

that they be preserved for generations to come.

Unfortunately, the National Park Service is facing an insurmountable backlog of deferred maintenance that is growing more urgent as decades-old agency structures reach the end of their anticipated lifespans. This is impacting some of our most beloved parks.

The Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina and Virginia is the country's second most visited National Park, supporting approximately 15,600 jobs and is a huge economic asset to nearby rural communities. Deferred maintenance has resulted in the unfortunate deterioration of its amenities and accessibility.

The National Park Service Legacy Act would establish a National Park Service Legacy Restoration Fund directly aimed at addressing the agency's backlog and fixing the issues facing the Blue Ridge Parkway. As a proud co-sponsor of this innovative legislation, I encourage its vote and final passage in the House this Congress.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 3 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1501

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CURTIS) at 3 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 votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

#### ELECTRONIC MESSAGE PRESERVATION ACT OF 2017

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1376) to amend title 44, United States Code, to require preservation of certain electronic records by Federal agencies, to require a certification and reports relating to Presidential records, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1376

*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 "Electronic Message Preservation Act of 2017".

#### SEC. 2. PRESERVATION OF ELECTRONIC MESSAGES AND OTHER RECORDS.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR PRESERVATION OF ELECTRONIC MESSAGES.—Chapter 29 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

##### "§ 2912. Preservation of electronic messages and other records

"(a) REGULATIONS REQUIRED.—The Archivist shall promulgate regulations governing Federal agency preservation of electronic messages that are determined to be records. Such regulations shall, at a minimum—

"(1) require the electronic capture, management, and preservation of such electronic records in accordance with the records disposition requirements of chapter 33;

"(2) require that such electronic records are readily accessible for retrieval through electronic searches; and

"(3) include timelines for Federal agency implementation of the regulations that ensure compliance as expeditiously as practicable.

"(b) ENSURING COMPLIANCE.—The Archivist shall promulgate regulations that—

"(1) establish mandatory minimum functional requirements for electronic records management systems to ensure compliance with the requirements in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a); and

"(2) establish a process to ensure that the electronic records management system of each Federal agency meets the functional requirements established under paragraph (1).

"(c) COVERAGE OF OTHER ELECTRONIC RECORDS.—To the extent practicable, the regulations promulgated under subsections (a) and (b) shall also include requirements for the capture, management, and preservation of other electronic records.

"(d) COMPLIANCE BY FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Each Federal agency shall comply with the regulations promulgated under subsections (a) and (b).

"(e) REVIEW OF REGULATIONS REQUIRED.—The Archivist shall periodically review and, as necessary, amend the regulations promulgated under subsections (a) and (b)."

(b) DEADLINE FOR REGULATIONS.—

(1) PRESERVATION OF ELECTRONIC MESSAGES.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Archivist shall promulgate the regulations required under section 2912(a) of title 44, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

(2) ENSURING COMPLIANCE.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Archivist shall promulgate the regulations required under section 2912(b) of title 44, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

(c) REPORTS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF REGULATIONS.—

(1) AGENCY REPORT TO ARCHIVIST.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the head of each Federal agency shall submit to the Archivist a report on the agency's compliance with the regulations promulgated under section 2912 of title 44, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), and shall make the report publicly available on the website of the agency.

(2) ARCHIVIST REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days after receipt of all reports required by paragraph (1), the Archivist shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives a report on Federal agency compliance with the regulations promulgated under section 2912(a) of title 44, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), and shall make the report publicly available on the website of the agency.

(3) FEDERAL AGENCY DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term "Federal agency" has the meaning given that term in section 2901 of title 44, United States Code.

(d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 29 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by adding after the item relating to section 2911 the following new item:

"2912. Preservation of electronic messages and other records."

(e) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2901 of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (14); and

(2) by striking paragraph (15) and inserting the following new paragraphs:

"(15) the term 'electronic messages' means electronic mail and other electronic messaging systems that are used for purposes of communicating between individuals; and

"(16) the term 'electronic records management system' means software designed to manage electronic records, including by—

"(A) categorizing and locating records;

"(B) ensuring that records are retained as long as necessary;

"(C) identifying records that are due for disposition; and

"(D) ensuring the storage, retrieval, and disposition of records."

#### SEC. 3. PRESIDENTIAL RECORDS.

(a) ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS RELATING TO PRESIDENTIAL RECORDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 2206 of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (3);

(B) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting "and"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

"(5) provisions for establishing standards necessary for the economical and efficient management of electronic Presidential records during the President's term of office, including—

"(A) records management controls necessary for the capture, management, and preservation of electronic messages;

"(B) records management controls necessary to ensure that electronic messages are readily accessible for retrieval through electronic searches; and

"(C) a process to ensure the electronic records management system to be used by the President for the purposes of complying with the requirements in subparagraphs (A) and (B)."

(2) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2201 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

"(6) The term 'electronic messages' has the meaning given that term under section 2901(15).

"(7) The term 'electronic records management system' has the meaning given that term under section 2901(16)."

(b) CERTIFICATION OF PRESIDENT'S MANAGEMENT OF PRESIDENTIAL RECORDS.—

(1) CERTIFICATION REQUIRED.—Chapter 22 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

##### "§ 2210. Certification of the President's management of Presidential records

"(a) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—The Archivist shall annually certify whether the electronic records management controls established by the President meet requirements under sections 2203(a) and 2206(5).

"(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Archivist shall report annually to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives on the status of the certification."