Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), the vice chairman of our committee.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, this truly is a bipartisan committee under the able leadership of Chairman ROE and Ranking Member WALZ. Again, I am proud to serve on this committee.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1329, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act. Passage of this bill gives our Nation's veterans the same cost-of-living adjustment as those receiving benefits through Social Security.

These brave men and women have sacrificed so much for the freedoms and liberties we enjoy on a daily basis. As a grateful nation, we must ensure that those who put themselves in harm's way are able to receive the benefits they have earned and deserve. Providing for our Nation's true American heroes is not a partisan issue, but simply the right thing to do.

Mr. Speaker, approximately 1.6 million veterans reside in the great State of Florida, where so many veterans call home. I was in the military. As vice chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, I am so very proud that Florida is considered one of the most veteran friendly States across the country.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, Representative MIKE BOST from Illinois, for introducing this very important piece of legislation.

As a cosponsor of H.R. 1329, I urge all of my colleagues to support our Nation's heroes and pass the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act.

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maine (Mr. POLIQUIN), my good friend and a member of our committee.

Mr. POLIQUIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman very much for this opportunity to speak on behalf of H.R. 1329, and I salute Congressman BOST from Illinois and Congresswoman ESTRY from the great State of Connecticut for their great work in a bipartisan fashion to help our heroes.

I think, Mr. Speaker, it was our first Commander in Chief, George Washington, who said, "I know, for effect, that we can never expect our young men and women to step forward and serve our country in uniform unless and until we make sure we take care of those who have already returned from the battlefield.

Now, in the State of Maine, Mr. Speaker, we love our veterans. We have about 125,000 of our heroes in our State of Maine, more than half of whom are in the rural part of our State, the Second Congressional District of Maine, that I am honored to represent.

I think it is a great idea and about time that we make sure that we come before the American people, Republicans and Democrats together, to make sure that our veterans receive a cost-of-living adjustment—those who have been disabled—as a result of their service for our country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all Republicans and Democrats on the committee and in this body to please support H.R. 1329. It is the right thing to do, to give a cost-of-living increase to our veterans.

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1329. But as we get ready to close on the final piece of seven pieces of legislation, some that have taken years, that have included diverse groups coming together to try to find solutions, you are seeing today all seven of these bills are going to pass this House. They are going to pass with overwhelmingly, if not unanimous, bipartisan support.

I have stood on this floor and have expressed my displeasure and my discomfort when we don't work together. Today it is one of those pleasures to stand here and say this is what the American people expect, and this is the hard work that needs to be done. That kind of thing can happen by chance. It usually takes one person standing at the middle of that in leadership to make it happen.

I would like to thank my friend and colleague, Chairman of the committee, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROE), for ensuring that veterans come before politics, veterans come before partisan differences, and that veterans legislation can be done together in a bipartisan manner. So, I thank him for that and encourage support of all of these pieces of legislation.

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

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank my good friend, Sergeant Major WALZ for his kind words.

I want to thank all Congressmen, to do on the Veterans' Affairs Committee is leave Republican and Democrat at the door of the committee room and go and do the work of the veterans for what is best for them. It is a true pleasure and honor, if you have ever attended one of our meetings, to see that and to see the effort of all Members. And you can see here today, with seven important pieces of legislation passed, it will help improve the lives of our veterans.

I know, for me, that time of the year—and I feel sure that my friends on the other side of the aisle feel the same way—is one of the most difficult times of the year. It is Memorial Day. And I don't think we need to forget, this coming Monday, what that means. It is for all of those who didn't make it home who protected this great country.

I know, myself, I get some guilt this Memorial Day, when I attend a service for veterans, it is difficult for me to get through that day because I got to come home, as all of us here who are serving did. We got to raise our children and see our grandchildren be born. These men and women who died in Vietnam and other wars didn't get to do that, as young people are doing today. So I can't thank, enough, the veterans of this great Nation who serve us every day and keep us free.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all Members to support H.R. 1329, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1329, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to increase, effective as of December 1, 2017, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.”

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS AGAINST TECHNOLOGICAL EXPLOITATION ACT

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2052) to amend the Uniform Code of Military Justice to prohibit the wrongful broadcast or distribution of intimate visual images.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2052

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

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Protecting the Rights of IndiViduals Against Technological Exploitation Act” or the "PRIVATE Act”.

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON WRONGFUL BROADCAST OR DISTRIBUTION OF INTIMATE VISUAL IMAGES.

(a) Prohibition.—Section X of chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 917 (article 117 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice) the following new section (article 117a):

"917a. Art. 117a. Wrongful broadcast or distribution of intimate visual images

(a) Prohibition.—Any person subject to this chapter who—

(1) knowingly and wrongfully broadcasts or distributes an intimate visual image of a private area of another person who—

"(A) is at least 18 years of age at the time the intimate visual image was created,

"(B) is identifiable from the image itself or from information displayed in connection with the image; and
"(C) does not explicitly consent to the broadcast or distribution of the intimate visual image;

(2) knows or reasonably should have known that the intimate visual image was made under circumstances in which the person depicted in the intimate visual image retained a reasonable expectation of privacy regarding the broadcast or distribution of the intimate visual image; and

(3) knows or reasonably should have known that the broadcast or distribution of the intimate visual image is likely to:

(A) cause harm, harassment, intimidation, emotional distress, or financial loss for the person depicted in the intimate visual image;

(B) harm substantially the depicted person with respect to that person’s health, safety, business, calling, career, financial condition, reputation, or personal relationships;

is guilty of wrongful distribution of intimate visual images and shall by punished as a

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section (article):

(1) BROADCAST.—The term ‘broadcast’ means to electronically transmit a visual image in a manner that it be viewed by a person or persons.

(2) DISTRIBUTE.—The term ‘distribute’ means to deliver to the actual or constructive possession of another person, including transmission by mail or electronic means.

(3) INTIMATE VISUAL IMAGE.—The term ‘intimate visual image’ means a photograph, video, film, or recording made by any means that depicts a private area of a person.

(4) PRIVATE AREA.—The term ‘private area’ means the naked or underwear-clad genitalia, anus, buttocks, or female areola or nipple.

(5) REASONABLE EXPECTATION OF PRIVACY.—The term ‘reasonable expectation of privacy’ refers to circumstances in which a reasonable person would believe that an intimate visual image of a private area of the person would not be broadcast or distributed to another person.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of subchapter X of chapter 61 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice), is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 917 (article 117) the following new item:

“917a. 117a. Wrongful broadcast or distribution of intimate visual images.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Arizona.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

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

Four years ago, I stood on the House floor and condemned the online bullying of U.S. Marine Corps servicewomen on Facebook. These web pages contained explicit and abusive pictures, and implied that women only advanced professionally by performing sexual favors.

I sent a letter to the Secretary of Defense and the Commandant of the Marine Corps asking them to take action. I got a letter back from the Commandant which said, “I share your indignation.” I didn’t want him to share my indignation. I wanted him to do something about it. Neither he nor the Department of Defense inspector general did anything about it.

Lack of consequences caused this cultural rot to spread further. The Marines United page, through which hundreds of Active-Duty and veteran marines viewed thousands of nonconsensually distributed intimate imagines, damaged the lives and the careers of more servicemembers than I can imagine. In fact, many of these servicemembers were identified by name and the breach allowed侵害ers in every part of the country—civilian and military—are protected if they are subjected to this heinous abuse.

Despite reports of this vile site, new versions continue to crop up and spread more destruction, unchecked by military leadership. Until now, the leadership failures that allowed this to go on for years also extended to Congress. We did nothing except hold a subcommittee hearing on—wait, let me indicate what it was on—social media policy, without a single survivor brought to testify.

This is not about social media policy. This is about abhorrent behavior by servicemembers against other service members.

Two months ago, a bipartisan group of Members held a hearing on this very issue, and we had 26 different bills filed. One of those members, who was Active Duty, said that her Marine Corps drill instructor said to her and the other women during their training, “The only women that serve in the marines are sluts, lesbians . . . ” or a word that begins with a B that I won’t mention on the House floor.

How destructive can that be?

Today, that ends. My colleagues on both sides of the aisle are taking a stand. Today, I am proud and proud to support H.R. 2052 with my colleague, Ms. MCSALLY.

This bill will ensure that nonconsensual pornography is made illegal by explicitly forbidding the sharing of intimate images without the consent of the subject.

Right now, the reprehensible acts of nonconsensually distributed and consensually obtained photographs is not clearly defined as illegal under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. That is why this bill is a critical step in ensuring that our female servicemembers aren’t distracted from protecting the country by having to also protect themselves against online abusers and colleagues within the services.

But let me be clear. Our work is not done. If the chain of command continues to see nonconsensual pornography as a “boys will be boys” joke instead of sexual violence, nothing will change. Such conduct must result in severe and immediate consequences for the perpetrators. The PRIVATE Act must pass, and it must be enforced.

I also want to note that the passage of the PRIVATE Act does not apply to the civilian people in our country. Although 34 States have passed laws to address nonconsensual pornography, their approaches vary widely, and some are very flawed. That is why a Federal law is needed to provide a single, clear articulation of the elements of this crime to ensure that Americans in every part of the country—civilian and military—are protected if they are subjected to this heinous abuse.
Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2052. We have come a long way in 4 years since I found those vile Facebook pages. Four years from now, I hope I am standing here commending us all for stamping out the scourge of nonconsensual pornography.

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

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. Bordallo).

Ms. Bordallo. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2052, the Protecting the Rights of Individuals Against Technological Exploitation Act, also known as the PRIVATE Act. This act will amend the Uniform Code of Military Justice to prohibit the wrongful broadcast or distribution of intimate visual images. As technology evolves, so, too, must our judicial systems; and it is clear, especially after the Marines United scandal, that there is a gap in the UCMJ. This bill addresses that gap and gives Servicemembers and to our military leadership that this kind of abusive behavior will not and must not be tolerated. Members from both sides of the aisle have come together, and I thank Representatives McSally and Speier for their leadership in support of this commonsense legislation. I encourage all of my colleagues to vote for it.

Ms. McSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. Frankel), my good friend and colleague, and the co-chair of the bipartisan Women’s Caucus.

Ms. Frankel of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today the American people joined us in the House to make the necessary changes that will protect our brave servicemembers. This is an issue that transcends politics; and I am encouraged by the bipartisan support for the PRIVATE Act, which will update the Uniform Code of Military Justice to ensure that the type of explicit image sharing we saw in the Marines United scandal is expressly prohibited. And I am proud to support H.R. 2052, the PRIVATE Act, which will update the Uniform Code of Military Justice to ensure that the type of explicit image sharing we saw in the Marines United scandal is expressly prohibited.

Ms. McSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to my colleague from California (Mrs. Davis), the ranking member on the Democratic side of the Armed Services Committee.

Mrs. Davis of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for bringing this forward.

The Marines United website was a disgusting breach of trust, and I immediately called for the perpetrators to be prosecuted. I appreciate General Neller coming to Congress earlier this year, taking ownership of the problem, immediately establishing a task force, and conducting multimedia and personal engagements across the Marine Corps.
He said he would deal with this immediately and decisively, and we demand nothing less. I take him at his word, and he was clear in asking to be held accountable.

While the Navy and Marine Corps have updated policies regarding social media and established no-tolerance policies for nonconsensual pornography, these still need to apply across all the services and must be codified into law. For this reason, I support the PRIVATE Act, and I hope that we continue to work together with my colleagues to ensure that this bill becomes law.

Mr. Speaker, as the scandal unfolded, it became clear to me that, even from initial recruitment, servicemembers must be held to the highest ethical standard online, and prevented from joining the military should their behavior fail to meet that standard.

Our children live their lives online, and the laws need to be updated to reflect this. The issue of nonconsensual pornography, unfortunately, is prevalent across our society. It has no place anywhere, but especially not in our military ranks.

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. If the gentlewoman from California has no further speakers, I am prepared to close once the gentlewoman does.

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

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. If the gentlewoman from California has no further speakers, I am prepared to close once the gentlewoman does.

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

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

As a 26-year combat veteran, I am deeply disturbed, but not surprised by the scandal.

As a former commander, I know that you need to give commanders all the tools they need to hold perpetrators accountable. This is not just about good order and discipline. This is about the military mission. This bill gives commanders an additional tool in order to hold perpetrators accountable.

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

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

As a 26-year combat veteran, I am deeply disturbed, but not surprised by the scandal.

As a former commander, I know that you need to give commanders all the tools they need to hold perpetrators accountable. This is not just about good order and discipline. This is about the military mission. This bill gives commanders an additional tool in order to address this culture and to hold people accountable for their abhorrent behavior.

I want to say that I appreciate the strong support across the aisle and our side of the aisle. This is strong, bipartisan support. I would urge all of my colleagues to support the PRIVATE Act.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. MCSALLY. I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. I want to add my support for this legislation, and I thank the gentlewoman from California and the gentlewoman from Arizona for their longstanding service.

We have been dealing with bills dealing with sexual assault in the Judiciary Committee. Having listened to the young female soldiers who were impacted by Marines United, I know that this legislation that gives the military leadership additional tools to ensure that the depiction of women and others in the United States military, against their will, will not be tolerated and will not be viewed as an honorable act under the U.S. Military Code. Giving these tools will show that you will be punished and that men and women will be respected in the United States military.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman THORNBERY for his leadership on this issue.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

DHS STOP ASSET AND VEHICLE EXCESS ACT

Mr. MCCaul. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker’s table the bill (H.R. 906) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Under Secretary for Management of the Department of Homeland Security to make certain improvements in managing the Department’s vehicle fleet, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments thereto, and concur in the Senate amendments.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Speaker pro tempore will report the Senate amendments.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendments:

(1) On page 6, line 17, insert shall after heads.

(2) On page 12, strike line 16 through page 14, and insert:

SEC. 3. INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEW.

The Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security shall—

(i) conduct a review of the implementation of subsections (c) and (d) of section 701 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 231 et seq.), as amended by adding the following new section:

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 “Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign Authorization Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. ENHANCED DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY COORDINATION THROUGH THE BLUE CAMPAIGN.

(a) In General.—Subtitle C of title IV of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 231 et seq.) is amended by adding the following new section:

The inspections of trafficking along the borders of the United States.

Mr. MCCaul. (during the reading).

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading of the Senate amendments.

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

There was no objection.

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

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY BLUE CAMPAIGN AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2017

Mr. MCCaul. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1370) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to issue Department of Homeland Security-wide guidance and develop training programs as part of the Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1370

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 “Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign Authorization Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. ENHANCED DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY COORDINATION THROUGH THE BLUE CAMPAIGN.

(a) In General.—Subtitle C of title IV of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 231 et seq.) is amended by adding the following new section:

SEC. 3. INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEW.

The Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security shall—

(ii) direct a review of the implementation of subsection (d) of section 701 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 231 et seq.), as amended by adding the following new section:

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 “Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign Authorization Act of 2017”.

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