

## CONGRATULATING GENE SAUERS

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Gene Sauers of Savannah, Georgia, professional golfer, major champion, and survivor of Stevens-Johnson syndrome.

Mr. Sauers began golfing at 9 years old, turned pro 13 years later, and immediately won the Bank of Boston Classic on the PGA tour, beginning his professional career. However, he received devastating news in 2005, when he was diagnosed with a rare disease known as Stevens-Johnson syndrome.

His condition got worse. He stopped playing golf, and his chance of survival reduced to 25 percent. Miraculously, Mr. Sauers fought for survival and picked up his clubs 7 years later. Last month Gene Sauers won his first major championship by winning the U.S. Senior Open at Scioto Country Club in Ohio.

I want to congratulate Mr. Sauers on his major championship victory. His story is one of faith, courage, and strength. We are so very proud of him in Savannah, Georgia.

## HILLARY CLINTON ENDANGERED NATIONAL SECURITY

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, here are just the most recent discoveries in the FBI's notes from interviewing Hillary Clinton:

She tried to wipe clean her private email archive only a few weeks after The New York Times disclosed the existence of her private server.

Clinton says she did not know the "C" mark meant classified information and did not "pay attention to different classification levels." Yet she had signed a binding classified information nondisclosure agreement.

There were 17,448 work-related emails that Clinton did not turn over to the State Department inspector general, despite claiming she had done so.

She sent an email to all State Department employees warning them against using personal email addresses. She never sought approval to conduct State Department business on her own private mail server.

Despite being personally aware of the risk of cybersecurity threats, she continued to use her own unsecure server, endangering national security.

□ 1415

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, August 9, 2016.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a subpoena for documents, issued by the Circuit Court for Howard County, Maryland.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

PHIL KIKO,  
Chief Administrative Officer.

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, August 29, 2016.

PAUL D. RYAN,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a subpoena for documents, issued by the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,  
Clerk.

## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1601

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RIGELL) at 4 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

## GOLD STAR FAMILIES VOICES ACT

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 4511) to amend the Veterans' Oral History Project Act to allow the collection of video and audio recordings of biographical histories by immediate family members of members of the Armed Forces who died as a result of their service during a period of war.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4511

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

## SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Gold Star Families Voices Act".

## SEC. 2. COLLECTION OF VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDINGS OF BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORIES BY IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES WHO DIED AS A RESULT OF THEIR SERVICE DURING A PERIOD OF WAR.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 3(a) of the Veterans' Oral History Project Act (20 U.S.C. 2142(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

"(1) to collect video and audio recordings of—

"(A) personal histories and testimonials of veterans of the Armed Forces who served during a period of war; and

"(B) biographical histories by immediate family members of members of the Armed Forces who became missing in action or died as a result of their service during a period of war;"

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3 of the Veterans' Oral History Project Act (20 U.S.C. 2142) is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(d) DEFINITION OF IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER.—For purposes of subsection (a), the term 'immediate family member' means a parent, spouse, sibling, or child."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER) and the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. ESTY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

## GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4511, the Gold Star Families Voices Act.

The Gold Star Families Voices Act expands the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project that was created by Congress in the year 2000. Now in its 16th year, the Veterans History Project carries out the mission to collect, preserve, and make accessible America's war veterans' accounts of events that occurred during our Nation's military conflicts. These recordings are publicly available so that we may all benefit from their experience as well as offer future generations a valuable tool to

learn and better understand the realities of war.

Over the years, the Veterans History Project has collected, recorded interviews, as well as memoirs and original photographs, letters, maps, and other documents noting the historical events from conflicts dating back to World War I to recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. In February of this year, the project collected their 100,000 veteran account.

Currently, Veterans History Project submissions are limited to firsthand veterans' accounts. Because of this, the project unintentionally does not collect accounts and histories of servicemembers who did not return from action.

Championed by Representative CHRIS SMITH of New Jersey's Fourth District, this bill will make an important update, allowing the immediate family members of veterans who died as a result of their wartime service or were missing in action to provide stories on behalf of their relatives.

The measure before us was reported unanimously out of the Committee on House Administration and has received the support of American Gold Star Mothers, Inc., a group of mothers who have lost a son or daughter while they served on behalf of their country.

Stemming from World War I, the families displayed a flag with a blue star to represent each immediate family member who was serving in the Armed Forces. Those whose immediate family members died while serving in the war replaced those blue stars with a gold star to honor their loved one's sacrifice while they were defending our Nation and the cause of freedom.

Following World War I, a group of mothers banded together in their grief and formed the American Gold Star Mothers in 1928. Their organization has expanded nationally, and other groups have formed to support Gold Star Families and Gold Star Spouses.

Our Armed Forces and Nation as a whole recognizes not only the fallen men and women who don the uniform and stand in defense of our democracy and liberty, but together, we also honor the families of those brave men and women who have given so much of themselves to our Nation.

It is also fitting that the House consider passage of this bill honoring the memory of those fallen during the month of September. While we keep those that serve and have served, as well as their families, in our hearts each and every day, our Nation also annually observes the last Sunday of September as Gold Star Mothers and Gold Star Families Day.

Honoring their sacrifice is just one reason why it is important to update the Veterans History Project to include voices of those fallen through our Gold Star families.

Our Gold Star families will be able to tell our Nation about their family member's individual experiences and path that led them to answer the call

to service within our Nation's military branches. These family members will be able to tell us the stories that their loved ones sent home through a letter or a phone call describing their experiences and daily life while serving.

So many brave men and women have stood up and responded each time our Nation called, and so many more made the ultimate sacrifice. Preserving the legacies of all those who have contributed to our Nation's defense is a cornerstone of what it means to be an American. As a country, we are continually strengthened because of the legacies our servicemembers left behind for future generations.

This important addition will only enhance the Veterans History Project, the Library of Congress' overall mission, and the countless current and future individuals who will benefit from access to these cherished memories, as well as our servicemen and -women's sobering accounts discussing the price of war.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4511, Gold Star Families Voices Act.

I would like to thank my friend, Congressman CHRIS SMITH, for his leadership on many veterans' issues and in support of military families, and my friend, Congressman HARPER, for his help today in ensuring that we pass this important bill to recognize Gold Star families.

Not long after I was sworn into office, I went to a Memorial Day breakfast in Waterbury, Connecticut, home of many veterans. Every year, they have a Gold Star Families breakfast. At that breakfast, I met a number of families, some who lost loved ones 50 years ago and still carry in their hearts every day the pain of that loss.

One of the people I met was Joe Nolan. Joe served proudly in Vietnam. His son, a gifted linguist—in 1999, a college graduate—snuck off to a recruiting station in Philadelphia and signed up to serve. Remember, this is prior to 9/11. He felt that call, like his father had. He served. Tragically, bravely, he lost his life in the Battle of Fallujah in 2004 defending this country.

Joe came to me and said: "You know, Elizabeth, we have this wonderful program for Gold Star Mothers, but I am a dad. And I miss my son every day."

That is why I joined with colleagues in this Chamber and we reintroduced the Gold Star Fathers Act, which the President signed into law, to recognize that fathers and mothers of sons and daughters bleed and cry when their children are lost.

So today we have an opportunity to recognize some of those families. One of them is Mary Kight. Mary Kight, also from Waterbury, Connecticut, is the proud head of the Gold Star Mothers organization in Connecticut. Her son, Michael, was a helicopter pilot. He

flew a Huey in Vietnam. She was devastated when he died, and particularly hurt because it was such a difficult time in the war. She said she felt like her son's sacrifice meant nothing.

Our Nation's commitment—what we are doing today to recognize her son and give her the opportunity to tell her story—is so important. She has come to embrace the Gold Star Families organization. It has helped her and others to celebrate the lives of their loved ones. Actually, last year she went up in a Huey. She went up in a Huey, much as she does not like to fly, but she thought about her son Michael, and she was quoted as saying, "I felt closer to him." He died while trying to evacuate wounded soldiers on the battlefield in Vietnam.

Stephen Reich, also another proud son of my district—another helicopter pilot—lost his life in 2005. He was attempting to extract a SEAL team and died in Afghanistan.

These are only three families of the tens of thousands in this country. Their sacrifice, as much or more than anyone else, deserves to be recorded in the Library of Congress to remind us of the price of freedom, to remind us that we owe them a debt of gratitude.

I am sure my friend, Congressman HARPER, like myself, have conducted some of these Veterans History Project interviews. They are really meaningful and they are really important. The history of this country is not only about Presidents and generals and admirals. It is written in the blood of the men and women who served this country, and especially those who never returned.

So I am delighted today to join with colleagues and urge all my colleagues to join in not only supporting this legislation, but to make a commitment to go out and find those Gold Star families in your district and make sure they have the opportunity to tell their loved one's story as part of this country's great history.

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

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my good friend, Mr. HARPER, and Ms. ESTY for their strong support for the bill. Ms. ESTY is one of the cosponsors of the bill. I also want to thank Chairwoman MILLER for her leadership and good work in shepherding this important bill through the committee and Ranking Member BRADY for his support of the initiative.

I also appreciate the work of the committee staff, including Brad Walvort and Bob Sensenbrenner, and my legislative director, Cate Benedetti, and especially Majority Leader MCCARTHY and Kelly Dixon for posting the bill for consideration this afternoon.

I do rise in strong support and urge my colleagues to support the Gold Star

Families Voices Act, legislation designed to ensure that immediate family members of servicemembers who are killed or missing in action or have died as a result of their service participate in the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project.

Congress created the project, as Mr. HARPER pointed out, to collect and catalog stories of American war veterans. We did this in 2000 to help preserve their memories so that current and future generations may hear and better appreciate the realities of war and the sacrifices borne by those who served in uniform.

The project is designed to turn their memories into our history to memorialize the lives of heroes whose selfless sacrifice has contributed, and continues to contribute, to our freedom and liberty and our collective understanding of who we are as a Nation.

It has been a great success. In fact, earlier this year, the Library announced that it reached a milestone, with 100,000 veteran stories archived. There are now more than 100,000 testimonies of veterans who served in military engagements since World War I in our permanent record.

However, conspicuously missing from the rich project's history are the veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice. Currently—which this bill will correct—the project accepts only firsthand accounts of living veterans, unintentionally leaving out the men and women who did not return from the battlefield and can no longer speak for themselves.

Mr. Speaker, this issue was first brought to my attention by Vietnam veteran Terry Fearon and the New Jersey Gold Star Mothers organization. Its president, Judi Tapper, the proud mother of Petty Officer First Class David Tapper, a Navy SEAL who was killed in Afghanistan on August 20, 2003, recently told me: "Never in history has there been a forum to replace our heroes' silenced voices."

□ 1615

Enactment of this bill will help change that. It will ensure we record and remember the lives and sacrifices of all who have served by providing family members the opportunity to create a lasting narrative and living record of their fallen loved ones.

This bill is endorsed by the national organization known as the American Gold Star Mothers, whose second vice president, Becky Christmas, said:

The legislation gives our family, our children, a voice that they no longer have. The Gold Star Families Voices Act will ensure that the experiences and lives of all veterans, including our sons and daughters who fought and died for our country, are remembered, honored and preserved.

Mr. Speaker, during my quarter of a century of service on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, and as we crafted this bill, I have had the great privilege of working with the Gold Star Mothers. They are an incredibly inspir-

ing, committed, and dedicated group of women who have worked tirelessly and successfully to bring about meaningful change to better the lives of servicemembers, veterans, and their families.

So I urge my colleagues to pass this bill and honor the men and women who gave "the last full measure of devotion" in the service of our Nation by allowing their family members to tell their stories, so that all Americans can hear, appreciate, remember, and honor these patriots.

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

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

I ask my colleagues—urge them—to pass this bill. It is important that we understand the realities of war.

This past weekend, many of us participated in parades, earlier this year in the Memorial Day parade, later this year in the Veterans Day parade. But war is not just about parades. War is also about sacrifice, and the Gold Star families know that better than anyone else.

This bill gives us the opportunity to let Joe Nolan speak for his son, Joe; to let Mary Kight speak for her son, Michael; to let Ray and Sue Reich speak for their son, Stephen; and for tens of thousands of Americans to speak for their sons and daughters, to do what everyone in combat asks us when they come home, or if they do not: Don't forget us; please, remember.

This bill is a way of honoring that request of everyone who wears the uniform. Make sure that we remember them and that we honor them.

I am proud to cosponsor this bill, and I am very grateful to my colleagues for their support.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed an honor to stand here today in support of this legislation. The inclusion of these accounts from the loved ones of those who have given their lives in service to our Nation will only enrich the Library's Veterans History Project and our Nation's narrative memorializing those who have served. The Veterans History Project has provided a wonderful opportunity to pay tribute to our Nation's veterans, ensuring that their actions and legacies live on for many generations to come.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4511, the "Gold Star Families Voices Act," which allows Gold Star families to submit to the Veterans History Project recordings of biological histories of a service member who was killed in action.

Gold Star family members are defined by law as parents, spouses, siblings, or children of members of the Armed Forces who died while serving their country.

Current law only allows the personal histories and testimonials from veterans them-

selves be included in the Veterans History Project archive, which excludes the biographies of veterans who were killed in action during war.

Since its passing in 2000, the Veterans History Project has collected the oral history records of over 100,000 veterans who have served in armed conflicts since World War I.

Extending the opportunity to participate in the Veterans History Project to Gold Star families would result in nearly 1,000 new collections for the Project.

These veterans sacrificed more than can be imagined in order to protect the freedoms and rights that we take for granted every day.

Not only did these veterans miss birthdays, anniversaries, and many other holidays to defend the country they loved, but the veterans of these Gold Star families made the ultimate sacrifice by giving what President Lincoln called the "last full measure of devotion" so that their nation might remain free.

These brave souls left behind relatives, friends, and loved ones who continue on with memories of the loved and lost to comfort them and, in Lincoln's words, "the solemn pride that is theirs in having laid so costly a sacrifice on the altar of freedom."

This legislation provides Gold Star families a voice.

H.R. 4511 gives Gold Star families the opportunity to share that pride with the nation by telling the story of their fallen loved ones and in doing so ensure these heroes live on not only in the memories of family members but also in the national memory through the Veterans' History Project.

I ask all Members to join me in supporting H.R. 4511, the Gold Star Families Voices Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4511.

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.

## SURVIVORS' BILL OF RIGHTS ACT OF 2016

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5578) to establish certain rights for sexual assault survivors, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5578

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

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Survivors' Bill of Rights Act of 2016".

### SEC. 2. SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS' RIGHTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part II of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding after chapter 237 the following:

#### "CHAPTER 238—SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS' RIGHTS

"Sec.

"3772. Sexual assault survivors' rights.

#### "§ 3772. Sexual assault survivors' rights

"(a) RIGHTS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS.—In addition to those rights provided