

I look forward to more bipartisan legislating coming out of this committee as well as a number of more interesting activities that I am sure will be a part of this.

I am now informed that we do have one Member to close. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. RIGGLEMAN), a new Member who has a great deal of experience in national security.

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, special thanks to the chair and to the ranking member for their leadership on this. I would also like to thank Representative BUDD for sponsoring this bipartisan legislation and thank my colleagues across the aisle, Representatives LYNCH and SOTO, for their important work on this bill as well.

While I may be new to Congress, I am all too familiar with terrorist threats and the danger they pose to the safety and security of our Nation. I served my country in the Air Force as an intelligence officer and worked to track down terrorists after 9/11. I also supported “follow the money” analysis and operations related to terrorist financing.

One of the key components that allows terrorists to organize and execute their missions is financing. As financial technology, or fintech, evolves, so do the opportunities for criminals to take advantage of the financial system.

H.R. 56 calls for financial regulators, law enforcement, and private-sector experts to come together to create the Fintech Task Force to Combat Terrorism and Illicit Finance. This task force is charged with developing innovative methods to track, prevent, and prosecute terrorists that use digital currencies and other financial technologies to advance their agenda.

Technology is integral to everyday life for consumers, businesses, and governments, which is why it is critical that experts from law enforcement and the private sector come together to protect our financial system from terrorists and other bad actors.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons and many others, I strongly support this bill.

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Representative BUDD and Representative LYNCH for the work that they have put forth on this legislation, and I would like to take a moment to thank Mr. LYNCH for not only this legislation, but all of the efforts that he has put forth on the Financial Services Committee that have benefited this Congress and our country.

Let me just say that I rise again to encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote for H.R. 56, the Financial Technology Protection Act. This bipartisan bill aims to improve our efforts to deter terrorists and criminal abusers of financial technology, including cryptocurrencies,

through its support of interagency coordination and research and through collaboration with private institutions and citizens.

The measure created by this legislation will give the U.S. a better understanding of how bad actors, including terrorists, use cryptocurrencies to evade sanctions, finance terrorism, and launder money. These state and nonstate actors are always looking for new ways to get around our protective and investigative measures, and this bill will help us to stay at least one step ahead.

So, again, my sincere gratitude and thanks to Congressmen BUDD and LYNCH for reintroducing this bill, which was passed by this body in the last Congress.

I would like to, again, follow up on statements that were made by the ranking member, Mr. MCHENRY, to remind everyone that the first three bills of this Congress that have been introduced by the Financial Services Committee are bipartisan bills where we have shown that we are willing to provide leadership and send a message to all of the Members of Congress that we have to work hard to try and get good, viable, strong legislation through this Congress, working together in ways that perhaps we have not done before.

I am very pleased and proud to stand here as the chairperson of the Financial Services Committee, helping to make sure that the first three bills that we introduce are bipartisan and urging my support for these bills and this bill now that it is before you.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 56, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TAKING ADDITIONAL STEPS TO ADDRESS THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO VENEZUELA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116-8)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order with respect to Venezuela that takes additional steps with respect to the na-

tional emergency declared in Executive Order 13692 of March 8, 2015, and relied upon for additional steps taken in Executive Order 13808 of August 24, 2017, Executive Order 13827 of March 19, 2018, Executive Order 13835 of May 21, 2018, and Executive Order 13850 of November 1, 2018.

The Executive Order I have issued accounts for the swearing in of a legitimate Interim President of Venezuela, and addresses actions by persons affiliated with the illegitimate Maduro regime, including human rights violations and abuses in response to anti-Maduro protests, arbitrary arrest and detention of anti-Maduro protestors, curtailment of press freedom, harassment of political opponents, and continued attempts to undermine the Interim President of Venezuela and undermine the Venezuelan National Assembly. The Executive Order amends subsection (d) of section 6 of Executive Order 13692, subsection (d) of section 3 of Executive Order 13808, subsection (d) of section 3 of Executive Order 13827, subsection (d) of section 3 of Executive Order 13835, and subsection (d) of section 6 of Executive Order 13850, to read:

“(d) the term “Government of Venezuela” includes the state and Government of Venezuela, any political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality thereof, including the Central Bank of Venezuela and Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A. (PDVSA), any person owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by the foregoing, and any person who has acted or purported to act directly or indirectly for or on behalf of, any of the foregoing, including as a member of the Maduro regime.”

I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, January 25, 2019.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KILDEE) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 624, by the yeas and nays;

Motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 502, by the yeas and nays; and

Agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.