

these fraudulent payments from being made in the first place.

The Fraud Reduction and Data Analytics Act of 2015 will help protect taxpayer dollars by requiring the Office of Management and Budget, OMB, and Federal agencies to adopt proactive fraud detection controls and preventative measures.

The bill will require the OMB to create a set of guidelines for antifraud measures, which agencies must utilize when establishing their proactive anti-fraud control and detection procedures. The bill will also require agencies to better collaborate on developing best practices for combating fraud.

S. 2133 also requires that agencies create an interagency working group in order to share best practices and crucial fraud prevention data, such as the Social Security Administration's data to prevent payments to deceased individuals.

Mr. Speaker, passing S. 2133 and requiring agencies to adopt a proactive antifraud approach will not only serve to protect taxpayer dollars, but increase public confidence in the administration of government programs, especially benefit programs.

I would like to thank Senator CARPER and Senator THOM TILLIS for introducing this good government legislation, and I would like to thank the Subcommittee on Government Operations chairman MARK MEADOWS for championing this bill in the House.

I urge Members to support this bipartisan bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the Fraud Reduction and Data Analytics Act is designed to strengthen Federal agency efforts to combat financial fraud. Congress has passed a number of bills in the past few years aimed at curbing improper payments. Fraud in this area is especially harmful. It stems not from innocent mistakes, but from the willful intent to steal or misuse taxpayer dollars.

Fraud reduction strategies help reduce these crimes, and the Government Accountability Office and the inspector general have recommended that agencies implement such strategies.

The bill before us will require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to consult with GAO to develop antifraud guidance for Federal agencies and then monitor the implementation of this guidance.

The bill will also require the establishment of a working group of agency chief financial officers to share best practices and help disseminate new antifraud techniques. The working group would also be required to develop a plan for establishing an interagency library of analytical tools and datasets for agencies and IGs to use in fighting fraud.

In developing this plan, I believe the working group should look to the

model of the Recovery Operations Center, which was developed to monitor spending under the Recovery Act of 2009, and which has, unfortunately, ceased operations.

These are commonsense steps toward solving a serious problem that everyone should support. I urge members to support S. 2133.

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

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Government Operations.

Mr. MEADOWS. I thank Chairman HURD for his leadership not only on this, but on so many important topics here in this body. He certainly is looking after transparency and oversight on behalf of the American people. I just would like to applaud his leadership there.

□ 1630

I am proud today, Mr. Speaker, to rise in support of S. 2133, the Fraud Reduction and Data Analytics Act of 2015. S. 2133 is a bipartisan bill that will provide agencies a critically important measure for defeating fraud and protecting taxpayer dollars.

In fiscal year 2014, the GAO reported that a significant portion of the \$124 billion in improper payments were related to fraud. To make matters worse, all the improper payments increased by a total of \$19 billion—that is billion with a B—from the previous fiscal year.

Given the cost of these improper payments to agencies and, as a result, to the taxpayers, something must be done to block the flow of these fraudulent and improper payments. S. 2133 will provide the necessary framework around which agencies can build a strong antifraud defense system.

Currently, agencies have been over-reliant on an after-the-fact antifraud detection measure which requires the agency to review payments after they have been made and then make an attempt to recoup them. S. 2113 actually would require these agencies to develop proactive measures to identify risk, to analyze known cases of fraud, and then to develop strategies to prevent future fraud. It will also protect the American taxpayer dollars from fraud by requiring agencies to better share data that can be used to fight fraud.

This bill will create a working group of agencies where best practices and fraud detection and prevention strategies can be shared throughout the government. By combating fraud, agencies will not only protect taxpayer dollars, but also increase the trust and confidence in the administration of government programs.

I would like to thank Senator CARPER and Senator TILLIS for introducing this important, good-government legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill and help better protect the American taxpayer dollars by voting in favor of S. 2133.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HURD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2133.

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.

#### JEANNE AND JULES MANFORD POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2607) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7802 37th Avenue in Jackson Heights, New York, as the "Jeanne and Jules Manford Post Office Building."

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2607

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. JEANNE AND JULES MANFORD POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7802 37th Avenue in Jackson Heights, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Jeanne and Jules Manford Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Jeanne and Jules Manford Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HURD) and the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 2607, introduced by Representative JOSEPH CROWLEY of New York. The bill designates a post office in Jackson Heights, New York, as the Jeanne and Jules Manford Post Office Building.

Jeanne and Jules Manford were activists in the community and loving parents. I look forward to hearing more about Mr. and Mrs. Manford from my

colleague and the sponsor of this bill, Representative CROWLEY. For now, I urge Members to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 2607, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located in Jackson Heights, New York, as the Jeanne and Jules Manford Post Office Building.

Parents of gay activist Morty Manford, Jeanne and Jules Manford quickly became activists themselves, following their son's beating at a Gay Activists Alliance demonstration in 1972. Morty had been kicked and beaten, yet police did not intercede on his behalf. Jeanne wrote a letter, published in the New York Post, highlighting her outrage and drawing public attention to violence being perpetrated against the LGBT community.

A year later, in 1973, Jeanne and Jules Manford decided to organize a support group for parents of gay children. By the 1980s, their group was formally established as Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. PFLAG is now an international group made up of over 200,000 members advocating for support, understanding, and equal rights for gay, lesbian, transgender, and bisexual individuals.

In 1993, almost a year after losing Morty to complications of AIDS, Jeanne Manford served as the grand marshal of the New York Gay Pride Parade. Following her death in 2013, Jeanne was awarded the Nation's second highest civilian award, the Presidential Citizens Medal, by President Barack Obama.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to recognize Jeanne and Jules Manford's tireless devotion to the LGBT equal rights movement and their advocacy on its behalf.

Mr. Speaker, it is also a very sad time in our history where we are witnessing, unfortunately, violence and hate being perpetrated on members of our country, the citizens and people who have identified themselves as gay or lesbian.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of H.R. 2607, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to my colleague from New York (Mr. CROWLEY).

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Michigan for yielding me this time.

Before I begin, I want to thank my colleague, Ranking Member LAWRENCE, for her support on the Interior Subcommittee as well as the full committee, Ranking Member CUMMINGS and Chairman CHAFFETZ of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee for working with us to bring this bill to the floor.

I am so pleased to have this chance to honor Jeanne and Jules Manford and their history of community engagement by naming the Jackson Heights Post Office, which is situated in Queens, New York, which is squarely in the middle of my congressional district.

I also want to thank Suzanne Swan, Jeanne and Jules' daughter, and PFLAG for collaborating with me on this legislation as well.

Mr. Speaker, the timing of this bill, as my colleague from Michigan just said, could not be a more opportune moment. It comes in the wake of last Sunday's terrible attack on the LGBT community in Orlando, an attack that was motivated by hate.

We stand here today to honor two individuals who, when faced with a hateful act of violence themselves against their son, were inspired to start a movement couched in acceptance and support.

Jeanne and Jules Manford were your typical middle class Queens, New Yorkers, who worked hard to make a better life for themselves, their families, and for their community. Jeanne was a public schoolteacher in Flushing, Queens. Jules was a dentist. The couple worked with a number of local community groups helping to make Queens a better place to live.

And they raised two children, Suzanne and Morty, in whom they instilled the values of hard work, compassion, and public service. Morty was lucky to have two loving parents who accepted him for who he was at a time when the acceptance of LGBT people was, unfortunately, the exception rather than the rule.

While a student at Columbia and Cardozo Law School and throughout his career, Morty stood up for the rights of the LGBT community and, like his parents, sought to make life better for those around him. He was one of those many present at the Stonewall riots in Greenwich Village in 1969, and he continued to organize protests in order to draw attention to issues affecting the LGBT community.

Following one of those protests in April of 1972, Morty was severely beaten. In a trial following the beating, witnesses testified that they saw Morty thrown down an escalator and then kicked and stomped on. Thankfully, those injuries were not fatal. Morty did recover. But his parents, Jeanne and Jules, were galvanized to take their own actions to counter hate and to counter discrimination.

The following June, in the Christopher Street Liberation Day Parade, the predecessor to New York's Pride Parade, Jeanne Manford carried a now-famous sign that read: "Parents of Gays Unite in Support for Our Children." The image of Jeanne and her defiance and call to action in the face of bigotry and violence became a celebrated artifact in the history of the gay rights movement.

This is an iconic photo in the gay rights movement. It shows the face of a

proud mother who refuses to accept that her child should be mistreated because of who he is. More importantly, this picture, and this particular sign, document the inception of a new approach to achieving equality, an effort by parents and families to stand up for their LGBT children. In that moment, now 44 years, almost to this day, Jeanne embodied the spirit that has now come to guide a national organization known as PFLAG.

In the wake of Morty Manford's harrowing beating, Jeanne and Jules realized that, even as LGBT people continue to fight for justice and acceptance, their work can be amplified through the support of their allies. And who better to be an ally than one's own supportive family?

It was with this in mind that Jeanne and Jules founded an organization known as Parents of Gays. With their spirit of community involvement, Jeanne and Jules wanted to help others like them, friends and neighbors and colleagues, to help understand and support their LGBT children. They held their first support group meeting in 1973 in the Church of the Village, a uniquely accepting and progressive Methodist Church in Greenwich Village, and it is still active today.

At a time when attitudes toward sexual orientation were only just beginning to change, the founding of an organization designed to bring in, educate, and support those closest to the LGBT individuals, their parents, was critical in advancing acceptance and equal rights.

Over the next few years, similar organizations were started all around the country, and their representatives were finally brought together following the 1979 National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. A couple of years later, following important work establishing themselves as the source of information and support, various chapters decided to launch a national organization called Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, now known as PFLAG. And from there, the organization's efforts took off.

PFLAG began work on national policy issues, such as stopping the military from discharging lesbian servicemembers. And it worked to help establish hundreds of chapters in rural communities where LGBT individuals and their families had a more difficult time finding and coordinating with others like them. Today, PFLAG counts over 350 chapters and more than 200,000 members in all 50 States, and similar organizations have been established around the world.

Jeanne and Jules continued to work in their community, helping to found a PFLAG chapter in Queens, alongside the LGBT equal rights activist and my good friend, Danny Dromm, now a member of the New York City Council. Jeanne went on to become an advocate for people with HIV and AIDS, following Morty's death from the disease in 1992 at the young age of just 41.

For her many years of work in support of the LGBT community, Jeanne was honored as the first Grand Marshal of the Queens Pride Parade, which began in 1993, the year after Morty's death. The parade runs through the heart of my district in Queens and passes a reviewing stand situated directly in front of the post office we are renaming today in Jackson Heights. In fact, the street corner next to this post office was itself renamed for someone we lost to a senseless act of hate. Julio Rivera, a young man, was killed in 1990 at the age of 29, targeted because he, himself, was gay.

Jackson Heights is a thriving neighborhood with a growing LGBT community, and our community will be honored to have our local post office bear the names of Jeanne and Jules Manford. These symbols remind us of how far we have come.

After Jules Manford passed away, Jeanne, having lost her husband and son, eventually went to live with her daughter, Suzanne, in California.

□ 1645

In January of 2013, just a few months before the Supreme Court's landmark decision overturning the Defense of Marriage Act, Jeanne passed away at the age of 92. That same year, Jeanne was honored posthumously with the Presidential Citizens Medal for her efforts.

It is difficult to imagine how we could have achieved so much progress toward attaining more equal rights for LGBT Americans without the work of Jeanne and Jules Manford more than 40 years ago.

Though the LGBT community itself had already begun to organize and demand action, it was the Manfords' work to bring families and allies into the fold that helped push these issues to the fore.

Many attribute the shift in public opinion on the issue of marriage equality to the simple fact that gay and lesbian people are able to be more open about who they are. As a result, more and more straight Americans know someone who is gay or lesbian or bisexual or transgender and want their friends and family to be treated equally.

This is thanks, in no small part, to the supportive work of the PFLAG and its chapters throughout the years, and to the movement by parents and families who proudly choose to love their children for who they are. So as we celebrate Pride Month, I am glad we have this opportunity to reflect upon and honor those who helped get us to where we are today.

As we mourn in the wake of the tragic shooting at the Pulse LGBT nightclub in Orlando last week, I hope we all can emulate the way Jeanne and Jules Manford responded to their son's beating. The Manfords recognized that violent acts of hate don't show strength. Far from it. They show weakness in the soul of the offender.

Instead of recoiling in fear, the Manfords reacted with a sign of love, support, and solidarity. I have been heartened to see millions of Americans do the same over this past week. It has shown our strength as a society and as a nation in spite of an attack meant to shake us.

So I am particularly glad that we are able to consider this legislation today to honor Jeanne and Jules Manford for all they have done for Queens, for New York, and for America, and I look forward to seeing this become law.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank all of you who are responsible for bringing this bill to the floor today for its consideration. I ask my colleagues to support this bill.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, as we close out the naming of our post offices, I want to take this time to just awaken this body and America on how the naming of post offices take the legacy of American citizens and allow us to celebrate them, remember them, and to create a sense of history in the communities where they live and serve.

Just to sum up the post offices that we have named today: Mary E. McCoy, an activist for women and African Americans; Ed Pastor, who was a Congressman; Barry Miller, an emergency responder; Amelia Robinson, a civil rights activist; Michael Oxley, a Member of Congress; Kenneth Christy, a letter carrier; and Jeanne and Jules Manford, LGBT activists.

Again, today, we have shown America that we recognize the service of those who on their own desire, will, and passion have served our country.

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

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HURD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2607.

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.

#### INSPECTOR GENERAL EMPOWERMENT ACT OF 2016

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2395) to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to strengthen the independence of the Inspectors General, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2395

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Inspector General Empowerment Act of 2016”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Full and prompt access to all documents.

Sec. 3. Additional authority provisions for Inspectors General.

Sec. 4. Additional responsibilities of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency.

Sec. 5. Amendments to the Inspector General Act of 1978 and the Inspector General Reform Act of 2008.

Sec. 6. Reports required.

Sec. 7. Public release of misconduct report.

Sec. 8. No additional funds authorized.

#### SEC. 2. FULL AND PROMPT ACCESS TO ALL DOCUMENTS.

(a) AUTHORITY.—Section 6 of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended—

(1) by amending subsection (a)(1) to read as follows:

“(1)(A) notwithstanding any other provision of law, except any provision of law enacted by Congress that expressly refers to an Inspector General and expressly limits the right of access by that Inspector General, to have timely access to all records, reports, audits, reviews, documents, papers, recommendations, or other materials available to the applicable establishment which relate to programs and operations with respect to which that Inspector General has responsibilities under this Act; and

“(B) except as provided in subsection (i), with regard to Federal grand jury materials protected from disclosure pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 6(e), to have timely access to such information if the Attorney General grants the request in accordance with subsection (g);”;

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsections:

“(g) REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO REQUEST FOR FEDERAL GRAND JURY MATERIALS.—

“(1) TRANSMISSION OF REQUEST TO ATTORNEY GENERAL.—If the Inspector General of an establishment submits a request to the head of the establishment for Federal grand jury materials pursuant to subsection (a)(1), the head of the establishment shall immediately notify the Attorney General of such request.

“(2) ATTORNEY GENERAL DETERMINATION.—Not later than 15 days after the date on which a request is submitted to the Attorney General under paragraph (1), the Attorney General shall determine whether to grant or deny the request for Federal grand jury materials and shall immediately notify the head of the establishment of such determination. The Attorney General shall grant the request unless the Attorney General determines that granting access to the Federal grand jury materials would be likely to—

“(A) interfere with an ongoing criminal investigation or prosecution;

“(B) interfere with an undercover operation;

“(C) result in disclosure of the identity of a confidential source, including a protected witness;

“(D) pose a serious threat to national security; or

“(E) result in significant impairment of the trade or economic interests of the United States.

“(3) TRANSMITTAL OF DETERMINATION TO THE INSPECTOR GENERAL.—

“(A) NOTIFICATION OF ATTORNEY GENERAL DETERMINATION.—The head of the establishment shall inform the Inspector General of the establishment of the determination made by the Attorney General with respect to the request for Federal grand jury materials.