

and forth. Many times that silo approach doesn't work. This breaks down those silos and allows agencies to share information about these applicants.

In today's world when we need to, in a timely way, gets folks into the cybersecurity realm, we need to get folks into the information technology realm, and even in the veterans' healthcare realm where we need to get healthcare providers there quickly, especially when there is demand, this is the perfect way to do that. When we go through the effort of having these individuals apply for these jobs, we know what their qualifications are. There is no reason why we shouldn't be sharing this information. It allows us to act in the best interests of taxpayers, it cuts down on the amount of expense that is put forth in recruiting these individuals, and it ensures that we get things done on time.

We understand, too, the talent pool that is out there. Many times, too, if you look at it and say that these are the individuals who are available and even if there is a challenge in getting somebody, you can immediately see that, instead of having to wait for time to communicate back and forth between agencies and say, "Well, it doesn't look like in this area that we have the number of individuals that we need; what is the next course of action?" this allows us to get through all of those particular issues and get people in these positions as quickly as possible.

It is just a commonsense piece of legislation that allows our managers to manage in the most effective way possible. It allows us to do the best job for our country, and it allows the best use of taxpayers' dollars.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support S. 1580.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers.

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

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close. I urge adoption of this bill.

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

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I want to express my strong support for the bipartisan, bicameral Competitive Service Act, S. 1580, before the House today. I am pleased to sponsor the House companion, H.R. 2827, of this common-sense legislation with my fellow Virginian, ROB WITTMAN.

Our bill reforms an antiquated and cumbersome hiring system that hinders our nation's ability to efficiently hire the most qualified candidates into federal service. Under current law, federal agencies are prohibited from sharing information about vetted job applicants. For example, when agencies identify finalists for a vacant position in a highly competitive field, such as cybersecurity, no other agency can leverage those efforts and take advantage of applicant screening that's already been performed.

Our bill will empower agencies to share information about the most qualified candidates,

allowing the federal government to effectively recruit the best and the brightest talent while saving taxpayer dollars. It represents a win-win for applicants and agency human resource professionals.

Further this is an important component of a comprehensive effort to modernize the federal hiring process to ensure we can recruit the next generation of civil servants. We are facing a retirement bubble within the federal ranks. Last year, GAO reported that nearly one-third of the federal workforce would be eligible to retire by the end of fiscal year 2017.

We need to begin repairing the significant damage that has been wrought on federal employees. The perception of public service, once lionized by President Kennedy as a noble profession, has steadily been whittled away by the current House majority, which has cut federal pay and benefits. Just try to go to a college campus today and convince a young graduate that they have a promising future federal service.

The relaunch of the USAJobs site later this week is another critical tool that will make the application process more user-friendly and transparent. Our Competitive Service Act will ensure all agencies have ready access to those qualified individuals once they're in the system.

I urge my colleagues to support this common-sense legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1580, 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.

#### 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 6 o'clock and 12 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. CARTER of Georgia) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

#### MODERNIZATION OF TERMS RELATING TO MINORITIES

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. 4238) to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act and the Local Public Works Capital Development and Investment Act of 1976 to modernize terms relating to minorities, 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 Kentucky (Mr. WHITFIELD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 376, nays 0, not voting 57, as follows:

[Roll No. 102]

YEAS—376

Abraham	Denham	Jordan
Adams	Dent	Joyce
Aguilar	DeSantis	Kaptur
Allen	DeSaulnier	Katko
Amash	DesJarlais	Keating
Amodei	Deutch	Kelly (IL)
Ashford	Diaz-Balart	Kelly (MS)
Barletta	Dingell	Kelly (PA)
Barr	Dold	Kennedy
Bass	Donovan	Kildee
Beatty	Doyle, Michael	Kilmer
Benishek	F.	Kind
Bera	Duckworth	King (IA)
Beyer	Duffy	King (NY)
Billirakis	Duncan (SC)	Kinzinger (IL)
Bishop (GA)	Duncan (TN)	Kirkpatrick
Bishop (MI)	Edwards	Knight
Bishop (UT)	Ellison	Kuster
Black	Elmrs (NC)	LaHood
Blackburn	Emmer (MN)	Lamborn
Blum	Engel	Lance
Blumenauer	Eshoo	Langevin
Bonamici	Esty	Larsen (WA)
Bost	Farr	Larson (CT)
Boustany	Fitzpatrick	Latta
Boyle, Brendan	Fleischmann	Lawrence
F.	Fleming	Lee
Brady (PA)	Forbes	Levin
Brat	Fortenberry	Lewis
Bridenstine	Foster	Lieu, Ted
Brooks (AL)	Fox	Lipinski
Brooks (IN)	Frankel (FL)	LoBiondo
Brown (FL)	Franks (AZ)	Loeb
Brownley (CA)	Frelinghuysen	Lofgren
Buchanan	Fudge	Long
Buck	Gabbard	Loudermilk
Bucshon	Gallego	Love
Burgess	Garamendi	Lowenthal
Bustos	Garrett	Lowe
Butterfield	Gibbs	Lucas
Calvert	Gibson	Luetkemeyer
Capps	Goodlatte	Lujan Grisham
Cárdenas	Gosar	(NM)
Carney	Gowdy	Lujan, Ben Ray
Carson (IN)	Graham	(NM)
Carter (GA)	Granger	Lummis
Carter (TX)	Graves (GA)	Lynch
Castor (FL)	Graves (LA)	MacArthur
Chabot	Graves (MO)	Maloney, Sean
Chaffetz	Grayson	Marino
Chu, Judy	Green, Al	Masse
Cicilline	Griffith	Matsui
Clark (MA)	Grijalva	McCarthy
Clarke (NY)	Grothman	McCaul
Clawson (FL)	Guinta	McClintock
Clay	Guthrie	McCollum
Cleaver	Gutiérrez	McDermott
Clyburn	Hahn	McHenry
Coffman	Hanna	McKinley
Cohen	Hardy	McMorris
Cole	Harper	Rodgers
Collins (GA)	Hartzler	McNerney
Collins (NY)	Hastings	McSally
Comstock	Heck (NV)	Meadows
Conaway	Heck (WA)	Meehan
Connolly	Hice, Jody B.	Meeks
Cook	Higgins	Meng
Cooper	Himes	Messer
Costa	Holding	Mica
Costello (PA)	Honda	Miller (FL)
Courtney	Hoyer	Miller (MI)
Cramer	Huelskamp	Moolenaar
Crawford	Huffman	Mooney (WV)
Crenshaw	Huizenga (MI)	Moore
Crowley	Hultgren	Moulton
Cuellar	Hunter	Mullin
Cummings	Hurd (TX)	Murphy (FL)
Curbelo (FL)	Hurt (VA)	Murphy (PA)
Davis (CA)	Israel	Nadler
Davis, Danny	Jeffries	Neal
Davis, Rodney	Jenkins (KS)	Neugebauer
DeFazio	Jenkins (WV)	Newhouse
DeGette	Johnson (GA)	Noem
Delaney	Johnson (OH)	Nolan
DeLauro	Jolly	Norcross
DeBene	Jones	Nugent