.	McCollum	Vargas
Duckworth	McDermott	Veasey
Edwards	McGovern	Velázquez
Ellison	McNerney	Visclosky
Eshoo	Meeks	Walz
Esty	Moore	Wasserman
Farr	Moulton	Schultz
Fattah	Murphy (FL)	Watson Coleman
Frankel (FL)	Nadler	Welch
Fudge	Nolan	Yarmuth
Gallego		

NOT VOTING—35

Aderholt	Grijalva	Payne
Brown (FL)	Gutiérrez	Rohrabacher
Carter (TX)	Huffman	Roybal-Allard
Castro (TX)	Jackson Lee	Russell
Chu, Judy	Jeffries	Sanchez, Loretta
Clyburn	Kelly (MS)	Titus
Cook	Kirkpatrick	Vela
Courtney	Lofgren	Wagner
DeSantis	Marchant	Waters, Maxine
Engel	Marino	Westmoreland
Fincher	Meng	Wilson (FL)
Grayson	Napolitano	

□ 1856

Messrs. CLEAVER, HONDA, and CROWLEY changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

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

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 376 I was delayed due to airline late departure. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

Stated against:

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 376 on H.R. 1190, I mistakenly recorded my vote as “yes” when I should have voted “no.”

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 376 I was delayed by a transportation difficulty. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay.”

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 376, had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR VICTIMS OF SHOOTING AT EMANUEL AME CHURCH, CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

(Mr. SANFORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, in just a moment, I will request a moment of silence, but before I do, I stand here with other Members of the South Carolina delegation to say our colleague JIM CLYBURN, who right now is back home visiting with aggrieved families on the coast of South Carolina, and many of us, like Senator SCOTT and others, will be going back during this week to visit with those same families.

I am joined as well by members of the Congressional Black Caucus and Members of this body who have been deeply shaken by the events of this last week in Charleston, South Carolina.

I rise with this group on behalf of the nine families who have been impacted back home, on behalf of the people of the First District of South Carolina, and on behalf of the people of South Carolina who have shown a whole lot of heart and a whole lot of love here over the last week.

I say this because, less than a week ago, as we all know, a young man with incomprehensible malice came into the Mother Emanuel AME Church on Calhoun Street in Charleston, South Carolina, and did the unthinkable as he joined a Bible study and he gunned down nine of the members, the parishioners, there in the church.

Fortunately, our story doesn't end there because the family members of the victims also did the unthinkable. I say that because there, at the bond hearing, they did the unimaginable, the incomprehensible in, I guess, showing human grace is a reflection of God's grace and what is talked about in Romans in not repaying evil with evil, but repaying evil with good because, at the bond hearing, the first family comes up, and they say: “I am in incomprehensible pain, but I forgive you.”

The next family comes up: “I am in incredible pain, but I forgive you.” Those were the words that were repeated by each of the nine families: “I forgive you, I forgive you, and I forgive you.”

That set in motion and, if you will, set the stage this last week in Charleston for a level of community that I have never before seen in my life and amazing things done at the church and in the community at large.

It is for that reason that we all stand here to remember the names of the nine victims and to pause for a moment of silence here in just a moment.

If I might, let me read the names of the victims: Reverend Clementa Pinckney; Tywanza Sanders; Cynthia Hurd;