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No. 2

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. DINGELL).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

January 4, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DEBBIE DINGELL to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Loving God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We thank You for the joy, excitement, and ceremony of yesterday when the 116th Congress was convened. It was a celebration of the ongoing American experiment of participatory democracy.

Today begins, if not in full force, the work of the Congress, when the difficulties facing our Nation, and some communities especially, come into focus.

We ask again an abundance of Your wisdom for the Members of the people's House.

May we be forever grateful for the blessings our Nation enjoys and appropriately generous with what we have to help those among us who are in need.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HASTINGS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, as I did my very first speech in 2013, and again in 2017, I rise today to sound a clarion call for the urgent action by this new Congress to address the senseless gun violence that continues to claim too many innocent lives across our country.

Sadly, since my first speech 6 years ago, Americans continue to be gunned down in schools, workplaces, houses of worship, community gatherings, and even while sitting comfortably in their own homes.

Time and again, Congress pauses for the standard moment of silence and yet, so far, has failed to take real action.

Newtown, Parkland, Las Vegas, Mother Emanuel AME, Tree of Life synagogue, the Capital Gazette—these names are but a few of the grotesquely long list of mass shootings and lives cut violently short. And for every mass shooting that captures the headlines, countless other victims are killed or maimed in shootings across our country each and every day.

But as we turn the page on this new Congress, I have hope, hope that this year we will finally take action to make our community safer: actions such as passing universal background checks, banning high capacity magazines, and making trafficking of weapons across State lines a Federal crime.

We have the power to save lives. Let us now find the courage to act and build a safer future for our children.

U.S.-POLAND DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

(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. Madam Speaker, 2019 marks the 100th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Poland and the United States.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H219

As praised by Ambassador Piotr Wilczek:

It has been a century of solidarity, understanding, but most of all friendship. Our bond is stronger than ever, and we look forward to the next 100 years to come.

In 1795, imperial Russia and Prussia occupied the Polish nation, ending its official existence for 123 years.

The Washington Times recounted:

In 1918, the Versailles Conference restored an independent Polish state. Freedom was lost once more in 1939 as Nazi Germany invaded from the west and Soviet Russia from the east. Subjugation continued until 1989, with the end of the Soviet-backed communist rule.

Free and democratic Poland today is a valued member of NATO and the European Union.

Poland has achieved 25 years of uninterrupted economic growth, now continued by President Andrzej Duda.

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

HONORED TO SERVE IN THE 15TH DISTRICT IN THE 116TH CONGRESS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today, on the second day of the 116th Congress, to represent Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District.

The 15th Congressional District encompasses 14 counties, 24 percent of the land mass of Pennsylvania, and includes all of Armstrong, Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Elk, Forest, Indiana, Jefferson, McKean, Venango, and Warren counties. It includes parts of Butler, Cambria, and Centre counties, including my hometown of Howard.

Madam Speaker, I take great pride in my service to the people of the 15th Congressional District, and I work hard to earn their trust, help solve their problems, and be a diligent Representative.

When not in Washington, I spend my days on the road in the district, traveling to meetings and events. I work to connect with my constituents and truly be a voice for each community I represent.

Madam Speaker, I also appreciate the opportunity to speak here, as I did 219 days in the 115th Congress, to be a strong voice for the citizens of the 15th District.

The challenges before us remain great, but it is my hope that we will tackle these challenges head-on. It is the American way.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND LIFE OF THE HONORABLE PAUL ELIZONDO, JR.

(Mr. HURD of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HURD of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible

life and contributions of the Honorable Paul Elizondo, Jr., of San Antonio.

Paul's dedication to service was a lifelong commitment, beginning with his time in the United States Marine Corps.

Following his military service, he attended St. Mary's University in San Antonio, graduating with a degree in music education in 1957. He then spent 16 years in the public school system, encouraging the musical talents of countless young people, before being elected to the Texas State Legislature in 1978.

Paul first assumed the role of Bexar County commissioner for precinct 2 in 1983 and has been a fixture and force in the Bexar County government ever since.

Paul Elizondo, Jr., passed away on December 27, 2018, leaving behind an extraordinary legacy and an amazing family. While we mourn the loss of this great man, his dedication to fiercely advocating for the West Side has made an incredible impact that will continue for generations to come.

I would like to extend my most sincere condolences to Commissioner Elizondo's family during this difficult time, and I am proud to recognize all that he did for the great State of Texas and our hometown of San Antonio.

HONORING THE LIFE OF TYLER TRENT

(Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Tyler Trent, a remarkable young Hoosier from Carmel, Indiana, who lost his battle to bone cancer at only 20 years.

Tyler Trent is a name known in households across the Nation for his love of Purdue football and his inspiring passion and energy as a fan.

Tyler always dreamed of becoming a Boilermaker and refused to allow cancer to get in his way. After beating cancer once and being diagnosed again in 2017, Tyler started school at Purdue on a presidential scholarship, as planned, in the fall of '17. He would drive home on weekends for treatment. Even still, Tyler would show up to cheer on his Boilermakers every chance he got.

The Purdue superfan was featured on ESPN and named the honorary team captain when they won the Old Oaken Bucket game this past year. He received the Sagamore of the Wabash and formed an organization which helps families affected by cancer, called Teens With a Cause.

In December, he won Disney's Wide World of Sports Spirit Award. When he received that award, he said: "There is always a light at the end of the tunnel."

It is with that optimistic and positive outlook on life that Tyler inspired

the Nation. He has united Americans far and wide to be Boilermakers, and I hope we can all continue to be grateful and live every day as he did—Tyler strong.

ADOPTING THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE 116TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 5, proceedings will now resume on the resolution (H. Res. 6) adopting the Rules of the House of Representatives for the One Hundred Sixteenth Congress, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. When proceedings were postponed on Thursday, January 3, 2019, the portion of the divided question comprising title I had been disposed of.

Pursuant to section 2 of House Resolution 5, the portion of the divided question comprising title II is now debatable for 1 hour.

The gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 6, Title II—Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress.

Title II establishes a bipartisan Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress to investigate, study, make findings, hold public hearings, and develop recommendations to modernize and improve the way Congress operates.

This institution has a responsibility to the people—to our constituents—and to this country to build a Congress that works for everyone, not just those at the top. This is not something that will happen on its own. It is going to take hard work, but it is worthwhile work.

This is not the first time Congress, as an institution, has wrestled with how to be more effective and efficient. Three times in the 20th century—in 1945, in 1965, and again in 1992 when Ms. LOFGREN and I came to Congress—we established joint committees to examine various aspects of the legislative process in an effort to improve efficiency and promote transparency.

Madam Speaker, today we are at a similar crossroads. Last Congress, we witnessed the Republicans lead the most closed Congress in the history of our country. Republicans blocked everything from immigration reform and infrastructure to gun safety and lowering prescription drug costs.

Last November, many of the American people demanded a new direction. Part of that new direction includes making the House of Representatives an institution that debates big ideas.

We are at a moment where the challenges we face as a country are so great—everything from the opioid epidemic that is devastating communities across the country to the immense economic and human cost the world will incur as a result of climate change—that we must come together as a body in a deliberate and transparent way.

□ 0915

The select committee will provide a venue for Members to consult outside experts, academics, and this institution's own Members in an effort to analyze, debate, and adopt those ideas that will help us improve how we do the people's business.

This select committee, along with the bipartisan rules package that passed on the House floor yesterday, is proof that we stand ready, willing, and able to protect not only this institution's prerogative but the interests of the American people.

With public trust in Congress at historic lows, House Democrats are taking transformational steps that will modernize Congress, restore regular order, and bring integrity back to this institution. This comprehensive and deliberate approach will undoubtedly improve the overall function of this great institution that we all have the privilege and honor to serve in.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise as the designee of the Republican leader, and I thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), my good friend, for yielding me 30 minutes.

For the third time in 2 days, Madam Speaker, my good friends from the Democratic side of the aisle and I are here to debate part of the Democratic rules package for the House of Representatives. Unlike the first two times, I find myself in agreement with what the Democrats are proposing today.

We are here today on title II of the rules package, which establishes a Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress. While I think improvements can be made to what my friends are proposing, I am pleased to say I think that this proposal is an excellent idea.

I know my good friend also mentioned the last Congress, and I want to take just a second to defend that Congress. Frankly, it was the last Congress that gave us the first tax modernization overhaul and tax reduction in 31 years. It was the last Congress that began the opioid initiative that we worked on in a very bipartisan way. It was the last Congress that did more deregulation than any Congress in American history. It was the last Congress, working with my friends on the other side, that did historic work in human trafficking. It was the last Congress that also did historic work, again, in a very bipartisan way, with my friends

on the veterans' issues. Finally, it was the last Congress that began rebuilding the American military after 8 years of neglect. We will see if this Congress has a record that matches that in the next 2 years.

Having said that, as my friend laid out, the proposed select committee would be charged with investigating, studying, and making recommendations for modernizing Congress, including improvements to rules; to procedures, including the schedule and the calendar; to staff recruitment, diversity, and retention; and to technology.

I am especially pleased that this select committee will be equally divided between Democrats and Republicans and that the makeup of the committee will include two members of each part from the Rules Committee, the House Administration Committee, and two freshmen.

Most importantly, the select committee is required to produce a report with their recommendations by a two-thirds supermajority by the end of Congress. Those are all excellent proposals by my friends, and I wholeheartedly endorse them.

Madam Speaker, there is a lot to like in this proposal. I think we can all agree, no matter which party you belong to, that Congress needs to be modernized and its processes improved. I am especially happy that my friends have done so in a way that is bipartisan and, hopefully, will be above politics.

The proposal isn't quite perfect, of course. Personally, I would have preferred to have seen the House take up this responsibility in coordination with our colleagues in the Senate. I am sure the bulk of my conference and probably the bulk of my friend's conference would probably tell you that, if any body in Congress needs improvement, it is undoubtedly the one on the other side of the Capitol rotunda. On that, we can have a bipartisan agreement within this Chamber.

Of course, Congress works best when the House and the Senate work together, and that includes the need to improve processes and modernize Congress as an institution, as a whole. The majority would have done better to have found a way to work with the Senate on developing a joint committee made up of Members from both houses of Congress that would be charged with making improvements to the House, the Senate, and to Congress, as a whole.

That aside, this is certainly a very good and serious proposal, and I look forward, with a great deal of optimism, as the select committee does its work this Congress.

Madam Speaker, I urge support of the measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), chairman of the Rules Committee and my good friend.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), for yielding to me and for his leadership on the Rules Committee. I am looking forward to working with him as a member of the majority in this Congress.

Madam Speaker, we started an important conversation about how to improve this House as the rules package was developed. Members on both sides of the aisle brought forward ideas. Many of them were included in the final package. But these rules shouldn't be the end of the dialogue. They should be only a start.

I know that there are many Members who will have even more good ideas in the coming weeks and months, and this Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress is a unique opportunity to continue the conversation.

It is a truly bipartisan way to consider ideas on how to promote a more modern and efficient Congress and procedures to develop the next generation of leaders, increase staff diversity, and improve technology and innovation. It is also a way for this Congress to hold ourselves accountable, to ensure our work to reform this House is delivering on behalf of the American people.

I especially thank Representatives KILMER, LIPINSKI, and SARBANES, as well as the New Democrat Coalition, for this idea. It is a step that this House can take, and it is a step that this House, quite frankly, should take.

Madam Speaker, finally, I just want to say, as the gentleman from Oklahoma pointed out, this select committee is truly bipartisan, and the ideas that come out of this select committee will be truly bipartisan.

We can improve the way this House is run. We can improve the way we do things here. I think the American people are hoping we will move in that direction, and I think we have an opportunity to do that.

I say to the gentleman from Oklahoma, I really appreciate his tone and his support for this initiative. We all talk about new beginnings and about ways to make things better, and I think we are off to a good start. For that, I thank the gentleman from Florida.

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

Madam Speaker, I echo my friend's comments, to some degree.

First, I thank him personally, and I thank his fellow members on the Democratic Rules Committee, for presenting this proposal. It is a genuinely excellent and bipartisan effort, and it suggests that the language we heard about trying to change the way in which we operate was very sincere and well motivated. It is much appreciated on our side of the aisle.

While we certainly had our differences yesterday, I appreciate the way, frankly, that was handled by both sides. I am pleased that we are ending this on a point of agreement and a bipartisan commitment to actually improve the nature of our institution.

Again, I expect this committee to actually produce really substantive proposals. I don't know yet, obviously, who the members on either side will be, but I know the leadership on both sides takes this very seriously. I think there is a genuine commitment to try to open up the process a little bit to make it, if you will, more Member-friendly, whether you are Members in the majority or the minority, and that is to be commended on the part of my friend.

Again, this is a good start, as my friend Mr. MCGOVERN said, and I look forward to playing my part in participating as we make progress in this direction.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Washington (Mr. KILMER), my friend, a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. KILMER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to rise in support of title II of this resolution to establish a new Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress, and I start by thanking Chairman MCGOVERN and the Speaker for their collaboration over the past several months as they formed this plan.

Let me say something that the American people know to be true, and that is that this House is a fixer-upper. Every time the American people feel like they don't have a say and nothing gets done, or every time a bill is written behind closed doors and passed without debate, the American people lose their faith in the ideal that formed this body, the idea that they have the ability to shape the outcome of what happens here.

It is time to rebuild this institution so it lives up to the motto that serves as this Nation's motto that hangs in this room: *E pluribus unum*, out of many, one.

Now, every 20 years or so, there has been an effort to reform and modernize this House. There has been an acknowledgment that like any other functional organization, it is worth diagnosing what is working and what isn't, and determining how to have it perform better.

This committee that is established with today's vote will empower Members to help Congress to work better and to be more responsive to the American people, a Congress that will lead to the advancement of shared goals between the parties, and a reform system that allows the 435 people lucky enough to work here to have meaningful outcomes to show for their work, to produce solutions.

Look, we are on the cusp of a new era. We need to rise to the challenge by modernizing this legislative body so that we can fulfill the priorities of the Nation that elected each one of us to represent them. I truly believe that this select committee will help us chart a better course, one where con-

sensus is not only sought but actually achieved, where we can finally make progress on our Nation's greatest challenges by developing proposals with broad bipartisan support and allowing them to move through regular order, looking at key issues like the use of technology, looking at how to cultivate leadership, and looking at operational changes to this body.

I believe that modernizing this institution is the key to settling our diverse country's most pressing challenges and restoring the public's faith in Congress.

Again, I commend Chairman MCGOVERN and the Speaker for leading the way forward by establishing this committee. I also take a moment to thank some of the folks behind the scenes who have worked really hard to bring this plan to fruition, people like Don Sisson and the Rules Committee Democratic staff, and Jamie Fleet and the House Administration Committee Democratic staff, who spent countless hours working to bring us to today.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution so that this committee and Congress can finally get to work.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I have an additional speaker on the way, I hope, but, right now, I don't have anything additional to add personally.

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

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES), my good friend and a member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise up in support of the rules package being put forward by the Democratic majority. In particular, I applaud the decision to establish a Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress, and I thank Chairman MCGOVERN, Speaker PELOSI, and all those who made this a priority.

We know that the best motives of Members on both sides of the aisle are too often frustrated by dysfunction in the legislative process, which then makes it difficult for us to deliver on the promises that we give to our constituents and to the Nation. Diminishing congressional resources and, at times, overly centralized decision-making have empowered outside interests in the legislative process, and those are interests who don't always have the public interest in mind.

Of course, we know that modern-day campaigning demands are running Members ragged. We are increasingly unable to study the material and build the relationships necessary for a healthy legislative institution.

We have a responsibility to the people to build a Congress that serves the people well. This is not something that is going to be easy, and it is not something that is going to happen until we

make it happen. It will take work, but it is work that needs to be done.

The challenges we face as an institution are not entirely new, as my colleague, Congressman KILMER, just said. For much of modern congressional history, Congress has continuously wrestled with how to be more effective as the first branch of government.

In the past, when the challenges grew, we have come together as a body to explore reforms to our rules and to institutional design, congressional capacity, and the matter of resources.

□ 0930

In 1945, in 1965, and again in 1992, Congress convened Joint Committees to study the functioning of Congress and to propose comprehensive, expert-guided reforms.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. SARBANES. Such a moment is before us again. It will be a challenge. After all, Congress is complicated and messy by design. Modernizing its operation is no simple task, but that is exactly the role that the proposed Select Committee can play. It can create a space for Members of Congress from across the ideological spectrum, representing different parts of the country, different world views and different backgrounds, to come together to work through the challenges and think through the remedies. It will be a place for experts, historians, and academics to present their views and help us wrestle with how to self-improve; and it will signal to the American people that we are earnest in our efforts to make Congress work better.

I strongly support the rules package before us, and I look forward to the work of the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress.

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

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on the resolution, and I yield the control of the remainder of my time to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN), the distinguished chairwoman of the Committee on House Administration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from California will control the remaining time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the creation of the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress, and I encourage all of the House to do the same.

There is precedent for Select Committees like this one. During 1973, in the 93rd Congress, the House created the Select Committee on Committees. And although the Select Committee's mission was to study the structure and operation of House committees, it ultimately made several recommendations

to improve House-wide administrative and technology functions.

Among the improvements and modernization steps, the Select Committee suggested that the House form a Commission on Information and Facilities, tasked with responding to the growing number of issues Congress faced, but with limited access to information and analysis.

The Commission also tackled the problem of growing staff needed to support an increased workload, but with limited physical space to accommodate them. The result was an installation of a system of 30 computer terminals for Members of Congress and committees of legislative research.

Now, this seems trivial now, especially when information is in our pockets, in our iPhones, but at the time it was revolutionary for the Congress to be able to get this information on its computers. This is just one example of how a Select Committee made Congress work better.

Following the Select Committee came the election of the Class of 1974. Fueled by the Watergate scandal, the new Members did much to change the Congress. They decentralized power. They invigorated our oversight responsibilities. They began a conversation that would change how we do business forever.

For example, televising the floor proceedings; the 1976 Government in the Sunshine Act. The process they started opened up our democracy to the American people and created a lasting record for history.

This Select Committee has a broad mandate to study how our Congress has changed and is changing. That begins with our changing workforce. We need to invest in our workforce, and that is why the proposal we passed in the rules package yesterday to create the Office of Diversity and Inclusion was so important. This Select Committee will be tasked with studying how we can better recruit, retain, and compensate our staff.

We also must be responsible stewards of public money, and this Select Committee will help us minimize waste and maximize value in how we operate the House.

Now, as has been mentioned, one of the virtues of the Select Committee is its composition. It will be composed of members of the House Administration Committee who have firsthand experience with the details of House administration. There will be members of the Rules Committee, experts in process and procedures who know what works and what doesn't when it comes to an efficient legislative process, and the Select Committee will feature Members in their first term who bring a new perspective and great energy to the House.

Shortly after her election, my home State colleague from California, Representative KATIE PORTER said: "Congress wasn't built for Members like me." And unfortunately, I think KATIE

is right. But we can change that, and we will change that. We can give the people's House back to the people.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, my additional speaker has not yet arrived, so I am prepared to close whenever my good friend is.

Ms. LOFGREN. Well, I do have an additional speaker. I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI).

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

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of title II of H. Res. 6, which creates a Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress.

Before I was elected to Congress, I was a political science professor. I studied and taught American Government, and my specialty was Congress. Whenever I was teaching a class on Congress, I would start by showing the old Schoolhouse Rock video "I'm Just a Bill." In this video, Bill taught how a bill becomes a law. It was a great way of introducing, not just kids watching Saturday morning cartoons, but also teaching college students how a bill goes through the process in Congress to become a law. This was a 3-minute video from 40 years ago.

Unfortunately, if the song was updated today, it would need to be much longer than 3 minutes, with the addition of many more verses that explained how difficult it is for a bill to become a law.

Over the years, Congress has become increasingly dysfunctional. When I taught American Government, I would always point out that the Constitution established Congress in Article I, before the executive and judicial branches, because the drafters understood the critical importance of Congress leading in our representative democracy.

Congressional dysfunction increasingly turns more power, however, over to the President and to the courts, which takes power away from the American people. So Congress needs reform so it can function as it was intended and return this power to the American people.

Since 2016, I have introduced legislation with my friend and colleague, Mr. LAHOOD, to establish a Joint Committee on the Organization of Congress so we could have a mechanism to study and enact reform proposals to improve the operations of the House and Senate. I advocated for this committee because we need a forum for the holistic examination of the rules and procedures essential to effective legislating.

We need to hold up a magnifying glass to Congress and to push for comprehensive reforms to make the institution more efficient, effective, and accountable to all Americans. We need to find new ways to empower all Members to participate in the legislative process, debate ideas, advance their ideas, and get laws enacted.

As Ms. LOFGREN talked about, through the history of Congress, we have had these committees that have brought important changes to the way that this body operates. With the start of this new 116th Congress, I am happy to see that this call for reform has been heeded with the inclusion in the resolution creating a Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress.

While the Select Committee does not contain all the elements of the legislation we had introduced, notably, it doesn't include Senate reform; this is an important step forward that we can achieve today, immediately, through House rules. The Select Committee will be able to make recommendations on a wide range of issues affecting work in Congress, including procedural reform, leadership development, staff recruitment and retention, technology, innovation, and administration. And the committee gives both parties an equal say in the process of developing the package of reforms.

I am grateful to my party's leadership, especially Speaker PELOSI and incoming Rules Committee Chairman MCGOVERN, for making this a part of the House rules package for the 116th Congress.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to continuing to work to restore public trust in this institution by making Congress more transparent and effective. And by doing this, we will return power to the American people, and we can have lawmaking just as explained by Bill in his Schoolhouse Rock video, with power going to the people through their representatives in the House.

I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I again want to advise my friend I am prepared to close whenever she is.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

In closing, while I normally would stand here and be in opposition to what my good friends, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. MCGOVERN and Ms. LOFGREN would be proposing, in this case I fully support the measure that they are bringing before us.

The proposed Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress is a serious, well-intentioned proposal to create a bipartisan committee to produce a bipartisan product aimed at improving the way Congress functions now and into the future. And while this idea could have been improved if it incorporated the Senate and insured that both houses were working together on improving the overall institution, it is still, nonetheless, a very worthy endeavor.

I, for one, thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, and I think that this is an issue that they could and should support in a bipartisan fashion. Frankly, I want to thank my friends; having been on the losing side of every vote yesterday, it will be nice to be on the winning side today.

So, Madam Speaker, I want to urge a "yes" vote on the underlying measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Congress is a creature of precedent, but we must never be captive to the old ways. The House, the people's body, must continually update and renew itself to meet the challenges facing the Nation and to respond to the needs of a new generation of representatives. This Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress is a way this Congress can identify and address the challenges of tomorrow, and will assist us in boldly meeting these challenges.

The Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress is a way to deal with problems facing this body right now, today. The Select Committee is a way to make sure that my colleague, KATIE PORTER, works in a Congress built for her and all our new Members.

It is long past time to chart a path forward and to address the problems we must face. I look forward to working with all the members of the Select Committee and congressional stakeholders in transforming the House for the better on a bipartisan basis.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 5, the previous question is ordered on the portion of the divided question comprising title II.

The question is on that portion of the divided question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. COLE. Madam 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 question will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 44 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1015

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. DINGELL) at 10 o'clock and 15 minutes a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

The portion of the divided question on House Resolution 6 comprising title II, by the yeas and nays; and

Approval of the Journal, if ordered.

Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the first vote will be a 15-minute vote. Any additional votes in this series will be a 5-minute vote.

ADOPTING THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE 116TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question of adoption of title II of the resolution (H. Res. 6) adopting the Rules of the House of Representatives for the One Hundred Sixteenth Congress, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on adoption of title II. Members will record their votes by electronic device.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 418, nays 12, not voting 2, as follows:

[Roll No. 12] YEAS—418

- Abraham Casten (IL) Dingell Adams Castor (FL) Doggett Aderholt Castro (TX) Doyle, Michael Aguilar Chabot F. Allred Cheney Duffy Amash Chu, Judy Duncan Amodei Cicilline Dunn Armstrong Cisneros Emmer Arrington Clark (MA) Engel Axne Clarke (NY) Escobar Bacon Clay Eshoo Baird Cleaver Espallat Balderson Cline Estes Banks Cloud Evans Barr Clyburn Ferguson Barragan Cohen Finkenauer Bass Cole Fitzpatrick Beatty Collins (GA) Fleischmann Bera Collins (NY) Fletcher Bergman Comer Flores Beyer Conaway Fortenberry Bilirakis Connolly Foster Bishop (GA) Cook Foxx (NC) Bishop (UT) Cooper Frankel Blumenauer Correa Fudge Blunt Rochester Costa Fulcher Bonamici Courtney Gabbard Bost Cox (CA) Gallagher Boyle, Brendan F. Craig Gallego Brady Crawford Garamendi Brindisi Crenshaw Garcia (IL) Brooks (AL) Crow Garcia (TX) Brooks (IN) Cuellar Gianforte Brown (MD) Cummings Gibbs Brownley (CA) Cunningham Golden Buchanan Curtis Gonzalez (OH) Buck Davids (KS) Gonzalez (TX) Bucshon Davidson (OH) Gooden Budd Davis (CA) Gosar Burchett Davis, Danny K. Gottheimer Burgess Davis, Rodney Granger Bustos Dean Graves (GA) Butterfield DeFazio Graves (LA) Byrne DeGette Graves (MO) Calvert DeLauro Green (TN) Carbajal DelBene Green (TX) Cardenas Delgado Griffith Carson (IN) Demings Griffiths Carter (GA) DeSaulnier Grothman Carter (TX) DesJarlais Guest Cartwright Deutch Guthrie Case Diaz-Balart Haaland

- Hagedorn Marshall Schrader Harder (CA) Mast Schrier Harris Matsui Schweikert Hartzler McAdams Scott (VA) Hastings McEachin Shalala Hayes McCarthly Scott, Austin Heck McCaul Scott, David Hern, Kevin McClintock Sensenbrenner Herrera Beutler McCollum Serrano Hice (GA) McEachin Sewell (AL) Higgins (LA) McGovern Shalala Higgins (NY) McHenry Sherman Hill (AR) McKinley Sherrill Hill (CA) McMorris Shimkus Himes Rodgers Simpson Holding McNeerney Sires Hollingsworth Meeks Slotkin Horn, Kendra S. Meng Smith (MO) Horsford Meuser Smith (NE) Houlihan Miller Smith (NJ) Hoyer Mitchell Smith (WA) Hudson Moolenaar Snucker Huffman Mooney (WV) Soto Huizenga Moore Spanberger Hurd (TX) Morelle Spano Jackson Lee Moulton Speier Jayapal Mucarsel-Powell Stanton Jeffries Mullin Stauber Johnson (GA) Murphy Stefanik Johnson (LA) Nadler Steil Johnson (OH) Napolitano Steube Johnson (SD) Neal Stevens Johnson (TX) Neguse Stewart Jordan Newhouse Stivers Joyce (OH) Norcross Swozzi Joyce (PA) Nunes Swallow (CA) Kaptur O'Halleran Takano Katko Ocasio-Cortez Taylor Keating Olson Thompson (CA) Kelly (IL) Omar Thompson (MS) Kelly (MS) Palazzio Thompson (PA) Kelly (PA) Pallone Thornberry Kennedy Palmer Timmons Khanna Panetta Tipton Kildee Pappas Titus Kilmer Pascrell Tlaib Kim Payne Tonko Kind Pence Torres (CA) King (NY) Perlmutter Torres Small Kinzinger Perry (NM) Kirkpatrick Peters Trahan Krishnamoorthi Peterson Trone Kuster (NH) Phillips Turner Kustoff (TN) Pingree Kustoff (TN) Pingree LaHood Pocan Underwood LaMalfa Porter Upton Lamb Posey Van Drew Langevin Pressley Vargas Larsen (WA) Quigley Veasey Larson (CT) Raskin Vela Latta Ratcliffe Velazquez Lawrence Reed Vislosky Lawson (FL) Reschenthaler Wagner Lee (CA) Rice (NY) Walberg Lee (NV) Rice (SC) Walden Lesko Richmond Walker Levin (CA) Riggelman Walorski Levin (MI) Roby Waltz Lewis Roe, David P. Wasserman Lieu, Ted Rogers (AL) Schultz Lipinski Rogers (KY) Waters Lipinski Rooney (FL) Watkins Loeb sack Rose (NY) Watson Coleman Lofgren Rose, John W. Weber (TX) Long Webster (FL) Loudermilk Rouda Welch Lowenthal Roybal-Allard Wenstrup Lowey Ruiz Westerman Lucas Ruppertsberger Wexton Luetkemeyer Rush Wild Luján Rutherford Williams Luria Ryan Wilson (FL) Lynch Sanchez Wilson (SC) Malinowski Sarbanes Wittman Maloney, Scalise Womack Carolyn B. Scanlon Woodall Maloney, Sean Schakowsky Wright Marchant Schiff Yarmuth Marino Schneider Zeldin

NAYS—12

NOT VOTING—2

□ 1042

Messrs. YOHO and BABIN changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Messrs. ARRINGTON and DAVIDSON of Ohio changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the portion of the divided question comprising title II was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). Pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 5, further proceedings will be postponed.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

□ 1045

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO ADMINISTER THE OATH OF OFFICE

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 22

Resolved,

Whereas, Walter B. Jones, a Representative-elect from the Third District of the State of North Carolina, has been unable from illness to appear in person to be sworn as a Member of the House, and there being no contest or question as to his election; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Speaker, or deputy named by her, is hereby authorized to administer the oath of office to the Honorable Walter B. Jones at Farmville, North Carolina, and that such oath be accepted and received by the House as the oath of office of the Honorable Walter B. Jones.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPOINTMENT OF HONORABLE G.K. BUTTERFIELD TO ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO HONORABLE WALTER JONES OF NORTH CAROLINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 22, 116th Congress, the Chair appoints the Honorable G.K. BUTTERFIELD of North Carolina to administer the oath of office to the Honorable WALTER JONES of North Carolina.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I

offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 24

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

- (1) COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.—Mr. Peterson, Chair.
- (2) COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES.—Mr. Smith of Washington, Chair.
- (3) COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR.—Mr. Scott of Virginia, Chair.
- (4) COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS.—Mr. Engel, Chair.
- (5) COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY.—Mr. Thompson of Mississippi, Chair.
- (6) COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY.—Mr. Nadler, Chair.
- (7) COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES.—Mr. Grijalva, Chair.
- (8) COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM.—Mr. Cummings, Chair.
- (9) COMMITTEE ON RULES.—Mr. Hastings, Mrs. Torres of California, Mr. Raskin, Ms. Scanlon, Mr. Morelle, and Ms. Shalala.
- (10) COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY.—Ms. Johnson of Texas, Chair.
- (11) COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS.—Ms. Velázquez, Chair.
- (12) COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE.—Mr. DeFazio, Chair.
- (13) COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS.—Mr. Takano, Chair.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the House Republican Conference, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 25

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following committees of the House of Representatives:

- COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE: Mr. Conaway.
 COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES: Mr. Thornberry.
 COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR: Ms. Foxx of North Carolina.
 COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Mr. McCaul.
 COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY: Mr. Rogers of Alabama.
 COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY: Mr. Collins of Georgia.
 COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES: Mr. Bishop of Utah.
 COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM: Mr. Jordan.
 COMMITTEE ON RULES: Mr. Cole, Mr. Woodall, Mr. Burgess, Mrs. Lesko.
 COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY: Mr. Lucas.
 COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS: Mr. Chabot.
 COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE: Mr. Graves of Missouri.
 COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS: Mr. David P. Roe of Tennessee.

Ms. CHENEY (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent

that the resolution be considered as read.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 2019, TO TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Tuesday, January 8, 2019, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

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

There was no objection.

DEMOCRATIC RESPONSE TO GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, the new Democratic majority in this House will not limit its response to mass shootings to just thoughts and prayers. We will listen to gun violence survivors, not gun company lobbyists. We finally will respond to the demands of more than 90 percent of Americans who want stronger background checks.

In the 9 years since the Supreme Court's disastrous decision in *Citizens United*, gun companies and other wealthy special interests have been able to dump unlimited money into our elections. In 2016, the NRA spent more than ever before and watched candidates they help elect ignore the gun violence crisis: nearly 40,000 Americans killed in 2017 and horrific mass shootings in Las Vegas, Pittsburgh, Thousand Oaks, and Parkland.

To release the grip of wealthy special interests on Congress, Democrats have introduced historic reforms as our top priority in H.R. 1, to make it easier to vote, to get money out of politics, to end corruption, and to call for a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United*.

Mr. Speaker, no matter what the issue—climate change, healthcare, the economy, or gun violence—it is time for Congress to start working for the people. This week, that work has begun.

VOTE AGAINST BORDER SECURITY

(Mr. BARR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, yesterday's vote against commonsense border security is a sad commentary on the misguided priorities of the new majority in Congress.

Instead of working in good faith to achieve a bipartisan compromise to end the partial government shutdown and address the very real crisis at our southern border, the new Democrat House leadership signaled that all they really want to do is to continue their fight with this President.

By totally dismissing what career professionals at the Department of Homeland Security have said, that they actually need to impede the flow of criminals, gangs, human traffickers, and drug dealers into our country, the new leadership has signaled to the country that the new majority has been co-opted by the most extreme and

hyperpartisan voices of the far left who are so far outside the mainstream and are so blinded by their animosity toward this President that they have become willing to place the interests of illegal immigrants ahead of the interests of the American people.

They would rather turn a blind eye to lawlessness. They would rather compromise public safety and allow criminal gangs and drugs to flood across our borders than even negotiate with this President.

In their meeting with the White House earlier this week, the Democrats refused to even listen to a briefing of the Secretary of the Department of

Homeland Security about the threats we face from an unsecured border.

This is a matter of national security. It is time for Congress to put the safety of the American people over open borders and political games.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 53 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, January 8, 2019, at noon for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the fourth quarter of 2018, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, SCOTT NULTY, EXPENDED BETWEEN NOV. 16 AND NOV. 21, 2018

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Scott Nulty	11/17	11/18	Germany		128.00		(3)		132.00		260.00
	11/18	11/20	Kuwait		210.00		(3)		592.00		802.00
	11/20	11/21	Ireland		103.00		(3)	€100.00		€100.00	103.00
Committee total					441.00			€100.00	724.00	€100.00	1,165.00

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation.

SCOTT NULTY, Dec. 13, 2018.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DANIEL SILVERBERG, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 27 AND NOV. 1, 2018

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Daniel Silverberg	10/28	10/30	Azerbaijan		649.00		10,947.00				
	10/30	11/1	Tajikistan		491.00						
Committee total					1,140.00		10,947.00				12,087.00

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

DANIEL SILVERBERG, Nov. 22, 2018.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO SWITZERLAND, EXPENDED BETWEEN DEC. 1 AND DEC. 5, 2018

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Robert Reeves	12/2	12/5	Switzerland		1,369.02		2,126.33				3,495.35
Kirsten Gullickson	12/2	12/5	Switzerland		1,369.02		2,126.33				3,495.35
Committee total					2,738.04		4,252.66				6,990.70

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

ROBERT F. REEVES, Dec. 12, 2018.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2018

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Ashley Smith	10/1	10/2	Germany		250		292.00		(3)		292.00
	10/2	10/4	Rwanda		501.376		578.00		(3)		578.00
	10/4	10/7	Botswana		7,642		723.00		(3)		723.00
	10/7	10/8	Angola		140,336		480.00		(3)		480.00
	10/8	10/9	Tunisia		501		179.00		(3)		179.00
	10/9	10/10	Portugal		276		322.00		(3)		322.00
Hon. Roger Marshall	11/17	11/18	Czech Republic		9,085.40		400.52		(3)		400.52
	11/18	11/20	Uzbekistan		4,614,019.38		555.07		(3)		555.07
	11/20	11/21	Djibouti		65,717.30		369.78		(3)		369.78
	11/21	11/23	Kuwait		256.94		844.87		(3)		844.87

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2018—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
	11/23	11/24	Ireland	177.39	202.33		(³)				202.33
Committee total					4,946.57		0		0		4,946.57

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation.

HON. LAMAR SMITH, Chairman, Dec. 31, 2018.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2. A letter from the Senior Counsel, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Fair Credit Reporting Act Disclosures (RIN: 3170-AA94) received December 31, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

3. A letter from the Senior Counsel, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Truth in Lending Act (Regulation Z) Adjustment to Asset-Size Exemption Threshold (RIN: 3170-AA93) received December 31, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4. A letter from the Senior Counsel, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Home Mortgage Disclosure (Regulation C) Adjustment to Asset-Size Exemption Threshold (RIN: 3170-AA92) received December 31, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

5. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule — Improving the Effectiveness and Efficiency of FERPA Enforcement received December 21, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

6. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; California; El Dorado County Air Quality Management District; Reasonably Available Control Technology Demonstration [EPA-R09-OAR-2018-0602; FRL-9988-52-Region 9] received December 28, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Expansion of the Arroyo Seco Viticultural Area [Docket No.: TTB-2018-0003; T.D. TTB-153; Ref: Notice No.: 172] (RIN: 1513-AC36) received December 27, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Expansion of the Monticello Viticultural Area [Docket No.: TTB-2018-0004; T.D. TTB-154; Ref: Notice No.: 173] (RIN: 1513-AC37) received December 27, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

9. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of the Van Duzer Corridor Viticultural Area and Clarification of the Eola-Amity Hills Viticultural Area Boundary Description [Docket No.: TTB-2018-0006; T.D. TTB-155; Ref: Notice No.: 175] (RIN: 1513-AC39) received December 27, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

10. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Parking Expenses for Qualified Transportation Fringes Under Sec. 274(a)(4) and Sec. 512(a)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code (NOT-119966-18) [Notice 2018-99] received December 21, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

11. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Guidance on the Application of Section 83(i) [Notice 2018-97] received December 21, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

[Omitted from the Record of January 3, 2019]

Mr. SESSIONS: Committee on Rules. Survey of Activities of the House Committee on Rules for the 115th Congress (Rept. 115-1130). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky:

H.R. 240. A bill to establish the Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument in the State of Kentucky as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. WILLIAMS:

H.R. 241. A bill to amend the Bank Service Company Act to provide improvements with respect to State banking agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. JAYAPAL (for herself, Mr. POCAN, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. NADLER, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. PINGREE, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr.

RASKIN, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SERRANO, and Mr. GOMEZ):

H.R. 242. A bill to repeal the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010; to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LAMALFA:

H.R. 243. A bill to exempt certain wildfire mitigation activities from certain environmental requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. STEWART:

H.R. 244. A bill to maximize land management efficiencies, promote land conservation, generate education funding, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. RESCENTIALER, and Mr. MEUSER):

H.R. 245. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act and the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to repeal provisions relating only to the Allegheny National Forest; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. FINKENAUER (for herself, Mr. CURTIS, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H.R. 246. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to require senior procurement executives, procurement center representatives, and the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization to assist small business concerns participating in the Small Business Innovation Research Program and the Small Business Technology Transfer Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HURD of Texas (for himself, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. MEADOWS, and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H.R. 247. A bill to amend chapter 36 of title 44, United States Code, to make certain changes relating to electronic Government services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. CALVERT (for himself, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. NUNES):

H.R. 248. A bill to provide for a limitation on the number of civilian employees at the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CALVERT (for himself, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. BUCHANAN):

H.R. 249. A bill to amend the ICCVAM Authorization Act of 2000 to improve reporting about animal testing and alternative test method use by Federal agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CALVERT (for himself, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. COOK, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. COLE, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. BABIN, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey):

H.R. 250. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to make mandatory and permanent requirements relating to use of an electronic employment eligibility verification system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi (for himself, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. RATCLIFFE, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. SHIMKUS):

H.R. 251. A bill to extend by two years the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. AMODEI:

H.R. 252. A bill to promote conservation, improve public land management, and provide for sensible development in Pershing County, Nevada, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. AMODEI (for himself and Mr. HORSFORD):

H.R. 253. A bill to modify the process of the Secretary of the Interior for examining certain mining claims on Federal lands in Storey County, Nevada, to facilitate certain pinyon-juniper-related projects in Lincoln County, Nevada, to modify the boundaries of certain wilderness areas in the State of Nevada, to fully implement the White Pine County Conservation, Recreation, and Development Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CLAY:

H.R. 254. A bill to make technical amendments to chapter 3084 of title 54, United States Code, to correct references to the African American Civil Rights Network, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. COOK:

H.R. 255. A bill to provide for an exchange of lands with San Bernardino County, California, to enhance management of lands within the San Bernardino National Forest, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GROTHMAN (for himself, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. PERRY):

H.R. 256. A bill to allow the Secretary of the Treasury to accept public donations to fund the construction of a barrier on the U.S.-Mexico border, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself and Mr. SUOZZI):

H.R. 257. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the limitation on deduction for State and local taxes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCCLINTOCK (for himself and Mr. TIPTON):

H.R. 258. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish fees for medical services provided in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. PALLONE (for himself and Mr. WALDEN):

H.R. 259. A bill to extend the Medicaid Money Follows the Person Rebalancing demonstration, to extend protection for Medicaid recipients of home and community-based services against spousal impoverishment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PALLONE (for himself, Mr. WALDEN, and Mr. NEAL):

H.R. 260. A bill to extend the Medicaid Money Follows the Person Rebalancing demonstration, to extend protection for Medicaid recipients of home and community-based services against spousal impoverishment, to extend the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROUZER:

H.R. 261. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to annually designate at least one city in the United States as an "American World War II Heritage City", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SMUCKER (for himself and Mr. PERRY):

H.R. 262. A bill to establish the Susquehanna National Heritage Area in the State of Pennsylvania, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SUOZZI (for himself, Mr. ROSE of New York, Mr. KING of New York, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. MENG, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. LOWEY, and Mr. TONKO):

H.R. 263. A bill to rename the Oyster Bay National Wildlife Refuge as the Congressman Lester Wolff Oyster Bay National Wildlife Refuge; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. HOYER:

H. Res. 22. A resolution Authorizing the Speaker to administer the oath of office; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. DAVIS of California (for herself, Mr. KING of New York, and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio):

H. Res. 23. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Postal Service should take all appropriate measures to ensure the continuation of door delivery for all business and residential customers; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. JEFFRIES:

H. Res. 24. A resolution Electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. CHENEY:

H. Res. 25. A resolution Electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. CUMMINGS:

H.R. 134.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky:

H.R. 240.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article IV Section 3 Clause 2

By Mr. WILLIAMS:

H.R. 241.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 ("To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes")

By Ms. JAYAPAL:

H.R. 242.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. LAMALFA:

H.R. 243.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

By Mr. STEWART:

H.R. 244.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Tenth Amendment, United States Constitution Article IV, section 3, clause 2 (relating to the power of Congress to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States)

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 245.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which gives Congress the power, "to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several states, and within the Indian Tribes."

By Ms. FINKENAUER:

H.R. 246.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3
The Congress shall have Power * * * To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. HURD of Texas:

H.R. 247.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. CALVERT:

H.R. 248.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution, specifically Clauses 1 (relating to providing for the general welfare of the United States) and 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress) of such section.

OR

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 and Clause 18.

By Mr. CALVERT:

H.R. 249.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress.

By Mr. CALVERT:

H.R. 250.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 of the United States Constitution enumerating congressional authority “[t]o establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization.”

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi:

H.R. 251.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8, clause 1; and Article I, section 8, clause 18 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. AMODEI:

H.R. 252.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 14 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. AMODEI:

H.R. 253.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces, as enumerated in

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CLAY:

H.R. 254.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I

By Mr. COOK:

H.R. 255.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. GROTHMAN:

H.R. 256.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution which grants Congress the authority to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. KING of New York:

H.R. 257.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. McCLINTOCK:

H.R. 258.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 9, Clause 7 of the United States Constitution, “The Appropriations Clause,” which confers on Congress the power to control or to limit spending by the federal government.

By Mr. PALLONE:

H.R. 259.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, the power to regulate commerce.

By Mr. PALLONE:

H.R. 260.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, the power to provide for the general welfare and the power to regulate commerce.

By Mr. ROUZER:

H.R. 261.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. SMUCKER:

H.R. 262.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 3 of Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. SUOZZI:

H.R. 263.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power “to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof”

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 24: Mr. GOHMERT and Mr. RUTHERFORD.

H.R. 114: Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. FERGUSON, and Mr. LEWIS.

H.R. 205: Mr. BUCHANAN.

H.J. Res. 20: Mr. BUDD.