

XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 22.

Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY) kindly take the chair.

□ 1453

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 22) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt employees with health coverage under TRICARE or the Veterans Administration from being taken into account for purposes of determining the employers to which the employer mandate applies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, with Mr. CONAWAY (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, an amendment consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 114-32 was pending.

Pursuant to House Resolution 512, no further amendment to that amendment shall be in order except those printed in part A of House Report 114-326 and amendments en bloc described in subsection (c) of that resolution.

Each further amendment printed in part A of House Report 114-326 shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before action thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

It shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure or his designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in part A of House Report 114-326 not earlier disposed of. Such amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

No further amendment to the Senate amendment, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in part B of House Report 114-326. Each such further amendment shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, except that amendment No. 23 printed in part B of the report may be considered as though immediately following amendment No. 9 in part B of the report. Each such further amendment may be offered only by a Member des-

ignated in the report, shall be considered read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before action thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HARRIS) having assumed the chair, Mr. CONAWAY, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 22) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt employees with health coverage under TRICARE or the Veterans Administration from being taken into account for purposes of determining the employers to which the employer mandate applies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, had come to no resolution thereon.

□ 1500

PERMISSION TO CONSIDER AMENDMENT NO. 1 PRINTED IN PART A OF HOUSE REPORT 114-326 OUT OF SEQUENCE

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that, during further consideration of the Senate amendments to H.R. 22, pursuant to House Resolution 512, amendment No. 1, printed in part A of House Report 114-326, may be considered out of sequence.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CONAWAY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

HIRE MORE HEROES ACT OF 2015

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 512 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 22.

Will the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. PALAZZO) kindly take the chair.

□ 1504

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 22) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt employees with health coverage under TRICARE or the Veterans Administration from being taken into account for purposes of determining the employers to which the employer mandate applies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, with Mr. PALAZZO (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, an amendment consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 114-32 was pending.

Pursuant to the order of the House of today, amendment No. 1, printed in part A of House Report 114-326, may be considered out of sequence.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. RYAN OF OHIO

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in part A of House Report 114-326.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 56, line 8, after "diesel retrofits" insert "or alternative fuel vehicles".

Page 56, line 9, insert "or indirect" after "direct".

Page 56, line 14, insert "or indirectly" after "directly".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 512, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Chairman, my amendment is cosponsored by Congresswoman NAPOLITANO and is endorsed by the Natural Gas Vehicles for America, the Electric Drive Transportation Association, and the National Propane Gas Association.

The amendment addresses one specific provision in the bill, section 1109, which modifies how Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality, CMAQ, funds can be used in PM2.5 nonattainment and maintenance areas. "PM" stands for "particulate matter."

The purpose of the CMAQ Program is to fund transportation projects or programs that will contribute to the attainment or maintenance of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. All projects and programs that are eligible for CMAQ funds must come from a conforming Federal or State transportation plan. The program is designed to allow States to identify the right solution for their air quality challenges and utilize CMAQ funds to implement them.

Without the Ryan-Napolitano amendment, the language in section 1109 may restrict States' discretion in identifying the most cost-effective emissions reduction technologies and effectively limit their options to only diesel retrofits. Specifically, the priority consideration and use of funding provisions for the section seemingly restrict local authorities' ability to consider other alternative vehicle technologies that can be adopted to meet the goals of this section.

Other technologies, such as natural gas, propane, or electric vehicles, also reduce PM2.5 and provide other air quality benefits. In my State of Ohio and the chairman's State of Pennsylvania, being two of those States, they