

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1235.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 7213.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

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 15 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1500

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CARTER of Georgia) at 3 o'clock and 2 minutes 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.

CONGENITAL HEART FUTURES REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2017

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 1222) to amend the Public Health Service Act to coordinate Federal congenital heart disease research efforts and to improve public education and awareness of congenital heart disease, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Congenital Heart Futures Reauthorization Act of 2017".

SEC. 2. NATIONAL CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE RESEARCH, SURVEILLANCE, AND AWARENESS.

Section 399V-2 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g-13) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 399V-2. NATIONAL CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE RESEARCH, SURVEILLANCE, AND AWARENESS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, as appropriate—

"(1) enhance and expand research and data collection efforts related to congenital heart disease, including to study and track the epidemiology of congenital heart disease to understand health outcomes for individuals with congenital heart disease across all ages;

"(2) conduct activities to improve public awareness of, and education related to, congenital heart disease, including care of individuals with such disease; and

"(3) award grants to entities to undertake the activities described in this section.

"(b) ACTIVITIES.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out activities, including, as appropriate, through a national cohort study and a nationally-representative, population-based surveillance system, to improve the understanding of the epidemiology of congenital heart disease in all age groups, with particular attention to—

"(A) the incidence and prevalence of congenital heart disease in the United States;

"(B) causation and risk factors associated with, and natural history of, congenital heart disease;

"(C) health care utilization by individuals with congenital heart disease;

"(D) demographic factors associated with congenital heart disease, such as age, race, ethnicity, sex, and family history of individuals who are diagnosed with the disease; and

"(E) evidence-based practices related to care and treatment for individuals with congenital heart disease.

"(2) PERMISSIBLE CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out the activities under this section, the Secretary may, as appropriate—

"(A) collect data on the health outcomes, including behavioral and mental health outcomes, of a diverse population of individuals of all ages with congenital heart disease, such that analysis of the outcomes will inform evidence-based practices for individuals with congenital heart disease; and

"(B) consider health disparities among individuals with congenital heart disease, which may include the consideration of prenatal exposures.

"(c) AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.—The Secretary may carry out awareness and educational activities related to congenital heart disease in individuals of all ages, which may include information for patients, family members, and health care providers, on topics such as the prevalence of such disease, the effect of such disease on individuals of all ages, and the importance of long-term, specialized care for individuals with such disease.

"(d) PUBLIC ACCESS.—The Secretary shall ensure that, subject to subsection (e), information collected under this section is made available, as appropriate, to the public, including researchers.

"(e) PATIENT PRIVACY.—The Secretary shall ensure that the data and information collected under this section are made available in a manner that, at a minimum, protects personal privacy to the extent required by applicable Federal and State law.

"(f) ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANTS.—To be eligible to receive a grant under subsection (a)(3), an entity shall—

"(1) be a public or private nonprofit entity with specialized experience in congenital heart disease; and

"(2) submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

"(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024."

SEC. 3. REPORT.

Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Congenital Heart Futures Reauthorization Act of 2017, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report summarizing any activities carried out pursuant to section 399V-2 of the Public Health Service Act (as amended by section 2), including planned activities, and a summary of any research findings and ongoing research efforts, gaps, and areas of greatest need within the Department of Health and Human Services regard-

ing congenital heart disease in patients of all ages.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WALDEN. 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 materials into the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1222, the Congenital Heart Futures Reauthorization Act.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Representative GUS BILIRAKIS of Florida, who is a valued member of our Energy and Commerce Committee, for bringing this bill forward and for his passion on this very important issue. As one of the original authors of this legislation, he drove this reauthorization forward, and I am proud to stand in support of it once again with Mr. BILIRAKIS.

As the parent of a child who died from a congenital heart defect, I know how much today's vote gives hope to the parents, infants, and adults across the country who live with the effects of congenital heart disease, the most common birth defect and the leading cause of birth defect-related infant mortality.

This affects 40,000 families every year. Nearly 1 in every 100 babies is born with a congenital heart defect and roughly 25 percent of those will need heart surgery or other significant interventions to survive. Up to 200 each year do not survive. That is why this bill is so important.

Originally passed in 2010, the Congenital Heart Futures Act expanded infrastructure at the CDC and increased research at NIH to better understand and treat patients with congenital heart defects.

The reauthorization before us today ensures continued investment in that research, to identify the root causes of these defects and how to address them from birth to adulthood.

Mr. Speaker, this House passed a version of this legislation earlier this year by a vote of 394-7, and the amended version we will vote on today passed the Senate unanimously.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to take this important step for families across the country and to support passage of this bill into law.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Senate amendment to H.R. 1222, the

Congenital Heart Futures Reauthorization Act led by Congressman BILIRAKIS and Congressman SCHIFF.

This legislation builds on the success of current efforts by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to improve and expand research, surveillance, and public outreach and education programs relating to congenital heart disease.

Each year more than 40,000 babies are born in the United States with a congenital heart defect, and 1 million children and 1.4 million adults are currently living with congenital heart disorders.

Even though congenital heart disease is the most common birth defect in America, there are still many unknowns surrounding the condition.

This legislation will help expand our understanding of congenital heart disease across the lifespan, and has the potential to improve the lives of the millions of children and adults living with congenital heart disease.

Mr. Speaker, I therefore urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS), the chair of our Subcommittee on Health.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me time this afternoon.

Supporting H.R. 1222 is important. This is the Congenital Heart Futures Reauthorization Act. This important piece of legislation passed this House by a vote of 394-7 10 months ago. Our Senate colleagues passed an amended version of this bill by unanimous consent last week. Clearly there is a hearty consensus that this bill will make a positive impact on public health.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, congenital heart defects are the most common types of birth defects. Congenital heart disease affects roughly 1 percent of births in the United States. This legislation strengthens the ability of the Department of Health and Human Services to collect data related to congenital heart disease and to increase public awareness.

The Secretary will be required to carry out activities through a national cohort study and a nationally representative, population-based surveillance system to further understand the epidemiology of congenital heart disease.

This bill authorizes a total of \$10 million each year for fiscal years 2020 through 2024 for the purpose of carrying out these activities.

This bill does not focus on a particular subpopulation of individuals. It aims to improve data regarding incidence, prevalence, and outcomes among all age groups, races, ethnicities, and both sexes.

The Secretary will also look at evidence-based practices for the treatment and care of individuals with congenital heart disease.

Overall, the legislation is intended to improve our Nation's approach to caring for individuals with congenital heart disease.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank our House champions on this legislation, Representatives GUS BILIRAKIS and ADAM SCHIFF. They fought alongside Chairman GREG WALDEN to get this bill across the finish line. And, of course, I want to thank the staff on the Subcommittee on Health and the full committee for bringing this to the floor last year.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation which will improve the lives of Americans suffering from this terrible disease.

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

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), who has worked so diligently and hard on this legislation.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me time. I appreciate all his help on this particular bill, and the committee's help as well. It has been a priority of ours.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1222, the Congenital Heart Futures Reauthorization Act as amended by the Senate, which will ensure continued investment in surveillance research to evaluate the lifelong needs of individuals with congenital heart defects, or CHD.

These surveillance efforts will help improve our understanding of CHD across the lifespan, from birth to adulthood. This research will help us learn more about demographic factors such as age, race, gender, and/or ethnicity.

In addition, the legislation emphasizes a need for continued biomedical research at the National Institutes of Health on the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of CHD.

NIH will further research into the causes of congenital heart defects, including genetic causes, and study long-term outcomes in individuals with CHD of all ages.

NIH may study data to identify effective treatments and outcomes, and identify barriers to lifelong care for individuals with congenital heart defects.

CHD is the most common birth defect and the leading cause of birth defect-related infant mortality.

For the Down syndrome community, about half of the children born with Down syndrome have CHD.

The road ahead may be scary and uncertain for any parent with a newborn who has CHD, but this bill gives hope to those coping with the diagnosis.

Nearly 1 in 100 babies, Mr. Speaker, are born with CHD and more than 5 percent will not live to see their first birthday. We have to fix that.

Despite its prevalence and significance, there are still gaps in research and standards of care for CHD patients, but for the sake of the estimated 40,000

babies who will be born in the next year with CHD; there is more work to be done.

Mr. Speaker, I began on this journey almost 10 years ago with my good friend, then-Congressman Zack Space. So what we did is we first introduced the Congenital Heart Futures Act back in 2009.

Last Congress, Congressman SCHIFF and I introduced the reauthorization of the original law. During this time, I met with a lot of patients with congenital heart defects, and I have been touched by their stories: people like Trey and Nicole Flynn, a young Florida couple who lost their son Holden while waiting for a heart transplant. He was 2 years old.

This bill supports the essential research necessary to make sure another family doesn't have to leave the hospital without their child in their arms.

Lucas Igaina is a young man born with a complex congenital heart defect that essentially left him with half a heart. Despite having three open heart surgeries and countless doctor visits and medical procedures, Lucas has hopes and dreams. This bill ensures that the medical research will keep pace with his generation as they grow to be adults with this complex illness.

Jackson Radandt, born with half a heart, has hypoplastic left heart syndrome, which means the left side of his heart was underdeveloped. He depended on lifesaving research to help his failing heart survive until his heart transplant at the age of 11. He is about 16 years old now, Mr. Speaker, and he will live his life with a heightened sensitivity for his new heart.

Nicholas B. was born with a complex heart disease and wasn't getting blood to the lower part of his body, requiring heart surgery when he was just 2 days old. He now is in the top of his class. This bill will ensure that his future remains bright as he navigates this chronic illness through adulthood. Who knows? Nicholas may be a congressman one day.

□ 1515

Abigail Adams, a very familiar name, a young Florida advocate with Down syndrome. Roughly half of the babies born with Down syndrome have a congenital heart defect. Abigail continues to advocate for individuals with Down syndrome.

Then there is my friend, Dave. Dave was born with pulmonary stenosis, a condition where a heart valve will not open properly. He had emergency open-heart surgery when he was 2 days old, another surgery at the age of 10, and many hospital visits and procedures in the meantime. Today, he is a husband and a father of two, but he lives with atrial flutter.

This bill will continue the surveillance program so we can collect data on children and adults with congenital heart problems.

And Carolyn H., born with tetralogy of Fallot with pulmonary atresia, had

open-heart surgery when she was 10 years old to repair her heart, but she will need periodic surgical updates to replace the cadaver artery.

This bill continues the NIH research into why these defects occur.

These are just some of the patients that I have met over the years, Mr. Speaker. There are many, many, many, many more.

Lastly, I want to thank some of the advocates who have worked with me on getting this legislation passed. I want to thank: Dave Peluso, David Kasnic, Amy Basken, Dr. Brad Marino, and Jessica Chenevert from the Pediatric Congenital Heart Association. Mark Roeder and Daniel Hile from the Adult Congenital Heart Association. Vince Randazzo, Sara Weir, and Nicole Patton from the National Down Syndrome Society; and, most importantly, our chairman for getting this through.

Mr. Speaker, I urge swift passage of this lifesaving bill. Let's get it to the President as soon as possible.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I echo my support for the Senate amendment to H.R. 1222, it is worthy of our support. We will continue to build on the research and education concerning birth defects, and, most importantly, we will enable individuals and families who live with birth defects to have more hope.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his kind comments on this bipartisan legislation. I think it is another fine work product from the Energy and Commerce Committee in the area of healthcare, health research, and helping families cope with these terrible tragedies that befall us.

The Committee on Energy and Commerce, as you know, Mr. Speaker, has done a lot of good work this cycle. I am especially proud of their work on opioids and opioid addiction. Their investigative report now is public—over 300 pages of work—looking at how Americans got hooked on opioids, who is responsible, and what we should do going forward.

This legislation on H.R. 1222, the Congenital Heart Futures Reauthorization Act of 2017, is another very important piece of legislation. It too will save lives and bring hope to American families.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1222, the Congenital Heart Futures Reauthorization Act, as amended by the Senate, which will ensure continued investment in surveillance research to evaluate the lifelong needs of individuals with congenital heart defects, or CHD.

These surveillance efforts will help improve our understanding of CHD across the lifespan, from birth to adulthood. This research will help us learn more about demographic factors such as age, race, gender, or ethnicity.

In addition, the legislation emphasizes the need for continued biomedical research at the National Institutes of Health on the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of CHD. NIH will further research into the causes of congenital heart defects, including genetic causes, and study long-term outcomes in individuals with CHD of all ages. NIH may study data to identify effective treatments and outcomes, and identify barriers to lifelong care for individuals with congenital heart defects.

CHD is the most common birth defect and the leading cause of birth defect-related infant mortality. For the Down Syndrome Community, about half of children born with Down Syndrome have CHD.

The road ahead may be scary and uncertain for any parent with a newborn who has CHD, but this bill gives hope to those coping with the diagnosis. Nearly 1 in 100 babies are born with CHD and more than five percent will not live to see their first birthday. Despite its prevalence and significance, there are still gaps in research and standards of care for CHD patients. But for the sake of the estimated 40,000 babies who will be born in the next year with CHD, there's more work to be done.

Mr. Speaker, I began on this journey almost ten years ago when then-Congressman Zack Space and I, first introduced the Congenital Heart Futures Act back in 2009. Last Congress, Congressman SCHIFF and I introduced the reauthorization of the original law.

During this time, I've met a lot of patients with Congenital Heart Defects, and I've been touched by their story. People like:

Trey and Nicole Flynn, a young Floridian couple, who lost their son Holden while waiting for a heart transplant—he was only 2 years old. This bill supports the essential research necessary to make sure another family doesn't have to leave the hospital without their child in their arms.

Lucas Iguina, a young man born with a complex congenital heart defect that essentially left him with half a heart. Despite having three open heart surgeries, and countless doctors' visits and medical procedures, Lucas has hopes and dreams. This bill ensures that the medical research will keep pace with his generation as they grow to be adults with this complex illness.

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Nicholas B., he was born with a complex heart disease and wasn't getting blood to the lower half of his body requiring heart surgery when he was just two days old. He's now in the top of his class and this bill will ensure that his future remains bright as he navigates this chronic illness through adulthood.

Abigail Adams, a young Florida advocate with Down Syndrome. Roughly half of the babies born with Down Syndrome have a congenital heart defect. Abigail continues to advocate for individuals with Down Syndrome.

My friend, Dave, born with pulmonary stenosis, a condition where a heart valve will not open properly. He had emergency open-heart surgery when he was 2 days old, another surgery at age 10, and many hospital visits and procedures in the meantime. Today, he is a

husband and father, but lives with atrial flutter. This bill will continue the surveillance program so we can collect data on children and adults with congenital heart problems.

And Carolyn H., born with tetralogy of Fallot with pulmonary atresia. She had open heart surgery when she was 10 days old to repair her heart, but she will need periodic surgical updates to replace the cadaver artery. This bill continues the NIH research into why these defects occur.

These are just some of the patients that I've met over the years. Lastly, I want to thank some of the advocates that worked with me on getting this legislation passed.

I want to thank David Kasnic, Amy Basken, Dr. Brad Marino, Jessica Chenevert, and Dave Peluso from the Pediatric Congenital Heart Association.

I want to thank Mark Roeder, Danielle Hile, Johanna Gray, and Erika Miller from the Adult Congenital Heart Association.

Additionally, I want to recognize Vince Randazzo, Sara Weir, and Nicole Patton, from the National Down Syndrome Society and all their support.

I also want to thank many of the people that worked quietly behind the scenes, whose names are seldom mentioned, and who never get the recognition they deserve. People like Megan Perez, Kristin Seum, Shayne Woods, Katie Novaria, Adrianna Simonelli, Kristen Shatynski, Paul Edattel, Josh Trent, James Paluskiewicz, Peter Kietly, Karen Christian, Ryan Long, Mike Bloomquist, Ed Kim, Nolan Ahern, Ian Martorana, Macey Sevcik, and Elena Hernandez. This bill is a true team effort.

I urge swift House passage of this life-saving bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 1222.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. MASSIE. 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.

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2018

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 6615) to reauthorize the Traumatic Brain Injury program.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Traumatic Brain Injury Program Reauthorization Act of 2018".

SEC. 2. PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INJURIES.

Part J of title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280b et seq.) is amended—