

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 31, 2018.

Hon. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: I write to you regarding H.R. 6400, the "United States Ports of Entry Threat and Operational Review Act." The Committee on Ways and Means has jurisdiction over this bill and an additional referral was granted to the Committee on Homeland Security. The Committee on Homeland Security ordered this bill favorably reported. Because of the extensive communication regarding the policies contained in the bill, the Committee on Ways and Means is willing to waive formal consideration of the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House Floor.

Please note that by waiving formal consideration of the bill, the Committee on Ways and Means is in no way waiving its jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in those provisions of the bills that fall within your Rule X jurisdiction.

I will include a copy of our letters in the Congressional Record during consideration of this legislation on the House floor and would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees on any House-Senate conference involving this legislation.

Sincerely,

KEVIN BRADY,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, September 4, 2018.

Hon. KEVIN BRADY,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BRADY: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 6400, the "United States Ports of Entry Threat and Operational Review Act." I appreciate your support in bringing this legislation before the House of Representatives, and accordingly, understand that the Committee on Ways and Means will not take further action on this bill.

The Committee on Homeland Security concurs with the mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration on this bill at this time, the Committee on Ways and Means does not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this bill or similar legislation in the future. In addition, should a conference on this bill be necessary, I would support a request by the Committee on Ways and Means for conferees on those provisions within your jurisdiction.

I will insert copies of this exchange in the report on the bill for H.R. 6400. I thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6400, the United States Ports of Entry Threat and Operational Review Act.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 6400 would require the Department of Homeland Security to conduct an analysis of the threats and operations at all United States air, land, and sea ports of entry.

Following the completion of the threat analysis, H.R. 6400 requires the Department to produce a strategy and implementation plan to mitigate such threats. The strategy and implementa-

tion plan must include consideration of improvements needed at the ports of entry to reduce wait times and facilitate the lawful movement of trade, travel, and people.

This bill is modeled after the Northern Border Security Review Act, which was signed into law in 2016. Most of what is required in this measure is already being done by the Department. What H.R. 6400 would do is bring together various mandated materials into one report. The Department should be able to carry out this new mandate in a way that is not duplicative of other efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 6400, a measure that directs DHS to take a holistic approach to protecting our ports of entry, vital gateways for trade and travel.

Speaking of the need for a holistic approach to homeland security, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge that the Department's Quadrennial Homeland Security Review is 247 days overdue.

Pursuant to section 707 of the Homeland Security Act, the Department is required to produce this overarching strategy every 4 years. As the author of the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review Technical Corrections Act of 2017, a measure aimed at improving the quality of future reviews that is pending in the Senate, I strongly believe that DHS needs to do a better job of prioritizing its vast array of homeland security mission areas.

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

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I once again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 6400, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6400, 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.

ANNUAL DISTRICT BUS TOUR

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, each August, I conduct a bus tour of South Carolina's Second Congressional District with my wife, Roxanne, and dedicated staff from all offices. This year, I especially appreciate scheduler Emily Saleeby for the very meaningful agenda.

It was humbling and inspiring to meet with constituents and visit 22 locations, from small businesses and schools to local chambers of commerce and large employers. I had the opportunity to thank employees for their

service, and I observed firsthand the extraordinary success of jobs created by President Donald Trump's tax cuts, promises made, promises kept.

Many of the businesses were multigenerational success stories, such as Shumpert's IGA, which has been in operation for four generations and is currently led by Frank Shumpert.

We also visited with newer companies that thrive, like Tidewater Boats of Lexington, which started in 2006 and is currently in the top 10 of saltwater boat manufacturers in the Nation with the leadership of Jimmy Metts and Chris Martin.

I was grateful for the opportunity to receive, personally, questions, concerns, and input from citizens on the bus tour.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

Thank you, Congressman MADELEINE BORDALLO, for your remarkable achievements, your loving devotion for the families of Guam, and your tireless bipartisan support of a strong national defense.

MADELEINE BORDALLO is a living legend of effective service for the people of Guam.

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ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, before I launch into the major subject matter of this evening, I want to call attention to the horrific fires that have occurred in California over the last month. It is extremely early in the fire season. Normally, fires of the size that we have seen in California during the month of August occur in late October/November.

Climate change is real, and what we are seeing is a 365-day-a-year fire season in California. In my own district of Lake County, the largest fire ever in California's history is still burning, mostly under control, but it will probably burn for another month until the rains come.

Just to the north, in the Redding, California, area, more than 1,000 homes were lost and 4 people lost their lives. We saw last year the huge fire that occurred in southern California, in the Santa Barbara-Ventura County area, followed by horrific mudslides that, again, claimed the lives of dozens of people.

My heart goes out to all the victims of the fire, and my gratitude, along with the gratitude of the communities of California, goes out to the brave firefighters and first responders who met the challenge of these very fast moving, very, very dangerous fires.

It should bring to the attention of all Americans the need for us to address