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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GOMEZ).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 21, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JIMMY GOMEZ to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

CONSEQUENCES OF ABANDONING OUR KURDISH ALLIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in great sadness and profound concern over President Trump's inexplicable abandonment of our Kurdish allies in Syria who sacrificed more than 11,000 of their sons and daughters in our joint fight against ISIS.

The President's impulsive and abrupt decision not only betrays our allies, but it betrays our values. It imme-

diately compromises our national security, dramatically undermines American credibility, and will have negative strategic implications for generations to come.

It is not just me saying this. These are the words of Senate Majority Leader MITCH MCCONNELL: "Withdrawing U.S. forces from Syria is a grave strategic mistake. It will leave the American people and homeland less safe, embolden our enemies, and weaken important alliances."

While we should all welcome the announced 5-day pause in the Turkish assault, we should not be celebrating. Turkey has not recognized the ceasefire but, rather, just a pause in fighting. Reports from the area indicate that Turkish-affiliated forces are still attacking, and the pause is scheduled to end tomorrow. We can likely expect the carnage to then resume with a new ferocity.

Regarding the deal with Turkey, The Wall Street Journal this morning notes: "Critics have said the agreement was a wholesale concession to Ankara, giving it control of an area in Syria it has coveted for years and freeing it from U.S. sanctions in return for pausing an offensive it had no international backing for. While President Trump hailed the pact as a diplomatic victory, U.S.-allied Kurds have likened it to a surrender on their part."

Unsurprisingly, our Kurdish allies have now aligned their forces with Assad's army. Assad has, thus, instantly made significant territorial gains in just a few days, effectively controlling lands that the U.S. and allied forces have spent years seeking to defend.

So, let's review.

In the weeks following the President's decision to walk away from our allies, Turkish forces and allied fighters, many of which are Islamic extremists, have crossed the border into Syria.

U.S. forces have abandoned forward operating bases and then sent U.S. planes to destroy those bases. But before those bases could be destroyed, celebrating Russian troops posted selfies in some of these former American strongholds.

Turkey is not just targeting Kurdish forces, they are attacking entire towns, and civilians are literally being murdered in the streets.

The expansion of control by Russian and Syrian forces is not just a win for those countries in Syria but also threatens our allies in the region—in particular, Israel.

Iran's sense of emboldenment will likely lead it to expand programs to deliver advanced weapons to Hezbollah, increasing the already significant threat to Israel—only now from Syria as well as Lebanon.

As already noted, Assad has consolidated his power over virtually all of Syria at no political or military cost.

Finally, many ISIS prisoners have escaped to join the fight, and thousands more are at risk of release, giving ISIS a greater ability to reorganize.

One more thing: Today, there are reports that President Erdogan now wants Turkey to acquire nuclear weapons. The last thing this region needs is a nuclear arms race.

Here is the bottom line. Last Thursday, the American Vice President and Secretary of State stood at a podium and announced the administration's effective capitulation and surrender. Turkey will complete its ethnic cleansing, and the U.S. will lift all sanctions.

Assad has full control in Syria, under the tutelage of his Russian and Iranian masters.

Turkey, Syria, Russia, and Iran are the winners. The Kurds are, once more, on the losing end.

The United States, under President Trump, is sadly diminished—so much so that Syrians are throwing rotten food at retreating U.S. troops.

□ 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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The administration's policies are tragic for reasons beyond the human suffering it has unleashed. They weaken our national security, undermine our fight against terrorism, and diminish American credibility.

We are so much better than this.

I call on my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to speak out and condemn the actions of this administration. Congress must pass sanctions on Turkey and seek to compel Erdogan to stop Turkey's assault on the Kurds. We must compel this administration to live up to our Nation's values, to stand by our allies, and to confront our enemies.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN McARTHUR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a great constituent and also a great friend. His name is John McArthur. He passed away recently at the age of 96.

John was just 21 years old in 1944 when his father died, tragically, of a heart attack, meaning John was tasked to take over the family farming and ranching business. In fact, if the name "McArthur" sounds familiar to those of us from northern California, that is because his family founded the town of McArthur, California, where he lived much of his life.

In the years since, John has helped establish many important staples of his community, including the McArthur Volunteer Fire Department, the McArthur Firemen's Carnival, the Fall River-Big Valley Cattleman's Association, and the Junior Livestock Sale. He and Shirley were very involved in the fair each year and the events that went on there.

John actually introduced new crops to the Fall River Valley by providing the first 10 acres for growing strawberries in McArthur. Lassen Canyon Nursery, among others, remains a thriving business operation more than 60 years later.

John and his business partners also tried their hand at planting and growing potatoes. I am a rice grower in real life, so we had a little bit of a rivalry for the starches that go on your plate and a little fun with that.

While they were successful, they ran into trouble when it actually came to harvesting the crop. Through that failed endeavor, he established that the land was right for growing potatoes and was soon able to lease it to successful potato growers for many years thereafter.

On a personal level, John and his wife, Shirley, were known for their welcoming nature. Their home was always open, hosting friends and neighbors for cocktail hours or just hanging out at the McArthur residence overlooking the valley. They have an amaz-

ing view off their back deck, looking over the valley there.

The events became so frequent that John and Shirley thought that maybe it would be better to cut down on the Old Crow a little bit and slip some iced tea in there. But John and Shirley, they are those type of people. People just wanted to be around them.

On my trips up to the McArthur area, whether it was for the fair or just passing through, I frequently liked to stop in and visit with them. John always had a smile, a laugh, a good story, and a very welcoming nature about him. It is one of the fortunate parts of being able to serve in an elected capacity these years I have at the State level and now here in the Congress.

His life spanned nearly a century. He outlived most of his childhood friends, but his personality, coupled with his generosity, kindness, and involvement in his community, ensured that he had no shortage of new friends.

During his time on this Earth, he has been a witness to a lot of change. He watched as California's population grew from 4 million to over 40 million today. He was always fighting for agriculture, adding to our water supply, and sticking up for rural values.

Ask anyone in McArthur, John was clearly a pillar of the community that bears his last name. He helped to establish it early on and continued to help grow it through the years until his last days.

As a friend, I will miss him. I know he is sorely missed up there. Blessings to Shirley and blessings to all of the McArthur family in that great community, one that I am always proud to represent and very happy when I get a chance to visit and hang out with folks.

Indeed, he is a pillar, and they don't make them like John McArthur anymore. Let's hope his legacy helps spawn new generations of people with that same attitude, that same strength, that same can-do that has made America strong, made his community strong, and made the fiber of northern California the great place it is.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. GARCIA of Texas) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Lord, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

At the beginning of a new workweek, we ask Your blessing on the Members of this people's House.

May they be led by Your spirit in the discernment they undertake amid the pressures of contentious deliberations.

All through the week, may they do their best to find solutions to pressing issues facing our Nation. Please hasten the day when justice and love shall dwell in the hearts of all peoples and rule the affairs of the nations of Earth.

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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. COHEN 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.

EMOLUMENTS CLAUSE IS NOT PHONY

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

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, today, President Trump held a press conference and referred to the Emoluments Clause in the Constitution as the "phony Emoluments Clause."

I take an oath to support the Constitution, as does he, as do all 435 of us. I am also the chairman of the Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee.

I take umbrage at his remarks. The Emoluments Clause was first put in the Articles of Confederation, and before that, 100 years earlier, the Dutch put it in their documents to protect from foreign influence.

It was said at the Constitutional Convention that a violation of the Emoluments Clause could result in impeachment.

No wonder President Trump thinks it is phony.

There is nothing phony about the Emoluments Clause, the impeachment clause, Article I, Congress' powers, or separation of the three branches of government.

Madam Speaker, I respect the Constitution, and I wish the President would as well.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

**USMCA IS A WIN FOR ALL
AMERICANS**

(Mrs. HARTZLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, this month marks 1 year since the Trump administration negotiated the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement.

USMCA is undoubtedly a win for Missourians and for all Americans. The agreement will bring 176,000 new jobs and will spur \$63 billion in new economic activity.

Benefits of USMCA will be felt across diverse industries, including many of our manufacturing industries, agriculture, and small businesses, while also supporting technology and innovation.

But month after month, this Congress has been subject to missed opportunities for our producers and consumers as we have been refused the chance to vote on the USMCA. This needs to change.

Instead of House leaders squandering precious legislative time bringing up impeachment inquiries, they should be bringing up USMCA for a vote.

Let us hope that we get this opportunity soon. That would be a positive win for all Americans.

BRING USMCA TO A VOTE

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

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, I look forward to welcoming Vice President MIKE PENCE to Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin, on Wednesday.

Agriculture and manufacturing are vital to Wisconsin and our Nation. However, unfair trade practices are hindering our manufacturers' ability to create jobs.

USMCA is an important and improved trade deal between Canada, Mexico, and the United States. That is why passing USMCA is important.

USMCA helps small family farms. USMCA supports American workers. USMCA is a win for Wisconsin.

Vice President MIKE PENCE and I will be in Pleasant Prairie to push USMCA across the finish line. The Trump administration has done a great job negotiating this trade deal. It is now up to Congress to pass USMCA. Let's get this done.

Madam Speaker, bring USMCA to a vote. Wisconsin workers and farmers are depending on it.

**HONORING THE LIFE OF IAN
COCHRAN**

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

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, on October 3, Ian Alan Cochran, a talented young man from Brandon, Mississippi,

joined our Heavenly Father after a courageous fight with a rare form of brain cancer.

Ian graduated as an A student from Brandon High School in 2018, where he also excelled in extracurricular activities. He was a member of the tech club, served as president of the chess club, and was a talented soccer player.

Ian was well liked for his humor, talent, and high-spirited attitude. Everyone who knew Ian remembers his light-hearted and friendly approach to life.

As members of their Brandon Baptist Church family, my family and I joined Ian's parents, Joel and Kim; his sisters, Hope and Kayla; his grandparents; and his extended family and friends in remembering and celebrating his life and the positive mark he left on all of us who knew him.

Madam Speaker, I now ask this body to join me in a moment of silence to remember Ian Cochran and to thank our Heavenly Father for the joy of Ian's life.

**ALLOW ALL MEMBERS ACCESS TO
IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS**

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight the failure of House Democrats to run a fair and transparent process, ostensibly toward an impeachment.

We have yet to hold a vote on whether or not to actually open up a true impeachment inquiry. Instead, Democratic leaders have simply decided it for themselves. That goes against all precedent established in this Chamber and under the Constitution.

Last week, I attempted to attend one of their closed-door impeachment hearings, or to simply view testimony transcripts, but was promptly asked to leave.

This is exactly what a partisan, secretive, and unfair process looks like. Why would Members not have access to an unclassified hearing and not be able to view materials that should be public, as they normally would? What is there to hide?

Last week, the Republican whip, STEVE SCALISE, filed a rule change to allow all Members of Congress access to documents related to this impeachment show and the documents associated with it.

I am fully supportive of this rule change. We will vote on this measure soon, and now my colleagues from the other side of the aisle must show the American people whether or not they support giving them the transparency they deserve in this process.

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bill was signed by Speaker pro

tempore RASKIN on Friday, October 18, 2019:

S. 1196, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1715 Linnerud Drive in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, as the "Fire Captain Cory Barr Post Office Building".

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 21, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on October 21, 2019, at 10:19 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 2258.

That the Senate passed S. 2635.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1396.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 18, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 1(k) of House Resolution 895, One Hundred Tenth Congress, and section 104(c) of House Resolution 6, One Hundred Sixteenth Congress, I transmit to you notification that the following individuals each have signed an agreement not to be a candidate for the office of Senator or Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress for purposes of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 until at least 3 years after they are no longer a member of the board or staff of the Office of Congressional Ethics:

David Skaggs; Allison Hayward; Belinda Pinckney; Karan English; James Eagen; Michael Barnes; Paul Vinovich; Lynn Westmoreland; Omar Ashmawy; Jeffrey Brown; William Cable; Annie Cho; Helen Eisner; Mary Flanagan; Samuel McHale; Gabrielle Piper; Sean Quinn; Jeremy Ritter-Wiseman; Paul Solis.

Copies of the signed agreements will be retained by the Office of the Clerk as part of the records of the House.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 3:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1529

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 3 o'clock and 29 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.

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2019

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4406) to amend the Small Business Act to improve the small business development centers program, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4406

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Small Business Development Centers Improvement Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. USE OF AUTHORIZED ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 49 as section 50; and

(2) by inserting after section 48 the following new section:

"SEC. 49. USE OF AUTHORIZED ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

"(a) EXPANDED SUPPORT FOR ENTREPRENEURS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Administrator shall only deliver entrepreneurial development services, entrepreneurial education, and support for the development and maintenance of the Regional Innovation Clusters Program (or similar business training services) through a program authorized under—

"(A) section 7(j), 7(m), 8(a), 8(b)(1), 21, 22, 29, or 32 of this Act; or

"(B) sections 358 or 389 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958.

"(2) EXCEPTION.—This section shall not apply to services provided to assist small business concerns owned by an Indian tribe (as such term is defined in section 8(a)(13)).

"(b) ANNUAL REPORT.—Beginning on the first December 1 after the date of the enactment of this section, the Administrator shall annually submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a report on the following:

"(1) All entrepreneurial development activities undertaken during the fiscal year preceding the date of the report through a program described in subsection (a), including—

"(A) a description and operating details for each program and the activities performed under each program;

"(B) operating circulars, manuals, and standard operating procedures for each program;

"(C) a description of the process used to award grants under such programs;

"(D) a list of all recipients of awards under a program described in subsection (a), contractors, and vendors (including organization name and location) and the amount of awards provided during the fiscal year preceding the date of the report for such programs and activities performed under such programs;

"(E) the total amount of funding obligated for such programs and activities for the fiscal year preceding the date of the report; and

"(F) the names and titles of the individuals responsible for such programs.

"(2) For entrepreneurial development activities undertaken during the fiscal year preceding the date of the report through the Small Business Development Center Program (in this section referred to as the 'Program')—

"(A) the number of individuals counseled or trained through the Program;

"(B) the total number of hours of counseling and training services provided through the Program;

"(C) the demographics of participants in the Program, which shall include the gender, race, and age of each such participant;

"(D) the number of participants in the Program who are veterans;

"(E) the number of new businesses started by participants in the Program;

"(F) to the extent practicable, the number of jobs supported, created, or retained with assistance from small business development centers;

"(G) the amount of capital secured by participants in the Program, including through loans and equity investment;

"(H) the number of participants in the Program receiving financial assistance, including the type and dollar amount, under the loan programs of the Administration;

"(I) an estimate of gross receipts, including (to the extent practicable) a description of any change in revenue, of small business concerns assisted through the Program;

"(J) the number of referrals to other resources and programs of the Administration;

"(K) the results of satisfaction surveys of participants in the Program, including a summary of any comments received from such participants; and

"(L) any recommendations by the Administrator to improve the delivery of services by the Program."

SEC. 3. MARKETING OF SERVICES.

Section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(o) NO PROHIBITION OF MARKETING OF SERVICES.—An applicant receiving a grant under this section may market and advertise the services of such applicant to individuals and small business concerns."

SEC. 4. DATA COLLECTION BY THE SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER ASSOCIATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 21(a)(3)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(3)(A)) is amended—

(1) by striking "as provided in this section and" and inserting "as provided in this section,"; and

(2) by inserting before the period at the end the following: "; and (iv) governing data col-

lection activities related to applicants receiving grants under this section".

(b) ANNUAL REPORT ON DATA COLLECTION.—Section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648), as amended by section 3 of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"(p) ANNUAL REPORT ON DATA COLLECTION.—The Administrator shall annually submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a report on any data collection activities related to the Small Business Development Center Program."

(c) WORKING GROUP TO IMPROVE DATA COLLECTION.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT AND STUDY.—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall establish a group to be known as the "Data Collection Working Group" consisting of entrepreneurial development grant recipients, the associations and organizations representing such recipients, and officials from the Small Business Administration, to carry out a study to determine the best methods for conducting data collection activities and create or revise existing systems dedicated to data collection.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 180-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Data Collection Working Group shall issue a report to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate containing the findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under paragraph (1), including—

(A) recommendations for revising existing data collection practices for the Small Business Development Center Program; and

(B) a proposed plan for the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to implement such recommendations.

SEC. 5. FEES FROM PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND COSPONSORSHIPS.

Section 21(a)(3) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(3)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(D) FEES FROM PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND COSPONSORSHIPS.—A small business development center that participates in a private partnership or cosponsorship, in which the Administrator or designee of the Administrator also participates, may collect fees or other income related to the operation of such private partnership or cosponsorship."

SEC. 6. EQUITY FOR SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.

Subclause (I) of section 21(a)(4)(C)(v) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(4)(C)(v)(I)) is amended to read as follows:

"(I) IN GENERAL.—Of the amounts made available in any fiscal year to carry out this section, not more than \$600,000 may be used by the Administration to pay expenses enumerated in subparagraphs (B) through (D) of section 20(a)(1)."

SEC. 7. CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENTS.

Section 21(a)(7)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(7)(A)) is amended—

(1) by striking "or telephone number" and inserting "; telephone number, or email address"; and

(2) by inserting "; or the nature or content of such assistance, to any State, local, or Federal agency, or to any third party" after "receiving assistance under this section".

SEC. 8. LIMITATION ON AWARD OF GRANTS TO SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648), as amended by section 4, is further amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) by striking “any women’s business center operating pursuant to section 29.”;

(B) by striking “or a women’s business center operating pursuant to section 29.”; and

(C) by striking “and women’s business centers operating pursuant to section 29.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(q) LIMITATION ON AWARD OF GRANTS.—Except for not-for-profit institutions of higher education, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Administrator may not award a grant or contract to, or enter into a cooperative agreement with, an entity under this section unless that entity—

“(1) received a grant or contract from, or entered into a cooperative agreement with, the Administrator under this section before the date of the enactment of this subsection; and

“(2) seeks to renew such a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement after such date.”.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The amendments made by this section may not be construed as prohibiting a women’s business center (as described under section 29 of the Small Business Act) from receiving a subgrant from an entity receiving a grant under section 21 of the Small Business Act.

SEC. 9. MANAGEMENT OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.
Section 21(a)(3) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(3)), as amended by section 4, is further amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “upon, with full participation of both parties,” and inserting “upon with the full participation of all parties (including the association authorized in subparagraph (A)), and carried out”;

(2) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and develop” and inserting “and negotiate the development of”; and

(3) in subparagraph (C)—

(A) by striking “Whereas”;

(B) by inserting “Program” after “Center”;

(C) by striking “National” and inserting “national”; and

(D) by moving such subparagraph two ems to the left.

SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 21(a)(4)(C) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(4)(C)) is amended—

(1) in clause (vii), by striking “subparagraph” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “subparagraph \$175,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2023.”; and

(2) in clause (viii), by striking “shall reserve not less than \$1,000,000” and inserting “shall reserve not more than \$2,000,000”.

SEC. 11. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4406, the Small Business Development Centers Improvement Act of 2019.

Mr. Speaker, as always, before we address the many benefits of the bill, I just want to thank the ranking member and his staff for all of their collaboration and hard work to bring this bipartisan package of bills to the floor. Our committee prides itself on our ability to put the noise aside and get meaningful work accomplished.

These bills are especially critical because they strengthen the entrepreneurial network of small businesses contributing to our country every day. It is once again a reminder of the importance of working across the aisle and getting things done for America’s 30 million small businesses.

H.R. 4406 bolsters the Small Business Development Center, or SBDC, Network, which is the Small Business Administration’s largest entrepreneurial resource partner.

The network delivers free face-to-face counseling and at-cost training in all aspects of business management to new and existing small firms. The services include, but are in no way limited to, assisting small businesses with developing a business plan, accessing capital, marketing, regulatory compliance, technology development, and international trade.

The benefits of the program are tangible to businessowners and the Federal taxpayer. For every Federal dollar spent on SBDCs, \$2 is returned to the U.S. Treasury, nearly \$3 to the States, and approximately \$48 in new capital is generated.

Unfortunately, over the years, Congress has asked them to take on additional responsibilities, ranging from cybersecurity to export promotion. Increasing the authorization level to \$175 million each year, just as this bill does, will allow the program to grow and reach more American entrepreneurs.

H.R. 4406 also requires regular reporting to Congress on new metrics to help us better assess the program and how improvements can be made in the future.

Starting a business is not for the faint of heart, and strengthening the network will enable SBDCs to continue providing the in-depth business training for aspiring entrepreneurs and small business owners.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. GOLDEN and Vice Ranking Member RADEWAGEN for leading this effort to improve the program, measure its success, and increase awareness of the SBDC program and its many valuable services.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this bipartisan piece of legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4406, the Small Business Development Centers Improvement Act of 2019.

Mr. Speaker, before I speak on the bill, I would like to thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ for working with us in such a bipartisan manner. It is surely refreshing in this age of intense partisanship to work together the way that we do, and have for many years now, to improve the programs offered by the SBA. So I want to thank the chairwoman again for her leadership on the committee.

The Small Business Development Center program, or SBDC, is the largest of the SBA’s entrepreneurial development programs, with locations in all 50 States and also in all four territories.

In fiscal year 2019, more than 250,000 clients received low-cost training, and nearly 200,000 clients received no-cost business consulting.

H.R. 4406, this bill, includes several updates based on feedback from H.R. 1702, the Small Business Development Centers Improvement Act of last year, 2018, which passed the House in May of 2018.

Over 99 percent of all businesses in our Nation are small, and those businesses employ nearly 60 million Americans. The U.S. economy depends on the success of small businesses. Providing support to entrepreneurs and small business owners must be a priority for this Congress. SBDCs offer that support. They offer minimal or no-cost business counseling and training to would-be entrepreneurs and existing small business owners, alike.

The support offered at these centers ranges from creating the business plans to commercial promotion and branding and navigating the international trade market. The importance of the assistance offered SBDCs cannot really be overstated.

It is not just the single entrepreneur who benefits; our Nation benefits as well. For every Federal dollar appropriated in the SBDC program, \$43.50 in new capital is generated. The legislation we are considering today will only serve to increase the positive impact of SBDCs to our entrepreneurs and national economy.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Maine (Mr. GOLDEN) and the gentlewoman from American Samoa (Mrs. RADEWAGEN) for their hard work on this legislation.

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

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maine (Mr. GOLDEN), the sponsor of the bill and chair of the Subcommittee on Contracting and Infrastructure.

Mr. GOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ for yielding me the time.

Since coming to Congress 10 months ago, I have been focused on protecting

jobs in the State of Maine, and that means helping small businesses succeed.

Thousands of small businesses in my State have launched or grown with help from small business development centers, or, as you heard them referred to, SBDCs.

Just last year, SBDCs served over 1,500 small businesses in my State, helped to start 136 new businesses, and worked to protect or create more than 800 jobs. Here are just a few of the small businesses that I have heard from directly in my district about this program:

SBDCs helped The Maine Meal in Skowhegan purchase a building in order to launch their new business;

The Milk House in Monmouth received the accounting and tax advice that they needed to help grow their business from an SBDC adviser, an important farming and dairy industry right there;

SBDCs helped Lost Valley Ski Area in Auburn, just across the river from my hometown, to develop a business plan so that they could secure the financing they needed to acquire and continue the Lost Valley Ski Area, which is very important to our community, particularly during the winter months.

I have visited each of these businesses and seen their work firsthand. These are just a few of the thousands of SBDC success stories in the State of Maine.

Given that small business development centers are the largest resource partner to SBA, it is particularly important for Congress to keep the program up to date and performing at a high level for small businesses throughout the country.

In Maine, the State's lead SBDC runs 11 outreach locations in my congressional district alone, in partnership with regional economic development entities, enabling small businesses in Maine's rural communities to access valuable assistance.

While the centers have had many successes, we have also learned lessons about ways to improve the programs in the year since it was last reauthorized. That is why I am excited to lead this bill, alongside Vice Ranking Member RADEWAGEN, to reauthorize the program. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank her for her support of the bill. It has been a pleasure to work with her.

The Small Business Development Centers Improvement Act of 2019 will make a number of positive changes to improve oversight, better enable SBDCs to partner with other organizations, bolster the center accreditation process, and improve the voice of SBDCs in setting the program's direction.

I am particularly glad that the bill will help broaden rural small business access to this assistance by clarifying that centers are allowed to market and advertise their services. Rural access to SBA resources is key for States like

Maine and many rural communities all over the country.

Finally, the bill will reauthorize appropriations at the level of \$175 million for fiscal years 2020 through 2023, reaffirming Congress' commitment to the program.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank the chairwoman and the ranking member and, in particular, their staffs for forging a bipartisan path forward on the reauthorization of this program.

I would also like to thank Vice Ranking Member RADEWAGEN for coleading this bill with me, as well as Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. EVANS, and Mr. FITZPATRICK for joining me as cosponsors.

Mr. Speaker, I would encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill to keep the SBDC program up to date for the good of America's small businesses.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time. We have no further Members to speak on the bill, and I will be very brief.

The SBDC program positively affects hundreds of thousands of entrepreneurs each year and offers a significant return on investment for American taxpayers.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good, bipartisan bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

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

America's 30 million small businesses account for more than 56 million jobs and create two out of three private-sector jobs in the United States. The SBA offers a wide range of free or low-cost counseling and training services through its entrepreneurial ecosystem to help entrepreneurs launch and grow their businesses.

H.R. 4406 makes a number of improvements to the SBDC program. It will enable more collaboration between the centers and SBA, improve the ability of this committee to oversee its performance, while also clarifying other rules, such as confidentiality requirements.

Most importantly, this legislation is a much-needed reauthorization of the program for 4 years at greater authorization levels.

It is time for Congress to prove its commitment to entrepreneurs all over the country by strengthening one of the greatest resources, the SBA SBDC program. It is a commonsense move and one supported by the Association of Small Business Development Centers.

Mr. Speaker, again, I thank the ranking member for his support, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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 New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4406, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. 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.

WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTERS IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2019

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4405) to amend the Small Business Act to improve the women's business center program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4405

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Women's Business Centers Improvements Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM.

Section 29 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 29. WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM.

"(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

"(1) ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR.—The term 'Assistant Administrator' means the Assistant Administrator of the Office of Women's Business Ownership established under subsection (k).

"(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligible entity' means—

"(A) an organization described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code;

"(B) a State, regional, or local economic development organization, so long as the organization certifies that grant funds received under this section will not be commingled with other funds;

"(C) an institution of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)), unless such institution is currently receiving a grant under section 21;

"(D) a development, credit, or finance corporation chartered by a State, so long as the corporation certifies that grant funds received under this section will not be commingled with other funds; or

"(E) any combination of entities listed in subparagraphs (A) through (D).

"(3) SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY WOMEN.—The term 'small business concern owned and controlled by women' has the meaning given under section 3(n).

"(4) WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER.—The term 'women's business center' means the location at which counseling and training on the management, operations (including manufacturing, services, and retail), access to capital, international trade, Government procurement opportunities, and any other matter that is needed to start, maintain, or expand a small business concern owned and controlled by women.

"(5) WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER ASSOCIATION.—The term 'Women's Business Center Association' means a membership organization formed by women's business centers to pursue matters of common concern.

“(b) AUTHORITY.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a Women’s Business Center Program under which the Administrator may provide a grant to any eligible entity to operate one or more women’s business centers for the benefit of small business concerns owned and controlled by women.

“(2) USE OF FUNDS.—The women’s business centers shall be designed to provide counseling and training that meets the needs of the small business concerns owned and controlled by women, especially socially or economically disadvantaged women, and shall provide—

“(A) financial assistance, including training and counseling in how to apply for and secure business credit and investment capital, preparing and presenting financial statements, and managing cash flow and other financial operations of a small business concern;

“(B) management assistance, including training and counseling in how to plan, organize, staff, direct, and control each major activity and function of a small business concern; and

“(C) marketing assistance, including training and counseling in identifying and segmenting domestic and international market opportunities, preparing and executing marketing plans, developing pricing strategies, locating contract opportunities, negotiating contracts, and utilizing varying public relations and advertising techniques.

“(3) TYPES OF GRANTS.—

“(A) INITIAL GRANT.—The amount of an initial grant, which shall be for a 5-year term, provided under this subsection to an eligible entity shall be not more than \$300,000 annually (as such amount is annually adjusted by the Administrator to reflect the change in inflation).

“(B) CONTINUATION GRANTS.—The Administrator may award a continuation grant, which shall be for a 5-year term, of not more than \$300,000 annually (as such amount is annually adjusted by the Administrator to reflect the change in inflation) to an eligible entity that received an initial grant under subparagraph (A). There shall be no limitation on the number of continuation grants an eligible entity may receive under this section.

“(c) APPLICATION.—

“(1) INITIAL GRANTS AND CONTINUATION GRANTS.—To receive an initial grant or continuation grant under this section, an eligible entity shall submit an application to the Administrator in such form, in such manner, and containing such information as the Administrator may require, including—

“(A) a certification that the eligible entity—

“(i) has designated an executive director or program manager, who may be compensated using grant funds awarded under this section or other sources, to manage the women’s business center for which a grant under subsection (b) is sought; and

“(ii) meets accounting and reporting requirements established by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget;

“(B) information demonstrating the experience and effectiveness of the eligible entity in—

“(i) providing counseling and training described under subsection (b)(2);

“(ii) providing training and services to a representative number of women who are socially or economically disadvantaged; and

“(iii) working with resource partners of the Administration and other entities; and

“(C) a 5-year plan that—

“(i) includes information relating to the assistance to be provided by the women’s business center in the area in which the women’s business center is located;

“(ii) describes the ability of the eligible entity to meet the needs of the market to be served by the women’s business center, including the ability to obtain the matching funds required under subsection (e); and

“(iii) describes the ability of the eligible entity to provide counseling and training described under subsection (b)(2), including to a representative number of women who are socially or economically disadvantaged.

“(2) RECORD RETENTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall maintain a copy of each application submitted under this subsection for not less than 5 years.

“(B) PAPERWORK REDUCTION.—The Administrator shall take steps to reduce, to the maximum extent practicable, the paperwork burden associated with carrying out subparagraph (A).

“(d) SELECTION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In selecting recipients of initial grants, the Administrator shall consider—

“(A) the experience of the applicant in providing entrepreneurial training;

“(B) the amount of time needed for the applicant to commence operation of a women’s business center;

“(C) in consultation with a Women’s Business Center Association, the capacity of the applicant to meet the accreditation standards established under subsection (k)(4) in a timely manner;

“(D) the ability of the applicant to sustain operations, including the applicant’s ability to obtain sufficient non-Federal funds, for a 5-year period;

“(E) the proposed location of a women’s business center to be operated by the applicant and the location’s proximity to Veteran Business Outreach Centers and to recipients of grants under section 8(b)(1) or 21;

“(F) the population density of the area to be served by the women’s business center operated by the applicant; and

“(G) the advice and counsel of a Women’s Business Center Association to determine areas with unmet needs and the likelihood that the recipient will become accredited.

“(2) SELECTION CRITERIA.—

“(A) RULEMAKING.—The Administrator shall issue regulations to specify the criteria for review and selection of applicants under this subsection.

“(B) MODIFICATIONS PROHIBITED AFTER ANNOUNCEMENT.—With respect to a public announcement of any opportunity to be awarded a grant under this section made by the Administrator pursuant to subsection (l)(1), the Administrator may not modify regulations issued pursuant to subparagraph (A) with respect to such opportunity unless required to do so by an Act of Congress or an order of a Federal court.

“(C) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph may be construed as prohibiting the Administrator from modifying the regulations issued pursuant to subparagraph (A) (after providing an opportunity for notice and comment) as such regulations apply to an opportunity to be awarded a grant under this section that the Administrator has not yet publicly announced pursuant to subsection (l)(1).

“(e) MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (5), upon approval of an application submitted under subsection (c), the eligible entity shall agree to obtain contributions from non-Federal sources—

“(A) in the first and second year of the term of an initial grant, if applicable, 1 non-Federal dollar for each 2 Federal dollars; and

“(B) in each subsequent year of the term of an initial grant, if applicable, or for the term of a continuation grant, 1 non-Federal dollar for each Federal dollar.

“(2) FORM OF MATCHING FUNDS.—Not more than one-half of non-Federal matching funds described under paragraph (1) may be in the form of in-kind contributions that are budget line items only, including office equipment and office space.

“(3) SOLICITATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an eligible entity may—

“(A) solicit cash and in-kind contributions from private individuals and entities to be used to operate a women’s business center; and

“(B) use amounts made available by the Administrator under this section for the cost of such solicitation and management of the contributions received.

“(4) DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS.—The Administrator may disburse an amount not greater than 25 percent of the total amount of a grant awarded to an eligible entity before such eligible entity obtains the non-Federal matching funds described under paragraph (1).

“(5) FAILURE TO OBTAIN MATCHING FUNDS.—If an eligible entity fails to obtain the required matching funds described under paragraph (1), the eligible entity may not be eligible to receive advance disbursements pursuant to paragraph (4) during the remainder of the term, if applicable, of an initial grant awarded under this section. Before approving such eligible entity for a continuation grant under this section, the Administrator shall make a written determination, including the reasons for such determination, of whether the Administrator believes that the eligible entity will be able to obtain the requisite funding under paragraph (1) for such continuation grant.

“(6) WAIVER OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Upon request by an eligible entity, and in accordance with this paragraph, the Administrator may waive, in whole or in part, the requirement to obtain non-Federal matching funds for a grant awarded under this section for the eligible entity for a one-year term of the grant. The Administrator may not issue such a waiver for more than a total of 2 consecutive one-year terms.

“(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining whether to issue a waiver under this paragraph, the Administrator shall consider—

“(i) the economic conditions affecting the eligible entity;

“(ii) the demonstrated ability of the eligible entity to raise non-Federal funds; and

“(iii) the performance of the eligible entity under the initial grant.

“(C) LIMITATION.—The Administrator may not issue a waiver under this paragraph if the Administrator determines that granting the waiver would undermine the credibility of the Women’s Business Center Program.

“(7) EXCESS NON-FEDERAL DOLLARS.—The amount of non-Federal dollars obtained by an eligible entity that is above the amount that is required to be obtained by the eligible entity under this subsection shall not be subject to the requirements of part 200 of title 2, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor thereto, if such amount of non-Federal dollars—

“(A) is not used as matching funds for purposes of implementing the Women’s Business Center Program; and

“(B) was not obtained using funds from the Women’s Business Center Program.

“(8) CARRYOVER.—Excess non-Federal dollars described in paragraph (7) may be used to satisfy the matching funds requirement under paragraph (1) for the subsequent one-year grant term, if applicable, except that such amounts shall be subject to the requirements of part 200 of title 2, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor thereto.

“(f) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) SEPARATION OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity shall—

“(A) operate a women’s business center under this section separately from other projects, if any, of the eligible entity; and

“(B) separately maintain and account for any grants received under this section.

“(2) EXAMINATION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

“(A) REQUIRED SITE VISIT.—Before receiving an initial grant under this section, each applicant shall have a site visit by an employee of the Administration, in order to ensure that the applicant has sufficient resources to provide the services for which the grant is being provided.

“(B) ANNUAL REVIEW.—An employee of the Administration shall—

“(i) conduct an annual programmatic and financial examination of each eligible entity, as described in subsection (g); and

“(ii) provide the results of such examination to the eligible entity.

“(3) REMEDIATION OF PROBLEMS.—

“(A) PLAN OF ACTION.—If an examination of an eligible entity conducted under paragraph (2)(B) identifies any problems, the eligible entity shall, within 45 calendar days of receiving a copy of the results of such examination, provide the Assistant Administrator with a plan of action, including specific milestones, for correcting such problems.

“(B) PLAN OF ACTION REVIEW BY THE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR.—The Assistant Administrator shall review each plan of action submitted under subparagraph (A) within 30 calendar days of receiving such plan. If the Assistant Administrator determines that such plan—

“(i) will bring the eligible entity into compliance with all the terms of the grant agreement, the Assistant Administrator shall approve such plan; or

“(ii) is inadequate to remedy the problems identified in the annual examination to which the plan of action relates, the Assistant Administrator shall set forth such reasons in writing and provide such determination to the eligible entity within 15 calendar days of such determination.

“(C) AMENDMENT TO PLAN OF ACTION.—An eligible entity receiving a determination under subparagraph (B)(ii) shall have 30 calendar days from the receipt of the determination to amend the plan of action to satisfy the problems identified by the Assistant Administrator and resubmit such plan to the Assistant Administrator.

“(D) AMENDED PLAN REVIEW BY THE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR.—Within 15 calendar days of the receipt of an amended plan of action under subparagraph (C), the Assistant Administrator shall either approve or reject such plan and provide such approval or rejection in writing to the eligible entity.

“(E) APPEAL OF ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR DETERMINATION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—If the Assistant Administrator rejects an amended plan under subparagraph (D), the eligible entity shall have the opportunity to appeal such decision to the Administrator, who may delegate such appeal to an appropriate officer of the Administration.

“(ii) OPPORTUNITY FOR EXPLANATION.—Any appeal described under clause (i) shall provide an opportunity for the eligible entity to provide, in writing, an explanation of why the eligible entity’s amended plan remedies the problems identified in the annual examination conducted under paragraph (2)(B).

“(iii) NOTICE OF DETERMINATION.—The Administrator shall provide to the eligible entity a determination of the appeal, in writing, not later than 15 calendar days after the eligible entity files an appeal under this subparagraph.

“(iv) EFFECT OF FAILURE TO ACT.—If the Administrator fails to act on an appeal made

under this subparagraph within the 15-day period specified under clause (ii), the eligible entity’s amended plan of action submitted under subparagraph (C) shall be deemed to be approved.

“(4) TERMINATION OF GRANT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall terminate a grant to an eligible entity under this section if the eligible entity fails to comply with—

“(i) a plan of action approved by the Assistant Administrator under paragraph (3)(B)(i); or

“(ii) an amended plan of action approved by the Assistant Administrator under paragraph (3)(D) or approved on appeal under paragraph (3)(E).

“(B) APPEAL OF TERMINATION.—An eligible entity shall have the opportunity to challenge the termination of a grant under subparagraph (A) on the record and after an opportunity for a hearing.

“(C) FINAL AGENCY ACTION.—A determination made pursuant to subparagraph (B) shall be considered final agency action for the purposes of chapter 7 of title 5, United States Code.

“(5) CONSULTATION WITH MAJORITY WOMEN’S BUSINESS CENTER ASSOCIATION.—If a majority of women’s business centers that are operating pursuant to agreements with the Administration are members of an individual Women’s Business Center Association, the Administrator shall—

“(A) recognize the existence and activities of such Association; and

“(B) consult with the Association on, and negotiate with the Association in the development of documents with respect to—

“(i) announcing the annual scope of activities pursuant to this section;

“(ii) requesting proposals to deliver assistance as provided in this section; and

“(iii) governing the general operations and administration of women’s business centers, specifically including the development of regulations and a uniform negotiated cooperative agreement for use on an annual basis when entering into individual negotiated agreements with women’s business centers.

“(g) PROGRAM EXAMINATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administration shall—

“(A) develop and implement an annual programmatic and financial examination of each eligible entity receiving a grant under this section, under which each such eligible entity shall provide to the Administration—

“(i) an itemized cost breakdown of actual expenditures for costs incurred during the preceding year; and

“(ii) documentation regarding the amount of matching assistance from non-Federal sources obtained and expended by the eligible entity during the preceding year in order to meet the requirements of subsection (e) and, with respect to any in-kind contributions described in subsection (e)(2) that were used to satisfy the requirements of subsection (e), verification of the existence and valuation of those contributions; and

“(B) analyze the results of each such examination and, based on that analysis, make a determination regarding the programmatic and financial viability of each women’s business center operated by the eligible entity.

“(2) CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUED FUNDING.—In determining whether to award a continuation grant to an eligible entity, the Administrator—

“(A) shall consider the results of the most recent examination of the eligible entity under paragraph (1);

“(B) shall determine if—

“(i) the eligible entity has failed to provide, or provided inadequate, information under paragraph (1)(A); or

“(ii) the eligible entity has failed to provide any information required to be provided by the women’s business center for purposes of the management report under subsection (m)(1), or the information provided by the center is inadequate; and

“(C) shall consider the accreditation status as described in subsection (k)(4).

“(h) NOTICE AND COMMENT REQUIRED.—The Administrator may only make a change to the standards by which an eligible entity obtains or maintains grants under this section, the standards for accreditation, or any other requirement for the operation of a women’s business center if the Administrator first provides notice and the opportunity for public comment, as set forth in section 553(b) of title 5, United States Code, without regard to any exceptions provided for under such section.

“(i) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—

“(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section may enter into a contract with a Federal department or agency to provide specific assistance to small business concerns owned and controlled by women and other underserved small business concerns, if performance of such a contract does not hinder the ability of the eligible entity to carry out the terms of a grant received under this section.

“(2) ADMINISTRATOR.—The authority of the Administrator to enter into contracts shall be in effect for each fiscal year only to the extent and in the amounts as are provided in advance in appropriations Acts. After the Administrator has entered into a contract, either as a grant or a cooperative agreement, with any applicant under this section, the Administrator shall not suspend, terminate, or fail to renew or extend any such contract unless the Administrator provides the applicant with written notification setting forth the reasons therefore and affords the applicant an opportunity for a hearing, appeal, or other administrative proceeding under chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code.

“(j) PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A women’s business center may not disclose the name, address, or telephone number of any individual or small business concern receiving assistance under this section without the consent of such individual or small business concern, unless—

“(A) the Administrator orders such disclosure after the Administrator is ordered to make such a disclosure by a court in any civil or criminal enforcement action initiated by a Federal or State agency; or

“(B) the Administrator considers such a disclosure to be necessary for the purpose of conducting a financial audit of a women’s business center, except that such a disclosure shall be limited to the information necessary for such audit.

“(2) ADMINISTRATION USE OF INFORMATION.—This subsection shall not—

“(A) restrict Administration access to women’s business center data; or

“(B) prevent the Administration from using information about individuals who use women’s business centers to conduct surveys of such individuals.

“(3) REGULATIONS.—The Administrator shall issue regulations to establish standards for disclosures for purposes of a financial audit described under paragraph (1)(B).

“(k) OFFICE OF WOMEN’S BUSINESS OWNERSHIP.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the Administration an Office of Women’s Business Ownership, which shall be responsible for the administration of the Administration’s programs for the development of women’s business enterprises (as defined in section 408 of the Women’s Business Ownership Act of 1988). The Office of Women’s Business Ownership shall be administered by

an Assistant Administrator, who shall be appointed by the Administrator.

“(2) ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE OFFICE OF WOMEN’S BUSINESS OWNERSHIP.—

“(A) QUALIFICATION.—The position of Assistant Administrator shall be a Senior Executive Service position under section 3132(a)(2) of title 5, United States Code. The Assistant Administrator shall serve as a noncareer appointee (as defined in section 3132(a)(7) of that title).

“(B) DUTIES.—The Assistant Administrator shall administer the programs and services of the Office of Women’s Business Ownership and perform the following functions:

“(i) Recommend the annual administrative and program budgets of the Office and eligible entities receiving a grant under the Women’s Business Center Program.

“(ii) Review the annual budgets submitted by each eligible entity receiving a grant under the Women’s Business Center Program.

“(iii) Collaborate with other Federal departments and agencies, State and local governments, not-for-profit organizations, and for-profit organizations to maximize utilization of taxpayer dollars and reduce (or eliminate) any duplication among the programs overseen by the Office of Women’s Business Ownership and those of other entities that provide similar services to women entrepreneurs.

“(iv) Maintain a clearinghouse to provide for the dissemination and exchange of information between women’s business centers.

“(v) Serve as the vice chairperson of the Interagency Committee on Women’s Business Enterprise and as the liaison for the National Women’s Business Council.

“(3) MISSION.—The mission of the Office of Women’s Business Ownership shall be to assist women entrepreneurs to start, grow, and compete in global markets by providing quality support with access to capital, access to markets, job creation, growth, and counseling by—

“(A) fostering participation of women entrepreneurs in the economy by overseeing a network of women’s business centers throughout States and territories;

“(B) creating public-private partnerships to support women entrepreneurs and conduct outreach and education to small business concerns owned and controlled by women; and

“(C) working with other programs of the Administrator to—

“(i) ensure women are well-represented in those programs and being served by those programs; and

“(ii) identify gaps where participation by women in those programs could be increased.

“(4) ACCREDITATION PROGRAM.—

“(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Administrator shall publish standards for a program to accredit eligible entities that receive a grant under this section.

“(B) PUBLIC COMMENT; TRANSITION.—Before publishing the standards under subparagraph (A), the Administrator—

“(i) shall provide a period of not less than 60 days for public comment on such standards; and

“(ii) may not terminate a grant under this section absent evidence of fraud or other criminal misconduct by the recipient.

“(C) CONTRACTING AUTHORITY.—The Administrator may provide financial support, by contract or otherwise, to a Women’s Business Center Association to provide assistance in establishing the standards required under subparagraph (A) or for carrying out an accreditation program pursuant to such standards.

“(5) CONTINUATION GRANT CONSIDERATIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In determining whether to award a continuation grant under this section, the Administrator shall consider the results of the annual programmatic and financial examination conducted under subsection (g) and the accreditation program.

“(B) ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENT.—After the end of the 2-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this subsection, the Administration may not award a continuation grant under this section unless the applicable eligible entity has been approved under the accreditation program conducted pursuant to this subsection, except that the Assistant Administrator for the Office of Women’s Business Ownership may waive such accreditation requirement, in the discretion of the Assistant Administrator, upon a showing that the eligible entity is making a good faith effort to obtain accreditation.

“(6) ANNUAL CONFERENCE.—Each woman’s business center shall participate in annual professional development at an annual conference facilitated by a Women’s Business Center Association.

“(1) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE WOMEN’S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM.—The Administrator shall provide the following:

“(1) A public announcement of any opportunity to be awarded grants under this section, to include the selection criteria under subsection (d) and any applicable regulations.

“(2) To any applicant for a grant under this section that failed to obtain such a grant, an opportunity to debrief with the Administrator to review the reasons for the applicant’s failure.

“(3) To an eligible entity that receives an initial grant under this section, if a site visit or review of the eligible entity is carried out by an officer or employee of the Administration (other than the Inspector General), a copy of the site visit report or evaluation, as applicable, within 30 calendar days of the completion of such visit or evaluation.

“(m) ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate an annual report on the effectiveness of women’s business centers operated through a grant awarded under this section.

“(2) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include—

“(A) information concerning, with respect to each women’s business center established pursuant to a grant awarded under this section, the most recent analysis of the annual programmatic and financial examination of the applicable eligible entity, as required under subsection (g)(1)(B), and the subsequent determination made by the Administration under that subsection;

“(B) the number of persons advised and trained through the Women’s Business Center Program;

“(C) the total number of hours of advising and training through the Program;

“(D) the demographics of Program participants to include gender, race, and age of each such participant;

“(E) the number of Program participants who are veterans;

“(F) the number of new businesses started by participants in the Program;

“(G) to the extent practicable, the number of jobs supported, created or retained with assistance from women’s business centers;

“(H) the amount of capital secured by participants in the Program, including through loans and equity investment;

“(I) the number of participants in the Program receiving financial assistance, including the type and dollar amount, under the loan programs of the Administration;

“(J) an estimate of gross receipts, including to the extent practicable a description of any change in revenue of small business concerns assisted through the Program;

“(K) to the maximum extent practicable, increases or decreases in revenues for the assisted small business concerns;

“(L) the number of referrals made to other resources and programs of the Administration;

“(M) the results of satisfaction surveys of participants, including a summary of any comments received from such participants; and

“(N) any recommendations by the Administrator to improve the delivery of services by women’s business centers.

“(n) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administration to carry out this section, to remain available until expended, \$31,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2023.

“(2) USE OF AMOUNTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), amounts made available under this subsection for fiscal year 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, may only be used for grant awards and may not be used for costs incurred by the Administration in connection with the management and administration of the program under this section.

“(B) EXCEPTIONS.—Of the amount made available under this subsection for a fiscal year, the following amounts shall be available for costs incurred by the Administration in connection with the management and administration of the program under this section:

“(i) For the first fiscal year beginning after the date of the enactment of this subparagraph, 2.65 percent.

“(ii) For the second fiscal year beginning after the date of the enactment of this subparagraph and each fiscal year thereafter through fiscal year 2023, 2.5 percent.

“(3) EXPEDITED ACQUISITION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Administrator may use such expedited acquisition methods as the Administrator determines to be appropriate to carry out this section, except that the Administrator shall ensure that all small business sources are provided a reasonable opportunity to submit proposals.

“(4) ACCREDITATION AND ANNUAL CONFERENCE.—Not less than \$500,000 of the amounts appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) for a fiscal year shall be available for purposes of carrying out subsection (k), of which no less than \$50,000 shall be available to support an annual conference described under subsection (k)(6).”

SEC. 3. EFFECT ON EXISTING GRANTS.

(a) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—A nonprofit organization receiving a grant under section 29(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656(m)), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, shall continue to receive the grant under the terms and conditions in effect for the grant on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, except that the nonprofit organization may not apply for a continuation of the grant under section 29(m)(5) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656(m)(5)), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) LENGTH OF CONTINUATION GRANT.—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration may award a grant under section 29 of the Small Business Act, as amended by this Act, to a nonprofit organization receiving a grant under section 29(m) of the Small

Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656(m)), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, for the period—

(1) beginning on the day after the last day of the grant agreement under such section 29(m); and

(2) ending at the end of the third fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. REGULATIONS.

Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of Small Business Administration shall issue such rules as are necessary to carry out section 29 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656), as amended by this Act, and ensure that a period of public comment for such rules is not less than 60 days.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill before us today, H.R. 4405, the Women's Business Centers Improvements Act.

Women's Business Centers, or WBCs, are a critical component of SBA's entrepreneurial ecosystem. WBCs were created to assist small businesses primarily owned by women, many of whom are socially and economically disadvantaged.

□ 1545

The WBC program funds more than 100 centers nationwide and offers a full range of counseling and training services for all stages of business development. Many of the WBCs provide multilingual services, maintain evening and weekend hours to accommodate clients who work full time, and allow children to attend training sessions with their mothers.

In fiscal year 2018, the WBC program trained and advised more than 150,000 clients and created nearly 12,000 small businesses. It has also proven to be a great return on investment, just like the SBDCs. For every dollar invested in WBCs, \$46 is returned to the economy. And, with women making up the fastest growing sector of entrepreneurs, it is imperative to invest in modernizing and adequately funding the program.

The Women's Business Centers Improvements Act increases the authorization level to \$31.5 million each year and lifts the cap on individual center grants to \$300,000, allowing more estab-

lished centers to expand their reach to greater numbers of women entrepreneurs, particularly those of whom are socially and economically disadvantaged.

Additionally, this legislation makes key changes to the program, enabling the WBCs to serve more of America's nearly 30 million women-owned small businesses. By eliminating unnecessary reporting requirements and creating a transparent and consultative process between SBA and the Association of Women's Business Centers, the bill guarantees WBCs can meet the growing demand for their services.

I want to thank Representative DAVIDS and Representative HAGEDORN for their diligence in working to get this bill right and ensuring that women entrepreneurs across the country have continued access to vital counseling and training.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this bipartisan bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4405, the Women's Business Centers Improvements Act of 2019. I commend and thank the two lead sponsors of this legislation, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas and Mr. HAGEDORN of Minnesota, for their leadership. This makes key updates to the SBA's Office of Women's Business Ownership and the Women's Business Center program, or WBC.

The WBC program funds more than 100 nonprofit organizations that provide training, counseling, and technical assistance specifically tailored to meet the needs of women entrepreneurs. Many WBCs offer training at night or in multiple languages to ensure that women entrepreneurs have the tools and support they need when creating or sustaining a business.

Last year, WBCs trained over 114,000 clients and advised over 26,000 individuals. This training and counseling contributed to the creation of more than 17,000 new small businesses in the United States. The Women's Business Center program has a profound impact not only in our local communities, but also on our Nation's economy overall.

H.R. 4405, the Women's Business Centers Improvements Act of 2019, builds on H.R. 1680, the Women's Business Centers Improvements Act of 2018, which passed the House back in May of 2018.

This bill raises the initial 5-year grant amount and indexes it for inflation. This minor increase provides new and existing women's business centers with the support they need to provide an effective course curriculum to small business clients.

Additionally, H.R. 4405 requires the SBA to establish a WBC accreditation program. This program, similar to the successful Small Business Development Center accreditation program, will ensure programmatic consistency among WBC locations and guarantee that each center is providing women entre-

preneurs with effective training opportunities.

These updates will ensure that the funds supporting the WBC program are used efficiently to foster economic growth.

Mr. Speaker, it is a good bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it. I, again, want to commend the two leaders on this important legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS), sponsor of the bill.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote yes on H.R. 4405, the Women's Business Centers Improvements Act of 2019, which would increase access to vital resources and opportunities for female entrepreneurs in Kansas and across the country.

I thank Ranking Member CHABOT and Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ for their commitment to small businesses in our country.

I thank my fellow Small Business Committee member, Representative HAGEDORN, for cosponsoring and co-leading this bipartisan piece of legislation with me.

This bill helps to strengthen the Women's Business Center program, which funds more than 100 women's business centers, also known as WBCs, across the country and in the district I represent in Kansas.

These centers provide small business owners, many of whom are socially and economically disadvantaged, with critical counseling and training at all stages of their business development.

Many WBCs provide multilingual services, maintain evening and weekend hours to accommodate clients who work full time, and allow children to attend sessions with their mothers.

The value of WBCs cannot be overstated. Women are the fastest growing sector of entrepreneurs in our country. We often forget that up until 1988, women would have a hard time applying for a business loan without a male relative to cosign it.

Now, more than 11.6 million businesses in the United States are owned by women, and more than 5.4 million businesses are majority owned by women of color.

But even though we have made great progress, many unique challenges still exist for women, particularly women of color, to start and grow a business. These include things like limited access to funding resources and the support system needed to get a business off the ground and maintain its success.

I see this firsthand when I am doing a "Sharice's Shift" in my district. It is our outreach program where I work at a local business and spend time with that business owner in my community.

WBCs are critical in addressing a whole range of women's entrepreneurial needs. They provide training, mentoring, business development, and

financing opportunities for 145,000 women entrepreneurs each year.

The Kansas City Women's Business Center, located in Fairway, Kansas—which I proudly represent—serves over 600 clients annually in both Kansas and Missouri through business trainings, workshops, counseling, and access to capital programs.

That is why it is so important to support the WBC program. Despite the tremendous growth of the program since its creation in 1988, its resources have not kept up with the even greater growth of women entrepreneurs.

My bill would authorize funding for the WBC program for 4 years at \$31.5 million. It is currently at \$18 million. This increase ensures the program can reach even more women.

It would also increase the cap on individual center grants to \$300,000 and index for inflation for the first time since the program's creation.

According to a survey conducted by the Association of Women Business Centers, 70 percent of the centers could match at least \$300,000. And it would establish an accreditation program to strengthen WBCs and raise the standards of excellence for training and counseling women entrepreneurs.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Women's Business Centers Improvements Act and help ensure that we can create a level playing field for female entrepreneurs that sets them up for success.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. HAGEDORN), the principal sponsor on the legislation on the Republican side.

Mr. HAGEDORN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member CHABOT for yielding the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4405, the Women's Business Centers Improvements Act.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Representative DAVIDS, for sponsoring this bill, introducing it, and inviting me to co-author it. I appreciate her leadership on this.

This bipartisan legislation works to support women entrepreneurs nationwide by modernizing and strengthening the Women's Business Centers program. Our bill will increase access to training, counseling, assistance programs, capital, and workforce investment. All these measures are essential to create new businesses, expand enterprises, and grow our United States economy.

Millions of women own small businesses in the United States, and that is a wonderful thing. Entrepreneurship and the Women's Business Center program are essential for empowering women to become business owners. By enhancing these services, we increase the ability to inspire and foster new generations of business leaders.

Small business is the job-producing backbone of our American economy. Whether you are in southern Minnesota, eastern Kansas, or commu-

nities across our Nation, it is critical that we foster an environment of growth where entrepreneurs of all stripes have access to the resources they need to succeed and are not stymied by excessive regulations, taxes, and other antibusiness burdens.

According to the National Association of Women Business Owners, as of 2017, more than 11.6 million firms are owned and operated by women. These firms employ almost 9 million people and generate \$1.7 trillion in revenue.

To keep our economy growing, we must embrace, encourage, and promote emerging enterprises, including those owned by folks who do not fit the traditional mode of business owners to get started.

One of the great success stories that we have in women entrepreneurship is that of Christine Lantinen and her candy company in Minnesota's First District out of Le Center, Minnesota. The company is called Maud Borup.

In May I had the opportunity to tour the 112-year-old wholesale confections company that specializes in gourmet candy, baking kits, food kits, and lots of other things, including gummy bears, the best I have ever enjoyed, to be honest with you.

Maud Borup started as a woman-owned, brick-and-mortar candy shop in St. Paul, even before women had the right to vote. Today, it is a wholesale company, continuing to offer opportunities for women. Ninety-six percent of its more than 100 employees are women.

Christine, an Army veteran, no less, bought the company in 2005 and has expanded the company's employment by 2,000 percent and sales by 2,500 percent. To put that into perspective, sales have gone from \$500,000 all the way to \$20 million in just 10 years. And for good reason. She was named the Small Business Person of the Year in Minnesota for 2019.

She served her country and now she is serving her community by expanding jobs and economic opportunity for folks in southern Minnesota. This is one of the types of success stories that we are trying to emulate and replicate all across the country with our legislation, the Women's Business Centers Improvements Act.

Our legislation will fund more than 100 nonprofit organizations that provide training, counseling, and technical assistance, specifically for women entrepreneurs.

Our bill, as the ranking member said, expands upon the success of H.R. 1680, which was passed by the House in May of 2018, but didn't quite make it into law. Our legislation will make key improvements for the Small Business Administration's Office of Women's Business Ownership and the Women's Business Center program by raising the initial grant amount to \$300,000 and increasing the authorization level to \$31.5 million for fiscal years 2020 through 2023.

This legislation establishes an accreditation program to strengthen

Women's Business Centers by increasing accountability and raising the standards of excellence for training and counseling of women entrepreneurs and will also create a transparent and consultative process for the selection of new center locations, while also requiring an annual report to ensure transparency and measure the effectiveness of the overall program.

Most importantly, the bill will help facilitate small business creation, provide much-needed reforms that will be a helping hand to women business owners, free aspiring entrepreneurs of undue burdens and barriers to entry, further economic expansion, and help hardworking Americans achieve their dreams.

I am incredibly proud of the bipartisan nature of this bill. I thank, again, Congresswoman DAVIDS for introducing and managing the bill. I am proud to stand with her to champion women-owned enterprises. And a special thanks to the Committee on Small Business, of course our chair, Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ and Ranking Member CHABOT for the bipartisan support that they have offered.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4405.

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Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, so I am prepared to close if the gentleman doesn't have any other speakers.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

In closing, although a little less than 40 percent of all firms in the United States are women owned, that number has increased by 114 percent over the last 10 years. With women-owned firms growing more than 2.5 times faster than other businesses, it is important to recognize women entrepreneurs as a driving force in today's economy.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the United States has nearly 30 million women-owned firms, more than one-third of all firms. Our economy relies heavily on women-owned small businesses, as they generate over \$1.9 trillion in revenues and employ 9.4 million workers.

H.R. 4405 ensures that they have access to the tools they need to succeed.

The good news is, women-owned small businesses are growing two times faster, on average, than all businesses nationwide, and women of color are launching businesses 4.5 times faster than all businesses.

The discouraging news is that half of aspiring women business owners report a lack of available mentors. We must take action to break down the barriers hindering their success. That is why it is imperative for us to pass this legislation today, ensuring access to

mentorship and professional guidance to the fastest growing group of entrepreneurs.

The Women's Business Centers Improvements Act builds on their success by creating uniformity through accreditation for WBCs and increasing maximum grant levels to ensure they have the resources to meet demands for their services.

We all agree that women business owners offer invaluable contributions to our economy. By passing this bill, we are standing with women.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4405.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SCORE FOR SMALL BUSINESS ACT OF 2019

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4407) to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4407

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "SCORE for Small Business Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. SCORE PROGRAM PROVISIONS AND REQUIREMENTS.

Section 8 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1)(B)—

(A) by striking "a Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)" and inserting "the SCORE program described in subsection (c)"; and

(B) by striking "SCORE may" and inserting "the SCORE Association (as defined in subsection (c) may)"; and

(2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

"(c) SCORE PROGRAM.—

"(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

"(A) SCORE ASSOCIATION.—The term 'SCORE Association' means the Service Corps of Retired Executives Association or any successor or other organization that enters into a cooperative agreement (as described under paragraph (2)) with the Administrator to operate the SCORE program.

"(B) SCORE FOUNDATION.—The term 'SCORE Foundation' means an organization with a mission to support the SCORE Association and volunteers of the SCORE program.

"(C) SCORE PROGRAM.—The term 'SCORE program' means the SCORE program authorized by subsection (b)(1)(B).

"(2) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.—The Administrator shall enter into a cooperative agreement with the SCORE Association to carry out the SCORE program, which shall include the following requirements:

"(A) ADMINISTRATOR DUTIES.—The Administrator shall—

"(i) conduct an annual financial examination of the SCORE Association to ensure that any costs paid for with Federal funds are allowable, allocable, and reasonable;

"(ii) for contracts entered into by the SCORE Association to provide goods or services for the SCORE program of a value greater than an amount determined by the Administrator, review and approve such contracts;

"(iii) establish a system through which the SCORE Association can provide documentation relating to such contracts; and

"(iv) within 30 days of the receipt of a quarterly report on the achievements of the SCORE program submitted by the SCORE Association, reconcile and differences between such report and the performance results of the SCORE program reported in a management information system of the Office of Entrepreneurial Development.

"(B) SCORE ASSOCIATION DUTIES.—The SCORE Association shall—

"(i) manage nationwide chapters of the SCORE program;

"(ii) develop guidance and provide annual training to employees of the SCORE Association on generating and using program income from the SCORE program;

"(iii) submit documentation to the Administrator verifying such annual training is completed;

"(iv) separate funds donated to the SCORE Association from program income and funds received pursuant to a cooperative agreement; and

"(v) establish requirements for volunteers participating in the SCORE program, including requirements that each such volunteer shall—

"(I) based on the business experience and knowledge of the volunteer—

"(aa) provide personal counseling, mentoring, and coaching on the process of starting, expanding, managing, buying, and selling a business at no cost to individuals who own, or aspire to own, small business concerns; and

"(bb) facilitate free or low-cost education workshops for individuals who own, or aspire to own, small business concerns; and

"(II) as appropriate, use tools, resources, and expertise of other organizations to carry out the SCORE program.

"(C) JOINT DUTIES.—The Administrator, in consultation with the SCORE Association, shall ensure that the SCORE program and each chapter of the SCORE program—

"(i) develop and implement plans and goals to more effectively and efficiently provide services to individuals in rural areas, economically disadvantaged communities, or other traditionally underserved communities, including plans for electronic initiatives, web-based initiatives, chapter expansion, partnerships, and the development of new skills by volunteers participating in the SCORE program; and

"(ii) reinforce an inclusive culture by recruiting diverse volunteers for the chapters of the SCORE program.

"(3) ONLINE COMPONENT.—In carrying out this subsection, the SCORE Association shall make use of online counseling, including by developing and implementing webinars and an electronic mentoring platform to expand access to services provided under this subsection and to further support entrepreneurs.

"(4) ACCOUNTING.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the SCORE Association shall—

"(A) centralize all accounting and finance systems of each chapter of the SCORE program and develop a uniform policy and procedures to manage Federal funds; and

"(B) designate an employee of the SCORE Association to serve as a compliance officer to ensure expenditures of the SCORE program are fully compliant with any law, regulation, or cooperative agreement relating to the SCORE program.

"(5) COMPENSATION.—

"(A) SALARIES.—The salary of an employee of the SCORE Association may not exceed the equivalent of the maximum rate of pay allowable for an individual in the career Senior Executive Service employed at the Small Business Administration.

"(B) PERFORMANCE AWARDS.—The SCORE Association may spend up to 1.5 percent of the aggregate salaries of employees of the SCORE Association on individual performance awards to employees of the SCORE Association, to be disbursed before the last day of the fiscal year, if not later than 60 days before disbursement the SCORE Association submits to the Administrator a report on the number and amount of such awards to be disbursed.

"(C) SCORE FOUNDATION.—A member of the Board of Directors of the SCORE Association or an employee of the SCORE Association may not simultaneously serve on the Board of Directors of, or receive compensation from, the SCORE Foundation without written approval from the Administrator.

"(6) WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS.—The SCORE Association shall—

"(A) annually update all manuals or other documents applicable to employees and volunteers of the SCORE Association or the SCORE program to include requirements relating to reporting procedures and protectors for whistleblowers; and

"(B) conduct an annual training for employees and volunteers of the SCORE Association or the SCORE program on the requirements described in paragraph (1) and emphasize the use of the hotline established by the Office of the Inspector General of the Small Business Administration to submit whistleblower reports.

"(7) PUBLISHED MATERIALS.—The SCORE Association shall ensure all published materials include written acknowledgment of Small Business Administration support of the SCORE program if such materials are paid for in whole or in part by Federal funds.

"(8) PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Neither the Administrator nor the SCORE Association may disclose the name, address, or telephone number of any individual or small business concern receiving assistance from the SCORE Association without the consent of such individual or small business concern, unless—

"(i) the Administrator is ordered to make such a disclosure by a court in any civil or criminal enforcement action initiated by a Federal or State agency; or

"(ii) the Administrator determines such a disclosure to be necessary for the purpose of conducting a financial audit of the SCORE program, in which case disclosure shall be limited to the information necessary for the audit.

"(B) ADMINISTRATOR USE OF INFORMATION.—This paragraph shall not—

"(i) restrict the access of the Administrator to SCORE program activity data; or

"(ii) prevent the Administrator from using SCORE program client information to conduct client surveys.

"(C) STANDARDS.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall, after the opportunity for notice and comment, establish standards for—

"(I) disclosures with respect to financial audits under subparagraph (A)(ii); and

"(II) conducting client surveys, including standards for oversight of the surveys and for dissemination and use of client information.

“(ii) MAXIMUM PRIVACY PROTECTION.—The standards issued under this subparagraph shall, to the extent practicable, provide for the maximum amount of privacy protection.

“(9) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection and annually thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report on the performance and effectiveness of the SCORE program, which may be included as part of another report submitted to such Committees by the Administrator, and which shall include—

“(A) the number of individuals counseled or trained under the SCORE program;

“(B) the number of hours of counseling provided under the SCORE program;

“(C) the number of local workshops;

“(D) the number of clients attending online and local workshops;

“(E) the number of unique clients served;

“(F) to the extent practicable, the demographics of SCORE program participants and volunteers, which shall include the gender, race, and age of each such participant or volunteer;

“(G) the cost to create a job, the cost to create a business, and return on investment;

“(H) the number of referrals to other resources and programs of the Administration;

“(I) the number of participants in the SCORE program receiving financial assistance, including the type and dollar amount, under loan programs of the Administration;

“(J) the results of SCORE program participant satisfactory surveys, including a summary of any comments received from such participants;

“(K) the number of new businesses started up by SCORE program participants;

“(L) the number of such new businesses realizing revenue growth;

“(M) to the extent practicable, the number of jobs created with assistance from the SCORE program;

“(N) the total cost of the SCORE program;

“(O) any recommendations of the Administrator to improve the SCORE program; and

“(P) an explanation of how the SCORE program has been integrated with other resource partners and related resources of the Administration.”

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SCORE PROGRAM.

Section 20 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) SCORE PROGRAM.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out the SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1) such sums as are necessary for the Administrator to make grants or enter into cooperative agreements in a total amount that does not exceed \$11,700,000 in each of fiscal years 2020, 2021, and 2022.”

SEC. 4. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) STUDY AND REPORT ON THE FUTURE ROLE OF THE SCORE PROGRAM.—

(1) STUDY.—The SCORE Association shall carry out a study on the future role of the SCORE program and develop a strategic plan for how the SCORE program will meet the needs of small business concerns during the 5-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, with specific objectives for the first, third, and fifth years of the 5-year period.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the SCORE Association shall submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a report containing—

(A) all findings and determination made in carrying out the study required under paragraph (1);

(B) the strategic plan developed under paragraph (1); and

(C) an explanation of how the SCORE Association plans to achieve the strategic plan, assuming both stagnant and increased funding levels.

(b) ADMINISTRATOR REPORT ON LEASED SPACE.—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a report containing an assessment of the cost of leased space that is donated to the SCORE Association.

(c) ONLINE COMPONENT REPORT.—Before the last day of fiscal year 2020, the SCORE Association shall submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a report on the effectiveness of the online counseling and webinars required under paragraph (3) of section 8(c) of the Small Business Act, as added by section 2 of this Act, including a description of—

(1) how the SCORE Association determines electronic mentoring and webinar needs, develops training for electronic mentoring, establishes webinar criteria curricula, and evaluates webinar and electronic mentoring results;

(2) the internal controls that are used and a summary of the topics covered by the webinars; and

(3) performance metrics, including the number of small business concerns counseled by, the number of small business concerns created by, the number of jobs created and retained by, and the funding amounts directed towards such online counseling and webinars.

SEC. 5. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) SMALL BUSINESS ACT.—The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 7 (15 U.S.C. 636)—

(A) in subsection (b)(12)—

(i) in the paragraph heading, by inserting “PROGRAM” after “SCORE”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”; and

(B) in subsection (m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”; and

(2) in section 22 (15 U.S.C. 649)—

(A) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”; and

(ii) in paragraph (3), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”; and

(B) in subsection (c)(12), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”.

(b) OTHER LAWS.—

(1) SMALL BUSINESS REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1997.—Section 707 of the Small Business Reauthorization Act of 1997 (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is amended by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) program” and inserting “SCORE program (as defined in section 8(c)(1) of the Small Business Act)”.

(2) VETERANS ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1999.—Section 301 of the Veterans Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development Act of 1999 (15 U.S.C. 657b note) is amended by striking “Service Core of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”.

(3) MILITARY RESERVIST AND VETERAN SMALL BUSINESS REAUTHORIZATION AND OPPOR-

TUNITY ACT OF 2008.—Section 3(5) of the Military Reservist and Veteran Small Business Reauthorization and Opportunity Act of 2008 (15 U.S.C. 636 note) is amended by striking “the Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “the SCORE program”.

(4) CHILDREN’S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2009.—Section 621 of the Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (15 U.S.C. 657p) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

“(4) the term ‘SCORE program’ means the SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B));” and

(B) in subsection (b)(4)(A)(iv), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”.

(5) ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT.—Section 337(d)(2)(A) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6307(d)(2)(A)) is amended by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)” and inserting “SCORE program”.

SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATION; ADMINISTRATOR.—The terms “Administration” and “Administrator” mean, respectively, the Small Business Administration and the Administrator thereof.

(2) SCORE ASSOCIATION; SCORE PROGRAM.—The terms “SCORE Association” and “SCORE program” have the meaning given those terms, respectively, under section 8(c)(1) of the Small Business Act, as added by section 2 of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the bill before us, H.R. 4407, the SCORE for Small Business Act.

There are nearly 30 million small businesses in the United States, representing more than 99 percent of all businesses. These small firms employ nearly 50 percent of all private-sector employees in the U.S.

The SBA administers a portfolio of entrepreneurial development programs, which includes the SCORE program. Since its inception, the SBA has undertaken efforts to connect new entrepreneurs and small business owners with more experienced businessmen and -women. This expansive network consists of entrepreneurs, business leaders, and executives who volunteer as mentors to small firms, both in person and online.

SCORE has grown to become one of the Federal Government's largest volunteer business adviser and mentoring programs. Yet, the SBA OIG found that improvements are needed to ensure SCORE minimizes risk of fraud or misuse of program funds and to strengthen SBA's oversight and the committee's ability to review the effectiveness of the program.

On July 11, 2019, our Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight and Regulations held a hearing to examine the agency's oversight of the SCORE program. This bill is a direct result of that hearing and much stakeholder engagement.

H.R. 4407 not only reauthorizes this essential program, but it also takes steps to restore integrity, accounting, and performance to the program. Doing so ensures the program will continue to have the ability to meet the needs of entrepreneurs.

With technology enhancements and streamlined service processes, SCORE mentoring will now be accessible to business owners no matter their location.

I commend Congressman HERN and Congresswoman CRAIG for working together to make sure that the counseling and training programs are operating effectively, as well as holding SBA accountable as a good steward of taxpayer dollars.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4407, the SCORE for Small Business Act of 2019.

This legislation will allow the SCORE program to continue to offer business mentoring and training to thousands of entrepreneurs and small business owners each year.

The SCORE program currently includes over 11,000 volunteer mentors with expertise across 62 industries that collectively provide more than a million hours of business counseling each year.

When an entrepreneur seeks a SCORE mentor, they are purposefully paired with a business professional with knowledge in a specific field or experience facing specific challenges. This process ensures that the goals of the entrepreneur are met by the volunteer mentor.

In addition to SCORE's mentorship services, the program also offers in-person business training classes at its 350 chapter locations nationwide.

Entrepreneurs can also utilize the extensive online training opportunities and free business tools available on SCORE's national website.

Over the last 50 years, SCORE has become the Federal Government's largest business mentoring program with over 800 locations nationally and over 11,000 volunteers. Last year, SCORE mentors provided personalized guidance to nearly 140,000 clients. More than 400,000 cli-

ents attended online and local SCORE workshops.

This legislation will allow SCORE to continue to provide these important services. H.R. 4407, the SCORE for Small Business Act of 2019, adds strict safeguards to core provisions of the SCORE bill passed last year in May.

This legislation, offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. KEVIN HERN) and the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG), also establishes strict new compliance and oversight requirements to protect taxpayer dollars and sets new outcome-based performance goals to ensure the program meets the SBA's standards and congressional intent.

These provisions will significantly increase congressional oversight of the program and provide future Congresses with additional information about the health of the program.

I thank the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. KEVIN HERN) and the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG) for their leadership on this and also for their very thoughtful approach to the passage of this legislation.

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

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. KEVIN HERN), who is the lead Republican sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4407.

The Service Corps of Retired Executives, better known as SCORE, has helped more than 11 million entrepreneurs over the last 50 years. SCORE is a nonprofit organization made up of active and retired business executives who act as mentors for entrepreneurs. These volunteers provide face-to-face counseling on business issues ranging from planning to budgeting, marketing, and financing, all of this at no charge to the entrepreneur.

As a small business owner myself, I can attest to the importance of mentorship programs like this for first-time entrepreneurs. In a country like ours, where a good idea and hard work can put you on the path to the American Dream, the mentorship of an experienced business owner can be a huge asset to a startup.

Today, there are more than 300 SCORE chapters across the country, totaling more than 11,000 volunteers. This includes a chapter in my hometown of Tulsa, which has over 40 volunteers.

H.R. 4407 will continue the success of the SCORE program by reauthorizing the funds while safeguarding the program for the future by modernizing data standards, closing loopholes for fraud, and adding important oversight

to the use of funds. These provisions will only increase the integrity of SCORE and help the program to assist even more small businesses and entrepreneurs.

All the reforms made in this bill are supported by SCORE. This bipartisan effort to invest in our small business owners and encourage more Americans to follow their dreams is a big step forward in support of the things that make our country so special.

I thank my colleague Ms. CRAIG from Minnesota for being an original cosponsor of this legislation and supporting its progress through the committee and now here on the House floor.

The passage of this bill will not only be an important moment for our country's future business owners, but it is also my first piece of legislation to pass the House. Focusing on the businesses that drive our local economies and encouraging the growth of entrepreneurship across our country has been my top priority in Congress.

Reauthorizing and strengthening SCORE is a necessary step to help grow our economy and invest in our communities, and I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this bill today.

Mr. Speaker, before I close today, I want to say that I really appreciate the leadership and the bipartisanship of Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ and Ranking Member CHABOT. They do a great job with bipartisanship in their leadership. It is a great example for the people's House. I encourage all of our Members to come sit in on a meeting sometime. It might be something that they would like to see.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers if the gentleman is ready to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

The simple improvements in this bill will allow the SCORE program to continue its mission helping entrepreneurs to start and grow their businesses.

With the vast majority of all businesses in the United States classified as small, it is vital that these business owners have access to effective entrepreneurial resources. H.R. 4407 would ensure that, regardless of location, a small business owner can access SCORE mentoring and training.

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

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

There is no question that we need to support our small businesses across the country, no matter their location, industry, or expertise level.

H.R. 4407 does exactly that by reauthorizing a major component of SBA's entrepreneurial programs and clarifying the utilization of the volunteer base. This bill is reflective of the growth of the SCORE program, which actively engages business owners, as well as retired executives, to mentor the next generation of job makers.

Most importantly, it responds to the findings of the IG and makes strides to hold the agency and SCORE mentors accountable.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4407.

The question was taken.

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

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has agreed to a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 27. Concurrent Resolution providing for the use of the catafalque situated in the Exhibition Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center in connection with memorial services to be conducted in the House wing of the Capitol for the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, late a Representative from the State of Maryland.

□ 1615

ESTABLISHING A GROWTH ACCELERATOR FUND COMPETITION

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4387) to establish Growth Accelerator Fund Competition within the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4387

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. GROWTH ACCELERATOR FUND COMPETITION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established a program within the Small Business Administration to be known as the “Growth Accelerator Fund Competition” under which the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall award prizes on a competitive basis to covered entities that—

(1) assist small business concerns with accessing capital and finding mentors and networking opportunities; and

(2) advise small business concerns, including advising on market analysis, company strategy, revenue growth, and securing funding.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, the Administrator shall carry out the program established under this section in accordance with the requirements of section 24 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3719).

(c) APPLICATION.—A prize only may be awarded to a covered entity that submits to the Administrator an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Administrator may require.

(d) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to apply for a prize under this section, a covered entity—

(1) may not have an outstanding, unresolved financial obligation to the Federal Government; and

(2) may not be currently suspended or debarred as specified under subpart 9.4 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

(e) SELECTION OF COVERED ENTITIES.—From applications submitted under subsection (c), the Administrator shall select covered entities that will provide to small business concerns—

(1) regular networking opportunities, including introductions to customers, partners, suppliers, advisory boards, and other persons;

(2) mentorship opportunities, including advice on strategy, technology, finances, and commercialization assistance;

(3) shared working environments focused on building a strong community amongst other similar small business concerns;

(4) resources and co-working arrangements;

(5) opportunities to pitch ideas to investors and other capital formation opportunities;

(6) small amounts of angel money, seed capital, or structured loans; and

(7) where appropriate, assistance in securing funding under the SBIR program or the STTR program established under section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638).

(f) PRIORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator, in approving applications under this section, shall give priority to applications that include methods to provide assistance and advice to small business concerns located in underserved communities, including—

(A) small business concerns owned and controlled by women;

(B) small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans; and

(C) small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals (as defined in section 8(d)(3)(C) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(d)(3)(C))).

(2) ALLOCATION.—Of prizes awarded to covered entities under this section in a fiscal year, the Administrator shall ensure that—

(A) not less than 20 percent of such covered entities will assist and advise small business concerns owned and controlled by women; and

(B) not less than 20 percent of such covered entities will assist and advise small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals.

(g) SELECTION OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS.—A covered entity that receives a prize under the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition shall use a selective process to identify small business concerns to provide assistance and advice described under subsection (a).

(h) DEVELOPMENT OF METRICS.—The Administrator shall develop metrics to evaluate the effectiveness and the benefit to the people of the United States of the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition that—

(1) are science-based and statistically driven;

(2) reflect the mission of the Small Business Administration; and

(3) include factors relating to the economic impact of the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition.

(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

(2) COVERED ENTITY.—The term “covered entity” means a private entity that is incorporated in and maintains a primary place of business in the United States.

(3) SMALL BUSINESS ACT DEFINITIONS.—The terms “small business concern”, “small business concern owned and controlled by women”, “small business concern owned and controlled by veterans” have the meanings given such terms, respectively, in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 to carry out the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill before us today, H.R. 4387, which establishes the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition within SBA.

Accelerator programs provide founders of early-stage companies with education, mentorship, financing, cohort-based training, and technical assistance. There are many accelerator success stories. Among them are well-known companies like Airbnb, Dropbox, and Stripe.

The SBA funds the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition for the Nation’s most innovative, diverse, and promising small business accelerators and incubators. It was created in 2014 to support small business job creation by giving early-stage entrepreneurs opportunities to immerse themselves in an intense learning environment.

Monetary prizes of \$50,000 to each of the winners go a long way towards supporting the development of accelerators and incubators.

Not only does the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition spur economic development and create jobs, but most importantly, it supports innovation in economic areas that are outside of what we have come to think of as traditional coastal tech hubs.

It supports places like the industrial heartland, where barriers to capital access have hindered entrepreneurs. The program also has a proven track record of investing in women and minority entrepreneurs.

The legislation will authorize \$2 billion in funds, annually, for 4 years, to

carry out the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition. H.R. 4387 continues our commitment of investment in the next generation of American entrepreneurs by promoting innovation and growing jobs.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4387. This bipartisan legislation codifies the SBA's Growth Accelerator Fund Competition.

Since 2014, the SBA's Office of Investment and Innovation has run a yearly competition to identify the Nation's best small business accelerators and incubators. The competition has proven successful over the past 5 years, and I expect that will continue to be successful during the authorization period.

The accelerators that win these awards represent a broad set of industries and sectors, from manufacturing to tech startups, to farming with a diversified range of demographic groups.

The winners are selected through a two-tier review panel process and are evaluated by experts in entrepreneurship, investing, and business plans, both inside and outside Federal Government. The expert judges review applications and pitch videos submitted by the finalists.

I am proud to say that three Cincinnati organizations have won an award prize since the initiative's inception: The Brandery, First Batch, and Mortar. These award dollars have been reinvested in small business clients in Cincinnati communities.

As an authorized program rather than an SBA Administrator initiative, the competition will now be subject to greater congressional oversight.

I want to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) and my fellow Ohioan, Mr. BALDERSON, for their leadership on this bill. Their hard work on this bill has been informed by oversight findings, program feedback, and agency transparency.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation has my full support. I urge its adoption, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I just want to take this opportunity also to congratulate Congressman ADRIANO ESPAILLAT from New York and Mr. BALDERSON for their hard work and the contributions that they are making with this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT), who is the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ and also Ranking Member CHABOT for their leadership. I would also like to thank my colleague, Congressman BALDERSON, for working with me on this bipartisan legislation.

One of the most widely successful tools the Small Business Administration utilizes to grow and support small

businesses is the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition. Since this program began in 2014, the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition has small businesses and entrepreneurs in almost 40 States.

This competitive program provides some of the most innovative and promising small businesses in high-growth sectors with early-stage education, financing, mentorship, cohort-based training, and technical assistance. Importantly, these entrepreneurial development models create a pipeline of talented entrepreneurs—especially women and minorities—to grow and succeed.

According to the Small Business Administration, since this Growth Accelerator Fund Competition began in 2014, the first 50 awardees have led directly to almost 1,500 companies across the country.

Codifying this program and authorizing \$2 million for 4 additional years is a commitment to American innovation. The legislation reflects our bipartisan support and priority investment in the growth, development, and expansion of small businesses.

I am proud to support this program, and I am glad to work with colleagues on both sides of the aisle on this meaningful and important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

The Growth Accelerator Fund Competition at the SBA draws attention and funding to parts of the country where there are gaps in the entrepreneurial ecosystem. This bipartisan bill, while congressionally authorizing an already successful program, will provide for increased reporting and better metrics to gauge program outcomes and will provide budding entrepreneurs with greater resources to build our communities.

This bill is a product of our bipartisan work at the Small Business Committee, and I want to thank all of our members, both Democratic and Republican, for their excellent work on this legislative package, as well as our chairwoman, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and her staff for working with our staff in a very cooperative, bipartisan way.

It would be great if the rest of the House worked as well as this committee does. I think it is the best committee in Congress. I am on Judiciary and Foreign Affairs, too, so they may not like that, but this is a really bipartisan committee, and it is a real joy to be on it.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this bill's adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Business accelerators help high-growth startup enterprises develop their products, identify promising customer segments, and secure resources, including vital capital and potential employees. It is clear that they serve an important role in innovation, and H.R. 4387 enhances the ability of the

SBA's Growth Accelerator Fund Competition so it can continue to assist entrepreneurs.

By opening the funding network for companies that may not otherwise have gained such exposure, the growth accelerator fund helps boost small business innovation and grow the economy.

The SBA growth accelerator program supports underserved business owners and fills critical gaps in capital access. In 2019, 60 percent of the winners were either women owned, socially or economically disadvantaged, or located in areas with a lower number of SBIR and STTR awards. This bill reinforces our committee's pledge to entrepreneurship and job creation.

Finally, I want to thank Mr. ESPAILLAT and Mr. BALDERSON for their diligence on this bill, and I also want to take the opportunity to thank the ranking member, Mr. CHABOT, his staff, and my staff.

What we are showing today is that there is not a Republican or Democratic approach when it comes to small businesses. This is the way that we do right by the American people.

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 New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4387.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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 4 o'clock and 26 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1822

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. TITUS) at 6 o'clock and 22 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2513, CORPORATE TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-247) on the resolution (H. Res. 646) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2513) to ensure that persons who form corporations or limited liability companies in the United States disclose the beneficial owners of those corporations or limited liability companies, in order to prevent wrongdoers from exploiting

United States corporations and limited liability companies for criminal gain, to assist law enforcement in detecting, preventing, and punishing terrorism, money laundering, and other misconduct involving United States corporations and limited liability companies, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. BIGGS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I rise to give notice of my intention to raise a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of the resolution is as follows:

Whereas President Trump released the transcript of a call between him and the President of Ukraine;

Whereas President Trump subsequently released the whistleblower complaint of August 12, 2019;

Whereas, in a September 26, 2019, hearing on the whistleblower complaint, House Intelligence Committee Chairman ADAM SCHIFF purported to relay the content of the phone call to the American people;

Whereas, instead of quoting directly from the available transcript, Chairman SCHIFF manufactured a false retelling of the conversation between President Trump and President Zelensky;

Whereas this egregiously false and fabricated retelling had no relationship to the call itself;

Whereas these actions of Chairman SCHIFF misled the American people, bring disrepute upon the House of Representatives, and make a mockery of the impeachment process, one of this Chamber's most solemn constitutional duties;

Whereas, for more than 2 years, Chairman SCHIFF has spread false accusations that the Trump campaign colluded with Russia;

Whereas, on March 20, 2017, then-Ranking Member SCHIFF read out false allegations from the Steele dossier accusing numerous Trump associates of colluding with Russia;

Whereas then-Ranking Member SCHIFF falsely claimed in a March 2017 interview to have "more than circumstantial evidence" of collusion with Russia;

Whereas then-Ranking Member SCHIFF negotiated with Russian comedians whom he believed to be Ukrainian officials to obtain materials to damage the President of the United States politically;

Whereas, according to a New York Times article on October 2, 2019, Chairman SCHIFF's committee staff met with the whistleblower prior to the filing of his complaint, and staff members communicated the content of the complaint to Chairman SCHIFF;

Whereas Chairman SCHIFF concealed his dealings with the whistleblower from the rest of the Intelligence Com-

mittee, and when asked directly in a television interview whether he had any contact with the whistleblower, he lied to the American people and said, "We have not spoken directly with the whistleblower.";

Whereas members of the Intelligence Committee have lost faith in his objectivity and capabilities as chairman, with every Republican member on the committee having signed a letter calling for his immediate resignation as chairman; and

Whereas Chairman SCHIFF has hindered the ability of the Intelligence Committee to fulfill its oversight responsibilities of the intelligence community, an indispensable pillar of our national security: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the House of Representatives censures and condemns Representative ADAM SCHIFF for conduct that misleads the American people in a way that is not befitting an elected Member of the House of Representatives;

(2) Representative ADAM SCHIFF will forthwith present himself in the well of the House for the pronouncement of censure; and

(3) Representative ADAM SCHIFF will be censured with the public reading of this resolution by the Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would now recognize the gentleman from Arizona to offer the resolution just noticed.

Does the gentleman offer the resolution?

Mr. BIGGS. Yes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read the resolution as follows:

Whereas President Trump released the transcript of a call between him and the President of Ukraine;

Whereas President Trump subsequently released the whistleblower complaint of August 12, 2019;

Whereas, in a September 26, 2019, hearing on the whistleblower complaint, House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff purported to relay the content of the phone call to the American people;

Whereas, instead of quoting directly from the available transcript, Chairman Schiff manufactured a false retelling of the conversation between President Trump and President Zelensky;

Whereas this egregiously false and fabricated retelling had no relationship to the call itself;

Whereas these actions of Chairman Schiff misled the American people, bring disrepute upon the House of Representatives, and make a mockery of the impeachment process, one of this chamber's most solemn constitutional duties;

Whereas, for more than 2 years, Chairman Schiff has spread false accusations that the Trump campaign colluded with Russia;

Whereas, on March 20, 2017, then-Ranking Member Schiff read out false allegations from the Steele dossier accusing numerous Trump associates of colluding with Russia;

Whereas then-Ranking Member Schiff falsely claimed in a March 2017 interview to have "more than circumstantial evidence" of collusion with Russia;

Whereas then-Ranking Member Schiff negotiated with Russian comedians whom he

believed to be Ukrainian officials to obtain materials to damage the President of the United States politically;

Whereas, according to a New York Times article on October 2, 2019, Chairman Schiff's committee staff met with the whistleblower prior to the filing of his complaint, and staff members communicated the content of the complaint to Chairman Schiff;

Whereas Chairman Schiff concealed his dealings with the whistleblower from the rest of the Intelligence Committee, and when asked directly in a television interview whether he had any contact with the whistleblower, he lied to the American people and said, "We have not spoken directly with the whistleblower.";

Whereas members of the Intelligence Committee have lost faith in his objectivity and capabilities as Chairman, with every Republican member on the Committee having signed a letter calling for his immediate resignation as Chairman; and

Whereas Chairman Schiff has hindered the ability of the Intelligence Committee to fulfill its oversight responsibilities of the Intelligence Community, an indispensable pillar of our national security: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the House of Representatives censures and condemns Representative Adam Schiff for conduct that misleads the American people in a way that is not befitting an elected Member of the House of Representatives;

(2) Representative Adam Schiff will forthwith present himself in the well of the House for the pronouncement of censure; and

(3) Representative Adam Schiff will be censured with the public reading of this resolution by the Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution qualifies.

MOTION TO TABLE

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Hoyer moves that the resolution be laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table offered by the gentleman from Maryland.

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

Mr. BIGGS. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the motion to table will be followed by 5-minute votes on motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 4406; and

H.R. 4407.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 218, nays 185, not voting 28, as follows:

[Roll No. 568]

YEAS—218

Adams	Blunt Rochester	Carson (IN)
Aguilar	Bonamici	Cartwright
Amash	Boyle, Brendan	Case
Axne	F.	Casten (IL)
Barragán	Brindisi	Castor (FL)
Bass	Brown (MD)	Castro (TX)
Beatty	Brownley (CA)	Chu, Judy
Bera	Bustos	Cicilline
Beyer	Butterfield	Cisneros
Bishop (GA)	Carbajal	Clark (MA)
Blumenauer	Cárdenas	Clarke (NY)

Shalala
Sherman
Sherrill
Shimkus
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spano
Speier
Stanton
Staubert
Stefanik
Steil
Stevens
Stivers
Suzoi
Swalwell (CA)

NAYS—25

Amash
Biggs
Buck
Burgess
Cline
Davidson (OH)
Ferguson
Gohmert
Gosar

NOT VOTING—31

Allred
Babin
Bishop (NC)
Collins (GA)
Curtis
Davis, Danny K.
Dingell
Gabbard
Gaetz
Gooden
Grijalva

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1905

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall No. 569.

SCORE FOR SMALL BUSINESS ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4407) to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 389, nays 8, not voting 34, as follows:

[Roll No. 570]
YEAS—389
Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Armodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Axne
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Estes
Evans
Ferguson
Finkenauer
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Fox (NC)
Frankel
Fudge
Fulcher
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill (AR)
Hill (CA)
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunter
Hurd (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kind

Walden
Walker
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watkins
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Young
Zeldin

Brady
Brindisi
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten (IL)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Cohen
Comer
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Cunningham
Davids (KS)
Davids (OH)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais

Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Doggett
Doyle, Michael
F.
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Engel
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Estes
Evans
Ferguson
Finkenauer
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Fox (NC)
Frankel
Fudge
Fulcher
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill (AR)
Hill (CA)
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunter
Hurd (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kind

Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Riggleman
Roby
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose (NY)
Rose, John W.
Rouda
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala

NAYS—8

Amash
Biggs
Brooks (AL)

NOT VOTING—34

Allred
Bishop (NC)
Cole
Collins (GA)
Curtis
Davis, Danny K.
Dingell
Gabbard
Gaetz
Gooden
Grijalva
Haaland

□ 1914

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, please accept the following vote recommendations in my absence as I represent the United States at the formal ascension of the Emperor in Japan. Had I been present, I would have voted: “yea” on rollcall No. 568, “yea” on rollcall No. 569, and “yea” on rollcall No. 570.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ALLRED. Madam Speaker, as I am back home in Dallas, Texas in light of the tornado and storm, I submit the following vote explanation. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 568, “yea” on rollcall No. 569, and “yea” on rollcall No. 570.

Buck
Gosar
Griffith
Keller
Kennedy
Lipinski
Loeb sack
McEachin
Meadows
Meng
Meuser
Peters
Pingree
Rooney (FL)
Rutherford
Scalise
Sires
Stewart
Takano
Timmons
Upton
Wagner
Walberg
Wenstrup
Wilson (SC)

PROVIDING FOR THE USE OF THE CATAFALQUE SITUATED IN THE EXHIBITION HALL OF THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER IN CONNECTION WITH MEMORIAL SERVICES TO BE CONDUCTED IN THE HOUSE WING OF THE CAPITOL FOR THE HONORABLE ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE STATE OF MARYLAND

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 27) providing for the use of the catafalque situated in the Exhibition Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center in connection with memorial services to be conducted in the House wing of the Capitol for the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, late a Representative from the State of Maryland, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

S. CON. RES. 27

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Architect of the Capitol is authorized and directed to transfer the catafalque which is situated in the Exhibition Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center to the House wing of the Capitol so that such catafalque may be used in connection with services to be conducted there for the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, late a Representative from the State of Maryland.

The concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MOMENT OF SILENCE REMEMBERING CONGRESSMAN JACK EDWARDS

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

Mr. BYRNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my Alabama colleagues in remembering the extraordinary life of Alabama's great public servant, the late Congressman Jack Edwards.

Jack served Alabama's First Congressional District in Washington for 20 years. He was a great friend and mentor to me and countless others, and he was a true leader here in Congress where he led the rebuilding of our military under President Reagan.

Jack's service continued after Congress. He was chair of the Mobile Chamber of Commerce during a period of remarkable renaissance. He also served as chair of the board of trustees for the University of Alabama.

Jack was a born leader who loved his country and never failed to answer the call of service. Jack helped create the America we know today, and we owe him a great debt of gratitude. In re-

membering Jack Edwards, we all should emulate his example and the principles he stood for: unquestioned integrity, commitment to others, and respect for all.

Madam Speaker, I ask that all Members and guests of the gallery rise for a moment of silence in honor of the late Jack Edwards.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN ELIJAH CUMMINGS

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

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of a good friend, patriot, and one of the most principled, passionate men I have ever known; that is Elijah Cummings.

Elijah Cummings was an individual who has done so much for his community, has done so much for his country and his state. I had the honor of serving with Elijah Cummings for over 25 years. We also went to the same high school, City College.

Congressman Cummings received attention on the national stage as chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, and as such he was fighting for our democracy every single day, signing subpoenas in the hours before his death. He spoke truth to power and was taking on what many of us see as dangerous threats to our system of government, divided by our forefathers into three equal branches.

But even as he commanded a gavel as chairman, he never stopped fighting for Baltimore and the little guy. Chairman Cummings can rest easy knowing that he did everything he could in his time to restore the principles of our democracy and equality.

His passing is a tremendous loss to me personally, the city of Baltimore, our State, and our country. My heart goes out to his family and friends and staff during this time of grief.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR GENERAL HERBERT LLOYD WILKERSON ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. WALKER. Madam Speaker, the United States Marine Corps is characterized by their values of honor, courage, and commitment—as Marines would say, “Semper Paratus.”

Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major General Herbert Lloyd Wilkerson on his 100th birthday, a decorated veteran who truly personifies these values of the United States Marine Corps.

Major General Wilkerson first felt the call to serve following the attacks on Pearl Harbor in December of 1941. Still three hours short of graduation, he courageously enlisted as a private. Major General Wilkerson would go on to serve our country in World War II, the Korean war, and Vietnam, soon be-

coming chief of staff and base commander for Camp Lejeune. General Wilkerson's unrelenting commitment to serve the United States of America will inspire generations to come just as it inspired his own son, Major General Tom Wilkerson.

Please join me in celebrating Major General Wilkerson's 100 years of being always faithful to our country, serving with relentless patriotism and valor.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN ELIJAH CUMMINGS

(Ms. JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to memorialize the life of our honorable statesman and dear friend, Congressman Elijah Cummings. During his tenure in the House of Representatives, Congressman Cummings championed issues, including civil rights, access to affordable healthcare, transportation, and congressional oversight.

Representative Cummings was irritated when I pushed him to take an office in the Congressional Black Caucus until he went home that weekend and he came back with a big smile and said that the people at home had noticed it. He also succeeded me as chair of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Madam Speaker, I join Members of Congress in extending our sympathies to Congressman Cummings' wife, Maya Rockey Moore Cummings, his family, and to all who had the great pleasure of knowing him. The legacy of Congressman Cummings will endure in this great institution as those that live in the hearts of others never truly perish.

RECOGNIZING GOLD STAR MOTHER'S DAY

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize this past September 29 as Gold Star Mother's Day. Originally dedicated in 1936, the last Sunday in September each year honors mothers who have lost a son or daughter while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

Service and sacrifice for our Nation is not only a personal commitment, but one that involves the sacrifice of entire families and even whole communities. In Gold Star Mothers we can see one of the most important reminders of this sacrifice.

Thank you to the Gold Star Mothers for your own service to our Nation. I understand that a day of recognition will not bring back the lives of your children, but you continue to be an inspiration to us all. With national conventions, fundraising events, and Federal advocacy, you continue to move forward and make our world a better place to live.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Disability Employment Awareness Month and to celebrate the enormous contributions people with disabilities have made and will continue to make throughout the American workforce.

I especially want to highlight the work being done in Michigan's Ninth District by the Commission on Disabilities to promote inclusion in Warren, Michigan. On October 23 the commission is cohosting a Disability Awareness Fair to commemorate this month and connect workers with disabilities to important resources.

America is strongest when we harness the talents and creativity of all of our people. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating National Disability Employment Awareness Month and the indisputable contributions of America's workers with disabilities.

RECOGNIZING THE VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT

(Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to an important veterans' initiative that I am proud to lead with Chairman TAKANO. It is essential that we recognize and commend the selfless sacrifice veterans have made to protect our most precious freedoms.

That is why Chairman TAKANO and I have challenged all Members of Congress to participate in the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project by submitting at least one of their veteran constituents' stories to the project prior to Veteran's Day.

The Veterans History Project gives our Nation's heroes a platform to share and preserve their personal stories about their time in uniform to help Americans understand military service and its importance to our country's history. We can think of no better way to honor the men and women who fought for our freedoms in the weeks leading up to Veteran's Day than by ensuring that their unique stories of service are forever memorialized for future generations of Americans.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to associate my remarks with those about Elijah Cummings and wish his family God's blessings.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN ELIJAH CUMMINGS

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

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the extraordinary life of Congressman Elijah Cummings. He was a trailblazer for civil rights, a fierce advocate for equal justice, a defender of good government, and a friend and mentor to countless people, especially to members of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Congressman Cummings was born the son of sharecroppers and rose to incredible heights, but he never forgot his roots. Elijah Cummings never stopped striving to ensure every American could reach his or her potential the way he did. He understood that we are all in this together, that as a Nation we rise and fall as one.

I will never forget those values which he taught and lived through his own example each and every day. We will always treasure the time we spent together and the lessons he taught all of us. When Congressman Cummings spoke, we listened. He helped so many of us. But Congressman Cummings' work is far from done. It is up to us to keep marching on his behalf and carry on the iconic legacy he has entrusted in us to carry us forward.

RECOGNIZING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring attention to October being Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Domestic violence is a terrible reality for far too many women, men, and children. By the time I finish this speech, roughly 20 people will fall victim to abuse at the hands of an intimate partner.

This is Ashley Hall, a mother of two young girls from my district. She was a dance instructor, a teacher's aide, and she had a heart for those who struggled. Ashley was also a victim of domestic violence. She lost her life at the hands of her husband, a tragedy that will impact her daughters for the rest of their lives.

This month let the stories like Ashley's be shared as a way to help others. Take time to reach out to those you think may be in need. Get involved by supporting local shelters and speak out against this tragic issue. Resources are available for those in need. The National Domestic Violence Hotline can be reached at 1-800-799-7233.

HONORING CODY STASHAK

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

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, Cody Stashak grew up in Mays Landing in south Jersey. He graduated from Oakcrest High School in 2012 where he played baseball for the Falcons and went on to attend Cumberland County College for 2 years where he played baseball, as well.

Cody moved on from our south Jersey district to St. John's University in New York where he continued to excel in his sport. Now Cody has moved to the major leagues. Cody was drafted to the Minnesota Twins in 2015 where he was mainly used as a relief pitcher.

This year Cody made his major league debut in a recent game against the New York Yankees where he allowed only four hits and he struck out three. Cody, your talent and dedication are admirable, and we are so impressed with how far you have come.

Cody might be in Minnesota now, but we know that he is south Jersey through and through and his south Jersey community is rooting for him. I am happy to say that I have known Cody's father and his grandfather through the years, and I know how proud they are and how proud south Jersey is of its star.

CONGRATULATING JILL STAFFORD

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

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Principal Jill Stafford for being named the Principal of the Year for Region 10 by the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals.

Having dedicated 27 years of her professional career to her students, Ms. Stafford has displayed her passion for education and commitment to her community. For the last 7 years Ms. Stafford has served as the principal of Lowery Freshman Center in Allen, Texas.

Ms. Stafford goes above and beyond each and every day for both her students and her colleagues. As students face the daunting transition into high school, it is critical that they have the unmatched support of strong leaders like Principal Stafford to keep them motivated and on track. I ask my colleagues and the House of Representatives to join me in thanking Principal Jill Stafford for her hard work and congratulate her on this well-earned recognition.

□ 1930

HONORING CONGRESSMAN ELIJAH CUMMINGS

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

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember a great American patriot, Elijah Cummings.

On behalf of the people of Baltimore, I want to thank him for his incredible leadership, for his friendship to so many, for his mentorship of so many in the community and to me.

I had the privilege for almost 12 years, the last 12 years of Elijah's life, to sit a few feet away from him in the

Oversight and Reform Committee and to see what a national leader he was, how he fought for the left out and the locked out.

I also had the opportunity to be with him on many occasions in Baltimore, to see how people responded to him, how they invested in his leadership. We will miss that dearly.

I was thinking today as I drove from Baltimore through West Baltimore, the community he loved, about his fight for the soul of our democracy, and I had anxiety about if we can continue that fight without him. But it occurred to me that Elijah would not have left us when he did if he didn't believe that we had it within ourselves to finish that fight.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Elijah for his inspiration. May his memory be eternal.

RECOGNIZING THE STUDENTS OF CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the students of the Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science and Technology in Pleasant Gap, Pennsylvania.

Recently, I had the pleasure of joining several students back in Centre County for a very special project that they are working on. It is called Heroscaping.

The students are building a memorial at the Centre County Public Safety Training Center to honor first responders, particularly those who answered the call to serve when the World Trade Center was attacked on 9/11.

The project was recently finished, and it was an honor to join them when I was back in my district to help lay pavers and meet many of the students involved. One of the students was just 3 months old when the planes crashed into the Twin Towers. The others had not been born yet.

That is why projects like these are so important—to honor the men and women who rose to the occasion to protect our Nation and to ensure that the younger generations never forget their sacrifices.

INVESTIGATING PRESIDENT TRUMP AND UKRAINE

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, three of the House committees investigating President Trump's dealings with Ukraine subpoenaed administration officials. They seek answers as to why President Trump would purposely withhold critical military assistance from Ukraine.

Such a request is well within the committee's constitutional legislative

powers. It is also central to establishing whether President Trump knowingly withheld military assistance to coerce Ukrainian Government officials into creating a false narrative on his political rival, Vice President Joe Biden.

On October 15, the committees received a letter from the Vice President, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Department of Defense rejecting the House subpoena. One letter even indicated the administration was "unable to comply with your request for documents at this time."

Mr. Speaker, this is unconscionable. As co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Ukraine Caucus and a senior member on the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, I am greatly disheartened that U.S.-Ukraine relations could be put at risk just to advance and cover up President Trump's malfeasance.

America deserves transparency and truth, and the Trump administration must work with Congress or face constitutional justice.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LEVIN of Michigan). Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

HONORING BILL WINKKY

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

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor Bill Winkky, who recently celebrated his 80th birthday.

Bill Winkky, son of Mary Emma and Robert Winkky, was born in Kingston, New York, on September 29, 1939. In his 80 years of life, he has been a mentor, a friend, a father, a husband, and an all-around good man who deserves to be recognized.

In 1963, Bill married Charlotte Sommerfield and has remained by her side for the past 56 years. Bill has such dedication to his wife and his family that it is heartwarming to see. Yet his family is not the only thing he has been dedicated to over the years.

He was a teacher, dedicating 32½ years to educating and enriching the lives of the youth he taught. He also coached several sports, including football, wrestling, swimming, and track. The hours he spent dedicated to young people were well spent, and he had a profound impact on his students.

Bill also dedicated time to serving the people as the town of Veteran supervisor for 10 years, and he continues to hold this role now.

It is not often you have the pleasure of meeting a man as dedicated to helping others as Bill Winkky. He is a pillar in the community who has given so much of himself to our youth through his coaching and teaching tenure. He continues to do a great deal as the town of Veteran supervisor.

I am honored to know him, and I am equally honored to celebrate his

achievements and his legacy of hard work, compassion, and community-mindedness here today.

Mr. Speaker, given the above, I ask this legislative body to pause in its deliberations and join me to honor Bill Winkky on his 80th birthday.

Godspeed, Bill, and God bless.

WEST MICHIGAN BLUE RIBBON AWARD

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

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate three west Michigan schools that have recently been recognized for their academic excellence and high student achievement.

It is an honor to represent Lakewood Elementary School and Eagle Crest Charter Academy in Holland, Michigan, and Peach Plains Elementary School in Grand Haven, which were each awarded the prestigious Blue Ribbon Award by the Department of Education.

Each year, this esteemed recognition is presented to K-12 schools across the Nation that show outstanding gains in student achievement or demonstrate academic excellence that goes above and beyond.

In west Michigan, we have a legacy of offering our children excellent educational opportunities. These three schools in Ottawa County join a wonderful group of west Michigan schools that have already earned this distinction in the past.

This award affirms the hard work of students, educators, families, and entire communities that have dedicated themselves to creating a learning environment where students can thrive and achieve academic success.

Congratulations to the Eagle Crest Charter Academy, Lakewood Elementary School, and Peach Plains Elementary, and the students, parents, and staff for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to improving educational outcomes in our communities.

CONGRATULATING ELIZABETH BROWN

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

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and thank an educator from my district who recently received a Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching from the National Science Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, Elizabeth Brown of Brogue in southern York County was a chemistry, physics, and forensic science teacher at North Harford High School in Maryland. As a teacher, Beth started a Women in Science luncheon to support young women interested in careers in science.

Beth currently has left teaching but is working to help other science, technology, engineering, and math, or

STEM, teachers by writing Next Generation Science Standards curriculum.

Mr. Speaker, I am incredibly thankful for the passion that Beth shared with her students, instilling in them an appetite for learning that they will carry for the rest of their lives.

Congratulations to Ms. Brown on receiving the Presidential award.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Elizabeth Brown for her hard work, and I thank all the teachers across southern York and Lancaster Counties who do great work educating our students every day.

RECOGNIZING DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring awareness to dyslexia, a learning disability that affects as many as one in five people.

October is Dyslexia Awareness Month, which is why I will be introducing a resolution this week calling on Congress to formally recognize it.

Those who have dyslexia struggle with language skills, making reading significantly more difficult.

While this is a serious problem, it is a solvable one. If educators identify dyslexia early on and teach children proper techniques, students can use these tools to succeed. Reading is foundational to education, as we first learn to read and then read to learn.

Dyslexia affects students equally regardless of intelligence, socioeconomic status, or gender. Many famous people, including Albert Einstein, Steve Jobs, and George Washington, had dyslexia. They were able to achieve incredible things despite their learning disabilities.

However, 74 percent of children who are poor readers in third grade remain poor readers by the time they reach ninth grade. This is why, as co-chair of the bipartisan House Dyslexia Caucus, I am working to increase awareness. I encourage my colleagues to join the House Dyslexia Caucus so we can ensure children with dyslexia have every opportunity to succeed.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to anchor this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour, and I thank our CBC chair, Congresswoman KAREN BASS, for her leadership in organizing this effort.

For the next 60 minutes, we want to pay a special tribute to Congressman Elijah E. Cummings.

The Congressional Black Caucus, the entire country, and this institution

suffered a great loss. As a lifelong advocate for justice, equality, and the truth, Congressman Cummings was the true definition of a leader and public servant.

To many, Chairman Cummings was a friend and a mentor, but to the members of the Congressional Black Caucus, Chairman Cummings was family.

Last week, Congress lost a fierce leader, a tireless champion of the people, and my friend, Chairman Elijah Cummings. It is a sad time for Congress, for Maryland, and, in fact, for the entire country.

□ 1945

For the next 60 minutes we will hear from members of the Congressional Black Caucus and other colleagues as we pay tribute to a great man.

Mr. Speaker, I yield, first and foremost, to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS), chair of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Congressman Elijah E. Cummings, a man of great honor and a giant within the House of Representatives.

Congressman Cummings was born in Baltimore on January 18, 1951. He was one of seven children of Robert and Ruth Cummings. Although his family struggled financially, they always found a way to help others in their community.

Representative Cummings and his family, like thousands of other African Americans, had to face the brutal experience of the Jim Crow period. When Representative Cummings was a child, at 11, he was attacked while trying to swim in the neighborhood swimming pool. Racist adults threw rocks and bottles that resulted in injuries but left him with a determination to study law and to become the fighter for social justice that characterized his life.

He would go on to receive his bachelor's degree in political science from Howard University, and, while at Howard, he served as student government president. After graduating Phi Beta Kappa from Howard University, he obtained his law degree from the University of Maryland School of Law.

Congressman Cummings practiced law in Baltimore, and, at the age of 31, he was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates, where he served for 14 years and ascended to become the first African American speaker pro tempore.

In 1996, Congressman Cummings won a special election to Congress. He immediately demonstrated his leadership talent and won the respect of his colleagues.

In 2003, he was elected as chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, where he served with distinction.

In 2011, he was elected by the Democratic Caucus as the ranking member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform; and, in January of this year, he became the chair of the committee.

At this difficult time in the history of our country, we were so fortunate to

have had Representative Cummings in the leadership of such an important and contentious committee. He fought passionately for the rights of children separated from their families; he fought for everyone to have healthcare and medications that are affordable; and he fought for everyone to have access and the right to vote.

Anyone who attended a committee hearing could feel his passion. Even if they disagreed with him, they knew his passion was based on his belief and a commitment to fight for justice. The respect he afforded his opponents demonstrated for everyone to see how to lead with integrity and humility.

Chairman Cummings once said: "I'm not trying to do anything extraordinary. I'm trying to do what the Constitution says I'm supposed to do."

Representative Cummings' passing is a loss to the entire Nation, especially at this moment in history where he provided for us all an example of true leadership—leadership for the people, not leadership for self-advancement. He provided an example for us all to emulate.

His memory will forever be in our hearts and his legacy is secured in history because, in spite of his word, he was, in fact, extraordinary.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chair for her timely remarks and for her leadership and compassion for our entire Congressional Black Caucus membership during this very difficult time.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN), the majority whip.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for leading this Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman of our caucus for giving us somewhat of a resume of the life of Elijah Cummings.

Most people know that Elijah Cummings' roots were deep in South Carolina soil. I happen to represent the county in which his parents were born. They came north to Baltimore, seeking a better life for their children. They were sharecroppers in the county that gave birth to Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas.

The interesting thing about the people of that community who formed the movement that spurred a national and, I dare say, international movement was the simplicity of their lives and their aspirations. The Brown case was not about integrating schools; it was about getting a schoolbus for their children.

The people who came together were people of modest means. The case got the name of Briggs v. Elliott. Harry Briggs was an ordinary man working at a filling station making \$23 a week; his wife, Eliza, making \$18 a week as a chambermaid in a motel. That is the community that Elijah Cummings' family left.

He came back to that community often, and we would talk about it: the

dreams and aspirations of his parents and what they instilled in him. They were both evangelicals.

Elijah took on the mantle of an evangelist. He didn't work to prepare people for the hereafter. He worked to prepare people for the here and now.

I have been approached by various media sources with the question: What is the legacy of ELIJAH CUMMINGS? It is a simple legacy that I hope all of us will remember.

First of all, it matters not where you come from. What really matters is how far you go.

He came to this body knowing full well that he was coming into a body where people stood on the shoulders of giants. He didn't set out to be a giant, but he became one. And we, today, are much better off because of ELIJAH CUMMINGS.

I often think about a long conversation Elijah and I had over near the wall. He told me, one day, about being placed in special education as a child. He told me what it was like when a teacher saw him and decided that the only thing special about Elijah Cummings was his inquisitiveness. He was inquisitive, a little bit too much for some people, and they thought, to get rid of him, they would put him in special education.

This teacher took him out of that class, and Elijah Cummings went on to graduate college Phi Beta Kappa, to finish law school, to become the first African American to head a position in the House of Delegates of Maryland, and to come here to this body and to chair a committee, a committee that he chaired with distinction and reverence.

We are going to miss Elijah Cummings. All of us in this body will stand upon his strong shoulders.

Thank you, Elijah. Thank you.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the majority whip for his heartfelt remarks and for sharing his personal reflections on his friendship and service with Chairman Cummings.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS), a civil rights icon and a man whom I am very honored to serve with in this body each and every day.

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a close, dear, and beloved friend, almost like a brother, Congressman Elijah Cummings.

This great man, this brother, spent 36 years in public service to his people, his home State, and to our country. He was a leader who loved this Nation, all of its people, and fought until his very last breath for those who had been left out and left behind.

He dedicated every single moment of his life to strengthening and preserving our Union. He spent every waking moment thinking of those who were hurting and suffering. He focused all of his energy into this Congress and the people we represent.

Mr. Speaker, it was an honor to know and to love him. It was an honor to

serve with him. It was a great honor to consider him my brother and my friend.

Sometimes people would confuse us and say: "Hello, Elijah," or, "Hello, JOHN LEWIS" to him, and we would joke about it. We would laugh about it.

Mr. Speaker, I say to the people in Maryland and people around our Nation and people around the world: We have lost a warrior. I don't think we will be so lucky or so blessed to see the likeness of this man again.

As a nation and as a people, we owe Chairman Cummings a debt of gratitude. There are no words to describe the loss of our brother, our friend, and our colleague who lived up to this great and powerful name. It hurts so deeply that all I can do is keep his wife, his family, and all who knew and loved him in my constant prayers.

Elijah, we hope to see you again one day. Blessed be your name.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, we as a body extend our sincerest condolences to Chairman Cummings' wife, Dr. Maya Rockeymoore; their children, grandchildren, friends, staff, and all those whom he positively impacted in his life and work.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

□ 2000

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend for yielding.

At times like these, my good friend who chaired the Oversight and Reform Committee, on which I also serve, was compelled to be a strong leader, but that is who Elijah was anyway.

Elijah Cummings was known for calling out his Republican colleagues on countless issues, from the Census to the treatment of children coming across the border.

Yet, Chairman Cummings always took a principled stand whenever he saw the strong against the weak. Elijah Cummings' strong sense of principle was reinforced by his commanding presence, booming voice, and convincing sense of rectitude.

Yet, the presence of the passing of Chairman Cummings drew widespread sympathy and comment from the very Republicans in this House he most opposed. It is Republicans who give the best witness to Chairman Cummings' resolute fairness. Even as he held the gavel, he always let his adversaries have their say. Afterward, of course, he took them all to the cleaners.

Tragically, we have lost Elijah Cummings when this House perhaps most needed his principled leadership.

Our Committee on Oversight and Reform, which he chaired, is one of the committees deeply involved in the impeachment inquiry. Almost every day, Republicans and Democrats are sitting in to hear testimony and ask questions of witnesses during this investigation stage of the impeachment inquiry.

Elijah Cummings' legendary evenhandedness will be most missed

and sought after by all who are looking for a role model and for best practices for the rare impeachment inquiry and, for that matter, hereafter.

Let us always remember our good friend, Elijah Cummings.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for sharing her remarks and reflections on his leadership.

He definitely had a presence as a dignified leader and chairman, and he personified what it really means to oversee his committee with civility and respect for each Member. I had the honor of serving on that committee during my first tenure in Congress, and I learned a lot and will continue to carry out that leadership.

I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Truly, this is the day that the Lord has made. In spite of the fact that our hearts are heavy, we must rejoice and be glad in it because we have the opportunity to celebrate the life of our longtime friend and our colleague, Congressman Elijah Cummings.

As you have heard, Elijah rose from modest beginnings to become one of the greatest public servants that our country has seen. Elijah always did what he believed was right, which earned him respect and friendship on both sides of the aisle. His courage, his passion, and his integrity were undeniable to anyone who crossed his path.

Elijah inspired us regularly as one of the greatest orators in this House. He came to my district in Georgia as a guest speaker, and when he finished, everyone was in awe. Elijah's powerful voice made everyone take notice, listen intently, and then act.

America has lost a fierce warrior who was committed to doing the right thing, regardless of politics. We will truly feel his absence in this House, where he spoke truth to power and passionately advocated for justice and equality for all.

My wife, Vivian, and I send our prayers and our deepest condolences to his wife, Maya, his children, and his family as we mourn this great man.

Winston Churchill once said: "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

Elijah Cummings gave so much to so many for so long. He made his life, but even greater, he made a life for his constituents and for countless others all across this Nation.

Truly, this world is a better place because of the life and legacy of Elijah Cummings.

To God, be the glory for our friend, our colleague, and the legacy of Elijah E. Cummings.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for again sharing his very heartfelt remarks.

This body tonight, it is very humbling to be here with each of the Members who have joined us, each one great in their own way.

As one of the new Members here in this body, it gives me great pride to be a part of the Congressional Black Caucus and to know that each and every Member has made such significant contributions, not just to their districts, but to the entire country.

I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH).

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

The Word of the Lord says in Psalm 116:15: "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

With that in mind, the people of the First Congressional District of Illinois have sent me here to extend their collective condolences to the family and friends of Elijah Eugene Cummings and to the citizens of the Seventh Congressional District of Maryland.

Elijah loved the Lord because the Lord first loved Elijah. How do I know this? I know this from the many times that we had discussions. Rarely in those discussions did we talk about anything other than the Gospel of Jesus Christ and how good the Lord has been to both Elijah and myself. I just stopped by the well of the U.S. House of Representatives this evening to tell somebody, to tell everybody, that the Lord is good and his mercy endures forever.

Our Nation shall surely miss the love, the compassion, the strength, the brilliance, the tireless dedication, and the amazing words of Elijah Eugene Cummings.

The Lord proclaims now to all who would hear his praise for Elijah and Elijah's work: Well done, my good and faithful servant. Well done.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman RUSH for his encouraging words, the Word that we know we needed, not just the day that we heard of the passing of Chairman Cummings, but the Word that continues to sustain us each and every day.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), chairman of the Education and Labor Committee, one of the big five, as we call them here in the Congressional Black Caucus.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the chorus of admirers of Elijah Cummings and to mourn the passing of our distinguished colleague.

Congressman Cummings served with passion for the rule of law, and always governed in a respectful manner, even when dealing with some of the most critical and controversial issues facing Congress today.

It is rightly noted that when Congressman Cummings spoke, he spoke with moral authority, frequently reminding us that "we are better than that."

He was an invaluable leader for civil rights, justice, and fundamental fairness. He believed in the promise of America and served as an example of it every single day. We are better off be-

cause of his leadership in Congress and the tremendous contributions he made over his life of service.

Mr. Speaker, I send my deepest condolences to Dr. Maya Rockey Moore Cummings, his three children, and all of his loved ones. I hope they will find comfort in knowing that so many people across the country are mourning their loss with them.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman and chairman of the Education and Labor Committee.

I yield to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON), the chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, another great chairman who governs with a steady hand and another example of the wonderful leadership that we have in this body.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I am happy to join my colleagues in paying tribute to Elijah Cummings.

We all have at least one Elijah Cummings story. Some of us have a lot more. But more importantly, it is how Elijah lived that we have to pay tribute to.

Elijah demonstrated every day not only that he loved the people of Baltimore, but he loved this great country. If we can just pattern our lives after Elijah Cummings' past, we will be fine.

To a great warrior, a great patriot, a great leader who, obviously, in a lot of our minds, was taken too short, we say God bless you. We understand that if we had anything to do with it, we would have kept you here. But it just wasn't in the plan.

So, departing, I say to you, as well as my colleagues: Elijah, we appreciate you. Your job here in this Congress speaks volumes. God bless you.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for coming to the floor and speaking on behalf of his experience and friendship with Chairman Cummings.

As the gentleman said, he really demonstrated a life worth living and an example, an embodiment, definitely for young people and young leaders of what they should do to exemplify a good role model.

I thank the gentleman for his remarks.

I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, to Elijah's wonderful wife and my friend, and to his children and family, we have said over and over again how much we will miss him, but we realize how much you will miss him.

Elijah Cummings was my classmate. He came in during a special election, but we always viewed each other as classmates coming in the mid-1990s.

His spirit was so strong that he was able to provide his own internal strength and also to provide strength for others.

I think we knew about Elijah's parents more than anyone else. He talked about Robert and Ruth Cummings not

only as sharecroppers but as preachers, and he talked about how they poured into his life.

Elijah was a successful man though he started with a designation that he was slow in school. He was a Phi Beta Kappa, becoming Maryland's first African American speaker pro temp.

□ 2015

But what I know most about him is that Elijah would not want us to talk about all of those successes. He probably wouldn't even want us to talk about his being the powerful chairman of the Oversight and Reform Committee or talk about his work in criminal justice and ban the box that we worked together on, or even when he took a whole group of Members over to Baltimore when he first got elected because of the scourge of HIV/AIDS. He wanted us to see it; he wanted us to stand with him; and he wanted to show his community that he was going to fight on their behalf.

What I love most about Elijah was that he mentored people anywhere he could find them on the floor of the House. We joined each other in wanting to mentor to young interns, and every time the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation called him to speak to the interns—I remember a time when John, Elijah, and I spoke to the class, and Elijah lifted them beyond anyone's expression or belief.

Elijah Cummings gave his maiden speech, and I want to give his words when he first came to the United States Congress. When I saw these, I said how powerful and potent.

Elijah Cummings said:

I only have a minute,
60 seconds in it.
Forced upon me, I did not choose it,
But I know that I must use it.
Give account if I abuse it,
Suffer, if I lose it.
Only a tiny little minute,
But eternity is in it.

So, as I close my remarks, being reminded that Elijah would not want us to give his whole litany of success, I began to think of the speech of Dr. Martin Luther King on the night before his death, when he reminded people that he wanted to be known as someone who tried to help someone. He said he feared no man.

When Elijah spoke and worked, and when he worked with Republicans, he did not fear them, but he brought them to him. He made peace, while he also fought for justice.

In the words of Dr. King in that last speech, he said: "When people get caught up with that which is right and they are willing to sacrifice for it, there is no stopping point short of victory."

I believe in this life our dear friend secured real victory for his people and his constituents, a victory for those who believe in justice and equality, and a victory for the people of the United States of America.

So, Elijah, the minute you had, the minute that was given to you, you did

not waste it, and you have gained eternity. As Dr. King said, you were the orchestrator of letting justice roll down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream. You were part of that justice and part of that victory. You didn't stop short. You only had a minute, but boy what you did do with that.

May God bless your soul, may you be in peace, may you R.I.P., and may we love you until we meet again.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Congressman HORSFORD of Nevada for anchoring this Special Order in remembrance of Chairman Elijah Cummings, the indefatigable champion of justice and equality, the Chairman of the House Committee on Oversight, the Member of Congress from the Seventh Congressional District of Maryland since April 16, 1996, and above all, the devoted and beloved son of Baltimore.

Chairman Elijah Cummings died Thursday, October 17, 2019 at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland; he was 68 years old.

On behalf of my family and the constituents of the 18th Congressional District of Texas, I offer my deepest sympathy and prayers to his family and friends. Mr. Speaker, our friend Elijah Cummings was in every sense of the word a statesman and a gentleman who believed in bipartisanship and treated everyone equally and respectfully.

Born January 18, 1951 in Baltimore, Maryland, to Robert and Ruth Cummings, South Carolina, sharecroppers who followed the Great Migration north to factory jobs in Baltimore, Elijah Eugene Cummings was the third of seven children.

After graduating from Baltimore City College High School in 1969, Elijah Cummings attended Howard University in Washington, D.C., where he was elected President of the student government and graduated in 1973 with a degree in political science, earning honors as Phi Beta Kappa.

Mr. Speaker, you may be interested to know that Elijah Cummings went on to earn a law degree from the University of Maryland School of Law.

Elijah Cummings' matriculation and graduation from the University of Maryland School of Law was poetic justice because a generation before it had denied admission to another son of Baltimore, the legendary Thurgood Marshall, who then went to the Howard University School of Law and later became the greatest social engineer and the architect and instrument of the strategy that defeated Jim Crow and toppled de jure segregation at the University of Maryland School of Law.

Elijah Cummings practiced law for 14 years in Baltimore and in 1982 he was elected to the House of Delegates of the Maryland General Assembly where he served for 14 years.

In the Maryland General Assembly, he served as Chairman of the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland and was the first African American in Maryland history to be named Speaker Pro Tempore, the second highest position in the House of Delegates, earning a reputation as a champion of progressive and liberal causes and constituencies and as a skilled census-builder.

Mr. Speaker, in 1996 when Congressman Kweisi Mfume resigned to assume the presidency of the United Negro College Fund, Elijah Cummings ran in and easily won the spe-

cial election created by the vacancy with 80 percent of the popular vote.

Elijah Cummings was re-elected to the 105th Congress and each of the succeeding Congresses until his untimely death, never winning with less than 70 percent of the vote.

In Elijah Cummings' maiden address as a member of Congress he vowed that he would make use of his limited time in Congress:

I only have a minute.

Sixty seconds in it.

Forced upon me, I did not choose it,

But I know that I must use it.

Give account if I abuse it.

Suffer, if I lose it.

Only a tiny little minute,

But eternity is in it.

Mr. Speaker, Elijah Cummings made good on that prophetic promise from the start.

As a Member of Congress, Elijah Cummings served on the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and on Oversight and Government Reform.

As a freshman member, Elijah Cummings championed and supported health care and labor legislation.

In 2003, Elijah Cummings was elected as Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus.

In the 112th Congress, Elijah Cummings was elected by his colleagues to be Ranking Member of what is now known as the Committee on Oversight and Reform and in the 115th Congress was appointed by the Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI to the Benghazi Committee.

One of my proudest moments was working with Elijah Cummings to secure passage of H.R. 1076, the Fair Chance Act, which would "ban the box" in federal hiring by restricting federal employers and contractors from asking about the criminal histories of applicants until the conditional offer stage.

The Fair Chance Act would give formerly incarcerated people a fair chance at a job and a piece of the American dream.

I was proud to have been able to work with Chairman Elijah Cummings in support of this legislation and other legislative goals of mutual interest and concern like reducing gun violence and eliminating unfair policing in communities of color.

Mr. Speaker, Elijah Cummings dedicated his life to serving and uplifting others and empowering the people he was sworn to represent; he was a man for and of the people, going to the streets and ensuring that their voices were heard.

Elijah Cummings received national attention in 2015 when he walked the streets of Baltimore, his notable bullhorn in hand, and pleaded for calm after riots erupted in his neighborhood after the funeral of Freddie Gray, a young black man who died in police custody.

Elijah Cummings took the issues of his constituents to heart; many of us recall how he fought for meaning in the death of young Deamonte Driver, a 12-year-old Maryland boy who died from an untreated tooth infection.

Elijah Cummings often said that "our children are the living messages that we send to a future we will never see" and was committed to ensuring that the next generation had access to quality healthcare and education, clean air and water, and a strong economy defined by fiscal responsibility.

Elijah Cummings had a servant's heart and was imbued with an ethic of service and inspired countless numbers of persons fight for their beliefs.

Unsurpassed was this native of Baltimore's love for his hometown.

That could also be seen by his response to the current President's belittling Baltimore and his congressional district as a "disgusting, rat and rodent infested mess" to which Elijah Cummings invited the President to join him in the important work of ensuring that all Americans had accessible, affordable, high quality health care.

Elijah Cummings' passion was not reserved for his district and the city of Baltimore; he also deeply loved his country.

As Ranking Member and the Chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, Elijah Cummings brought his intellect to what he called "the fight for the soul of our democracy."

Elijah Cummings deeply believed in our democratic system and values and worked tirelessly to preserve them and exhorted everyone to the same:

"When we're dancing with the angels, the question will be asked, in 2019, what did we do to make sure we kept our democracy intact? Did we stand on the sidelines and say nothing?"

In the words of his widow, Dr. Maya Rockey Moore Cummings, Elijah Cummings "worked until his last breath because he believed our democracy was the highest and best expression of our collective humanity and that our nation's diversity was our promise, not our problem."

Mr. Speaker, the life of Elijah Cummings is a testament to what a person of goodwill can accomplish with a servant's heart and the understanding that in the passion play of life you only have a minute, but all eternity is in it.

Elijah Cummings did not waste his minute of eternity.

Elijah Cummings will live forever in the hearts of the people of his hometown Baltimore, his state of Maryland, and the United States.

To his widow Maya, his children, and family and friends he loved and who loved him so dearly, my deepest sympathies go out to and I hope you find consolation in the certain knowledge that our beloved Elijah is now dancing with the angels.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), who is another great leader. She is one of the co-chairs of the Steering and Policy Committee for the House Democrats and a true champion on so many issues, particularly for women, children, and families.

Ms. LEE of California. First, Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I also want to thank our chair, Congresswoman KAREN BASS, and STACEY PLASKETT for leading this beautiful tribute tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight in honor of the life and legacy of Chairman Elijah Cummings, who was a great statesman and leader, but also a kind and gentle human being who led with both his head and his heart.

My heart is heavy tonight as I offer my deepest condolences to my friends, Dr. Maya Rockey Moore Cummings, the

entire family, his staff, and the people of Baltimore, whom he loved and served with courage and boldness.

Yes, he was a person of deep faith, which was that guiding light in everything that he did. Elijah was the son of two pastors, and he took care of his mother and his father in their last years on Earth.

Elijah had been a friend and adviser to me since I first came to Congress. When I was first elected, he gave me much-needed encouragement, knowing that I had come in a special election, replacing my mentor and my friend, the late great Congressman Ron Delums, who had some big shoes to fill.

But Elijah told me early on, he said: Hey, you have got to step out there, carve out your own agenda, and get out there and do your job, what you need to do to serve the people of your district.

He wanted to help me. We talked about how he could do that. He was the first Member of Congress—and he was so eager to do this—to visit my district early on in my tenure.

We had a town meeting on gun safety, mass incarceration, and criminal justice reform. I have to tell you, Mr. Speaker, my constituents were in awe. They also send their condolences this evening.

This was a defining moment for me as he lifted me up as a new Member of Congress in my district in a way that no one had, and he continued to support me and advise me on many important decisions.

Also, like Congresswoman JACKSON LEE, I had the privilege to be with Congressman Cummings in his district several times. The first time was when he invited CBC members to visit his HIV/AIDS clinics and other community organizations. It was so remarkable to see how people not only respected him as a great Member of Congress, but how they loved and connected with him as their brother who never lost touch with the people.

So Elijah will be remembered as a man who pulled no punches, was authentic to the core, and a champion for our democracy. The greatest tribute to his work will be for all of us to continue to stand and defend our democracy with the same passion, vigor, and determination that he had.

I will miss Elijah's wise counsel, his words of encouragement, his support, and his leadership.

May his legacy live on, and may he rest in peace and power.

I will miss you so much, Elijah. May God bless.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her heartfelt remarks.

Each one of us can tell our own story of our experiences and opportunities that we had to share with Chairman Cummings, and that is really the opportunity that we have tonight during this Special Order hour.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY), who is an-

other person with a great legacy, who continues to serve his constituents with dignity.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Nevada for yielding.

He was my chairman, my colleague, and my friend: the late great Elijah Cummings.

I not only had the good fortune of serving with Chairman Cummings, I also was blessed to get to know him well over the years. He was a powerful and passionate advocate for the city of Baltimore, which he loved so dearly.

I want to say that thousands of my constituents back in St. Louis have posted messages of condolence for Chairman Cummings' family. One of the most moving messages simply said this:

One of the nicest things that can be said about a man is that we believed him.

And that is the truth. Chairman Cummings fearlessly spoke truth to power, not to defeat an opponent, but to challenge us, to lift up this institution, and to give the American people a government that is as good and decent as they are.

I think the true measure of what Elijah Cummings meant to us was that, early last Thursday, when word of his untimely death began to spread, there were as many Republican tears as Democratic tears mourning the passing of this very good man in the spirit of compassion and reconciliation the Lord has endowed within each of us if we have the wisdom to seek it.

I want to extend my deepest sympathy to Chairman Cummings' family, and I want them to know that I share their grief. I have lost a brother, an American hero, and a true leader of this House.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Congressman for coming to the floor to share his remarks.

Many experiences have been shared from the Oversight and Reform Committee, from those who served on that committee, those who worked with Chairman Cummings on his staff. He was known to have one of the best staffs here in the House of Representatives, and it is partly because they got to work with such a great chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD), who is the former chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, let me thank Congressman HORSFORD for yielding this evening, and I thank him for his extraordinary leadership.

Elijah Cummings was my friend. Nearly every legislative day for the past 15 years, we talked about every subject you can imagine. Some of it consisted of small talk, but very often it consisted of serious conversations about our families and about our communities.

So, on behalf of my family and on behalf of the 750,000 people of the First Congressional District of North Caro-

lina, I extend condolences to the Cummings family and to the good people of Baltimore.

Mr. Speaker, several years ago, I shared with Congressman Cummings a very sad situation in my district involving an African American attorney who had suffered a debilitating stroke and was having financial problems. Immediately—immediately—Mr. Cummings said: I have great affection for Black lawyers who have served their community, and I am going to send him some money. And he did.

From time to time, I would see Mr. Cummings on national television on the talk shows. I would come back to the floor on Monday night or Tuesday night and I would sit next to him. I would compliment Mr. Cummings about his appearances on television and how he handled himself. I recall one day he told me that every minute that he is on television, he spent 1 hour preparing for that 1 minute. He was one for preparation.

I sat next to Congressman Cummings as he cast his last floor vote several weeks ago. He didn't know it was his last, but it was. He was seated right over where Ms. CLARKE is seated right now. As his staff assisted in getting him out of the chair, he looked at me that day and said: "I'm so sick. I love you, man."

I say to you tonight, Congressman Cummings: I love you; we love you; and America loves you.

Mr. Speaker, we celebrate a life well-lived. Elijah Eugene Cummings belongs to the ages.

Rest in peace, my brother, rest in peace.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman BUTTERFIELD again for sharing his stories of friendship and how Chairman Cummings really touched his life as an example to so many here in this body.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE), who is my good friend.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank our colleague, Chairwoman BASS, and our coleaders for this evening's Special Order hour, for providing this moment for us to reflect.

Let me start by saying, on behalf of myself, the Clarke family, and the people of the Ninth Congressional District of New York, I rise today to reflect upon the life and the legacy of the great chairman of the House Oversight and Reform Committee, Chairman Elijah Cummings, and express my heartfelt and deepest condolences to his wife, Maya Rockeymoore, his family, friends, constituents, and staff. Our great Nation is mourning and is in shock over the loss of a great man.

As one of seven children born to parents who were sharecroppers and, just as important, or maybe more importantly, pastors of the Gospel, it is safe to say that Chairman Cummings embodied the epitome of our ancestors' wildest dreams and most fervent prayers.

□ 2030

Chairman Cummings represented Baltimore, Maryland, with devotion, pride, dignity, and integrity, and dedicated his career to ensuring that his beloved community was never marginalized.

As chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, Mr. Cummings used his voice to protect our democracy, to protect our civil liberties, and indeed, our humanity and our Constitution until his very last breath, and we will forever be indebted to his lifelong dedication to public service.

He will be remembered as a steadfast, former chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, an advocate of the Congressional Black Caucus and black communities across this Nation who used his voice to elevate our colleagues in leadership positions and to mentor black staffers.

I recall when I was elected to the House of Representatives in the year 2006, I heard from all of the members of the New York Congressional Delegation, but I got a call from this gentleman from Baltimore, Maryland, with a thundering voice over the phone. That is when I knew I had made it, because I received a call from Elijah Cummings. And he offered his support, his mentoring, and his encouragement, and continued to do that every day that we served in this body together.

Let us all take comfort in knowing that Chairman Cummings' legacy will be forever ingrained in the halls of Congress through the next generation of leaders that his work impacted and inspired, and all of us who are his legacy keepers.

Chairman Cummings completed his mission. He is now, as he has said, dancing with the angels, and will go down in American history as a pillar in preserving our democracy and our core American values.

Words cannot express the void and loss that our collective community feels during this time of bereavement, but we must lift our heads and continue to walk in the light of Chairman Cummings' legacy. We are standing on the shoulders of a giant, and we will live out his mission of creating a better America for all, one where we pass on to our children and grandchildren a nation far greater than the one that we inherited.

May Chairman Elijah E. Cummings rest in peace and rise in glory. We will miss him dearly. I thank him.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman. It has been my great honor to coanchor this Special Order hour with my esteemed colleague, Congresswoman STACEY PLASKETT. And I want to, again, thank our chairwoman, KAREN BASS, for her effort in bringing forward this opportunity for us to all share our reflections.

And I just want to say, on my behalf, that Chairman Cummings stood up for, really, the most vulnerable in society, and supported policies to ensure that

the next generation of Americans have access to a clean environment, affordable housing, quality healthcare and education, and financial empowerment.

Congressman Cummings was a firm believer in the United States Constitution, who fought for equality for all Americans. It is certain that Chairman Cummings did everything in his power, and then some, to defend our country and its institutions, to keep our democracy alive and thriving, despite attacks from within. His legacy of leadership will continue to inspire us all, and his presence in Congress will surely be missed.

I hope now that he is resting in power and dancing with the angels, happily, with the knowledge that he set an example of resistance and perseverance, and that we will continue in his footsteps, we will carry on his spirit, and we will carry on his legacy.

I now turn this over to the coanchor for this Special Order, my colleague and good friend, Congresswoman STACEY PLASKETT from the U.S. Virgin Islands, and I yield back the balance of my time.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) for 30 minutes.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD), my colleague, for his support of the Congressional Black Caucus, and working with me in ensuring that the voices of Black America are heard here in the Congress.

At this time, I yield to the great gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) for his reflections of our colleague, Elijah Cummings.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) and the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD) for coanchoring this hour.

Elijah Cummings epitomized the virtues of honesty, dignity, decency, grace, and responsibility. He was committed to his family, to whom I offer my deepest condolences, and he was committed to his community. And Elijah was committed to being true to the oath that he took to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

He did so as chair of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform where he carried out the responsibilities of that office with great ability. Elijah Cummings wielded the gavel with the ability of a giant, but he was a quiet, unassuming, and a kindhearted man, and unafraid to sometimes walk alone.

Walking alone, Elijah saw more than many will ever see. That is why Elijah will continue to be our North Star. His light shines on in the dark night of his passing; his spirit and his example will live on in our hearts, to guide us as we

live, true to the oath we endeavor to uphold.

Shine on, Elijah Cummings, shine on. Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia for his reflections on our colleague, Elijah Cummings.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. RICHMOND), former chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, a good friend and colleague.

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the delegate from the Virgin Islands for cohosting this Special Order in honor of Elijah Cummings.

We all ask that question to the Lord: "What is required of thee?"

And the answer is simple: Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly with thy God.

That is exactly what Chairman Elijah Cummings did. He fought for justice every day, not just in the halls of Congress, not just in courtrooms, sometimes it was on the streets of Baltimore. When the community was protesting, he was out there fighting for justice.

He loved mercy. He fought for criminal justice reform every ounce and minute of his life, because he knew that we have to give people a second chance and that, but for the grace of God, who knows where anybody would be.

And then last, it was to walk humbly. Many people don't know this, but Elijah Cummings was one of the first Members of Congress to endorse me, because he was about lifting up the next generation. He knew that you don't have to blow out somebody else's candle for yours to shine brighter. And what he did all the time was light candles in the next generation so that they would assume the mantle of leadership and so that they would find their purpose in life.

So I would just end with this: Elijah Cummings was a man of purpose. It wasn't about politics. It wasn't about partisanship. It certainly wasn't about profits. It was about purpose. And the one thing that comforts me, and I am sure the entire Black Caucus, is that we know in our hearts that last Thursday, at 2:30 a.m., we know that Elijah Cummings heard these words: Well done, my good and faithful servant.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for those words.

Mr. RICHMOND, that happens to be my life scripture—Micah 6:8. That, I believe, was the scripture that the Lord gave me when I was in law school. I recognize that I had the honor of being a member of the committee in which Elijah Cummings sat, was the chair, and I was on that committee for 5 years now.

Mr. Cummings was a mentor to me. And to those who had a chance to interact with him and knew him more than just as a Member of Congress, he was a man of God. He lived and worked in Congress on Christian values. I think that scripture, Micah 6:8 exemplifies how he lived his life. It really exemplifies his Christian walk.

He was a man of great wisdom. And although he needed little protection, when I was on that committee, I viewed my role as not only being a consummate prosecutor and counselor but being on the front line. I remember I called and told him, I was almost gleeful, that I was going to be sitting in front of him, not because I thought that the camera would be there, but that I could watch his back from many of those coming at him from the front.

He always shook his head at my colorful language. Although, mind you, he did chuckle quietly at a lot of the things that I had to say. And he always counseled me to take care of my children first before any of this. "Take care of your family," he always said, "because at the end of the day, that is who you are going to have, even when you leave this job." But he also counseled me to go slow and steady, to "walk humbly," as Micah 6:8 says.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE), who sits with me on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. He represents his home of Newark, New Jersey, and I would ask him to reflect on the life and his times with Congressman Elijah Cummings.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, let me first thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT), my friend, for once again being here for this Special Order hour.

I first want to offer my condolences to Mrs. Maya Rockey Moore Cummings and her family on this immense loss.

I rise to honor a true American hero, Congressman Elijah Eugene Cummings, a strong man, a serious man, a man that was about the business of this Nation. Irrespective of whether it was on the streets of Baltimore or in the halls of Congress, he never wavered in his plight to make sure that the American people had the opportunities that everyone—everyone—should be afforded in this great Nation.

It is difficult to state just how immense this loss is to the people of his district, the State of Maryland, and the entire Nation. Congressman Cummings was a dedicated public servant who represented Maryland's Seventh District with honor and distinction for 23 years. But he was so much more than that. He was an icon, a leader, a statesman, a patriot, and the embodiment of the American Dream.

Yet, the real legacy of Congressman Cummings was his connection to the people of his district. It was quite common to find him at the corner grocery store, neighborhood church, and any other number of community functions. It gave him a level of respect that made him beloved in his district.

The esteemed congressman, JOHN LEWIS, once said of Mr. Cummings: "There was no greater friend to the poor, to the lost, to the left out and the left behind than Representative Cummings." Never have truer words been spoken about anyone. He was a great man, congressman, and most of all, a great American.

We had some of the same medical issues, so we spent many evenings on the phone talking him through what the next step would be in the process. And he said to me one day, he said, "Payne, I am scared." But he wasn't just scared about his health issues, he was scared about the direction that this Nation was going in. And to his very last existence, he was concerned about the people in his district and this country.

Mr. Speaker, I will miss him dearly. This Nation will miss him.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman has 20 minutes remaining.

□ 2045

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY).

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I have met many people in my life, but Elijah Cummings was steadfast and unmoving in his quest to protect our democracy.

He was my friend from day one. I was a lost freshman, trying to find my way to the Rayburn Building from Cannon. Not only did Elijah teach me how to read the numbers, but he walked me all the way to the Rayburn Building. Then he recommended a chief of staff to me, Kimberly Ross, who is with me today.

He was a mentor to me and so many. We texted often and talked about healthcare challenges and the challenges of our communities and this great Nation.

He cosponsored and saluted me for my work putting Harriet Tubman on the \$20 bill.

Elijah would often say his life was based on pain, passion, and purpose, which propelled him forward.

A few months ago, he keynoted an event in my district for his good friend, the Reverend Dr. Charles Booth's program, Bridges to the Future, for its 25th anniversary, although he was not feeling well himself. But Elijah was a friend to the end.

His unmatched ability to tap into the heart of the matter and find consensus that mattered was Elijah.

So, Elijah, my brother, my friend, my mentor, my colleague, I assure you, when times get tough, I will borrow your fighting spirit and harness the power to stand firm in the face of injustice.

My heart and prayers are with his wife and my friend, Maya; his children; his family; his constituents; and his staff.

Elijah, my friend, my colleague, rest in peace. Rest in power, my friend. I know you are dancing with the angels. God bless you.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her words.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms.

ADAMS), who, like Elijah Cummings, came to Congress first in a special election. I am happy to call her my classmate.

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands and also the gentlewoman from Nevada, Chairwoman BASS, and all who participated in organizing this event.

I rise to join other Members tonight to honor the life and career of one of this body's most effective lawmakers, one of the most tireless champions of the underprivileged, and a close and dear friend to us all, representative Elijah Cummings.

The 12th District of North Carolina extends condolences to his wife, his family, his extended family, and to the members of his district.

Elijah was one of our best examples of what it means to be a public servant. In Baltimore, he was not only his community's Member of Congress, but he was its voice, a recognizable and fervent product of the community that he represented.

When West Baltimore was hurting after the death of Freddie Gray, it was Representative Cummings who spoke the words of a grieving community.

When the President of the United States insulted his city, it was Representative Cummings who stood up and offered to show the President what Baltimore is really about.

This was the type of man and Member that Elijah Cummings was, an advocate for what was right.

He was an advocate for our youth, and he took a sincere interest in their success. I remain personally grateful to him for the support that he gave to my youngest grandson as he explored entrance and application to Howard University.

Elijah Cummings was always an advocate for what was right, or, as Dr. King would call it, he was indeed a drum major for justice. He earned the respect of men, women, and little children, and he made this world much better than he found it.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE), my very close classmate from the State of Michigan who is herself a tireless fighter for the rights of not only the people of Michigan but of women and people who are oppressed and who also sat and sit on the Committee on Oversight and Reform under the tutelage of Elijah Cummings.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, who has been a very close colleague as we have sat under the guidance and leadership of Elijah Cummings.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, to honor my chairman, Elijah Cummings.

This is an extremely difficult time for me because Chairman Cummings was more than a colleague; he was my mentor.

As a freshman, while serving on the House Committee on Oversight and Reform with Chairman Cummings, I came

to him with a litany of questions. He never turned me away. He was always receptive and always considerate. He would eventually explain to me how much he appreciated that I had put thought into the policies that I wanted to implement while serving in Congress.

It was then that this great man actually saw that I really cared for people, and he instructed me to continue doing the work because, when you really care, your constituents will see it and will appreciate it.

When I came to him during the Flint water crisis and told him we needed to look into this because people were being hurt, and children were being physically damaged, he was so determined to get to the truth.

I watched him serve in the majority and in the minority, and there were many times when this chairman, my Chairman Cummings, became the voice of reason within the Caucus and at the helm of the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

He was a consensus builder. He cut to the chase. And he was the person who worked across the aisle, never, ever putting anyone before the American people.

I will miss his bigger-than-life presence in our meetings. I will miss that booming voice, heaving incredible words of wisdom during our committee hearings. I will miss the intelligent and passionate questions and the astute observations that he would hurl at any of the combative witnesses.

I will miss the man who believed in the American experience, and he fought for this democracy with his last breath.

Most of all, I will miss the considerate, giant gentleman who was my mentor, Elijah Cummings.

This week, as we bid farewell to Baltimore's native son, I know he will be dancing with the angels, smiling down on us, saying to continue the fight and keep the faith because our democracy is worth the fight.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for those words.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. EVANS), representing Philadelphia.

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I thank our colleagues and members of the Congressional Black Caucus, under the leadership of KAREN BASS and both co-leaders here tonight, Congresswoman STACEY PLASKETT and STEVE HORSFORD, for their leadership.

Last week, I lost a friend and a colleague, and Baltimore, Maryland, and the United States lost a civil rights activist, a tireless activist and leader.

I had the privilege of knowing the chairman for many years, since we both served our State legislatures before coming to Congress. We represented districts. I represented a district in Philadelphia, and he represented a district in Baltimore. He got elected about 1982. I got elected in 1981.

We both had similar challenges. He did in Baltimore. I did in Philadelphia.

A few months ago, I saw the chairman here on the House floor, and I complimented him for being relentless in his commitment to civic participation.

I had the pleasure of sitting with him on my very first State of the Union Address. That day, we had the chance to talk about discussions and challenges that we both faced in major urban cities.

Today, I am glad I said something when I had the chance. I told him that I loved him. I told him that I loved him for all the things he had been doing and all the relentlessness he has shown.

Now, it is all up to us who are still in this fight to carry on, to make a difference.

So, Mr. Chairman, rest in power. We have to continue this fight.

Ms. PLASKETT. I thank Mr. EVANS, as one gentleman from a great American city paying tribute to another man from a great American city, as native sons. I thank him for those kind words and for the fight that we are all continuing to undertake on behalf of the people whom we represent in this great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS), who had the honor of being on the Oversight and Reform Committee with Mr. Cummings, for her remarks about that great American.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Dr. King once said the true measure of a man is not how he behaves in moments of comfort and convenience, but how he stands in times of challenge and controversy.

Last Congress, I had the honor of serving with Chairman Cummings on the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and he did not look for the easy way out. He never ran from controversy or challenge.

You see, Mr. Cummings was a true leader. Life is all about choices, Mr. Speaker, and true leaders have to make a lot of them.

We can live in fear of what man will say or do to us, or we can stand up and speak out for what we know in our hearts is right.

Elijah Cummings never failed to stand up and speak out. You see, he was a true leader.

We can follow the crowd no matter how wrong the crowd may be, or we can choose to be a drum major for justice. Elijah Cummings chose to be a drum major for justice.

Mr. Speaker, we can close our minds and our hearts, mentor no one, and share nothing with anyone. We can make life's journey all about us, or we can mentor, impart knowledge and wisdom, and look out for someone else and have their back.

Elijah Cummings was a mentor, a role model. He cared about us. And every day, we knew it.

Elijah Cummings had the Nation's back. For that, we are forever grateful to Chairman Elijah Cummings for a life well lived.

Ms. PLASKETT. I thank the gentlewoman for those powerful words.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Georgia (Mrs. MCBATH) for her tribute and words about Congressman Elijah Cummings.

Mrs. MCBATH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

I would like to begin by offering my deepest prayers to Congressman Cummings' wife and family and the Baltimore community. He was a solid voice of conscience and always offered a steady hand and sound wisdom.

He was one of the giants among us here in Congress.

Congressman Cummings was born the son of sharecroppers from Clarendon County, South Carolina, a county where children were forced to walk miles to attend segregated schools. The refusal of Clarendon County to provide buses for the Black children in that district became the court case *Briggs v. Elliott*, one of the five cases that would be decided under the shared designation of *Brown v. Board of Education*.

Remarkably, Congressman Cummings never forgot his roots. He spent his entire life as a fierce champion for justice and humanity. He boldly fought for civil and human rights with the strength given him by God.

His humility, his compassion, and his commitment were nothing short of inspiring.

□ 2100

I remember the times I would come in here on the floor and I would sit down next to him and he'd say: How are you doing today, kid?

And I would say: Well, you know, it is kind of rough being a freshman.

And he said: That is okay. Take care of your family. Stay focused. Stay clean. Do your work. Stay in the district, and you will be just fine.

Representative Cummings once said: When we are dancing with the angels, the question will be asked, what did we do to make sure that we kept our democracy intact?

Well, Representative Cummings, you moved mountains for democracy.

And so, now, as he dances with the angels in Heaven, we honor his lifelong fight for our democracy, his towering legacy, and his unwavering dedication to the United States of America and to the world. He will truly be missed.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. PRESSLEY), who also sat on the Oversight and Reform Committee under Mr. Cummings.

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands and the gentleman from Nevada and our chair, KAREN BASS, for organizing this Special Order.

What an honor and a privilege to spend my early months as a freshman Member of Congress in close proximity to a titan for justice and a force for good, someone who spent several decades as a truth-teller and a justice-

seeker, who, in his role as chair of the Committee on Oversight and Reform, knew that the best disinfectant is sunlight, and he shone a light on every injustice.

He was a patriot, tireless in his efforts to preserve our democracy, and a statesman of unwavering conviction. He challenged each of us to appeal to our better angels, to be decent, to be fair, to comport ourselves with the reverence and dignity this institution demands and our country deserves.

He was consistent and did that even in the face of great physical fatigue and, some days, perhaps, even a weary spirit, in the face of injustice and indignities. He often reminded us that it was our charge on the Committee on Oversight and Reform to be an efficient and effective pursuit of the truth.

His body has transitioned, but his instructive words ring resoundingly and true. He was a selfless servant and leader until the end.

One of the final pursuits of justice we took on together was to maintain access to lifesaving healthcare for our immigrant neighbors in the medical deferred action program. His staffer, Anthony, drove through the night to Baltimore so the chairman could sign subpoenas, advancing our fight together.

Truly, in life, all you have is your name and your word, and when it comes to Elijah Cummings, both were good.

Until the very end, the chairman would stop my staff and me in the hallways, and he would say: Are you keeping up the fight?

He knew the fight was greater than one man or one mission or one legislative act. The pursuit of justice is not a box you simply check. So we continue in that pursuit, following in the footsteps of a giant.

No one can fill your shoes, but we will pick up the torch and press forward with your moral clarity as our roadmap and your vision as our charge. We will keep up the fight.

To my forever chairman, Elijah Cummings, rest in power.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I just want to close my portion of this by stating that, when it came to a notion of democracy, Chairman Cummings, in his speeches, insistentlly invoked it, and not in the inert way that elected officials tend to do.

He spoke of democracy as something vital and fragile and valuable, an inheritance that had to be safeguarded for future generations. He said that to all of us who sat under him in his chairmanship and ensured that we brought that passion and that desire to do the best for this democracy that our bodies could do.

So I thank him for that. I thank him for everything that he has been to all of us.

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

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE) for 30 minutes.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and my privilege to continue the CBC's Special Order hour, and we are going to call this portion CBC and friends.

It is my honor now to yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN), one who has served alongside the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings throughout his tenure here and I know would like to bring forth his very special remarks and reflections at this time.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise, yes, to mourn his death, but I also rise to celebrate his life, because it was a life worthy of great celebration.

I rise understanding that, yes, he was brilliant. He was a Phi Beta Kappa with some 13 doctoral degrees, but he did not allow his brilliance to outshine his goodness.

His goodness was such that he was one who cared for the least, the last, and the lost. He was there for those whom we consider the least among us, those who were not born into plenty but, rather, into poverty.

He was there for those who were the last, the last hired and the first fired. He fought for jobs for them.

He was there for those who are lost, lost in poverty in the richest country in the world, and he fought to elevate their lives; those lost in chemical abuse, he was there to help them acquire healthcare.

He was truly a person who made a difference in the lives of people whom he never had the opportunity to meet and greet.

So I mourn his passing, but I celebrate his living.

And while I am sure there are many who will say that he left too soon, I can only say this: We had him for 68 years, and I am grateful for that 68 years.

God bless you, dear brother. You were a wise warrior and a seeker of peace. And while you may not be with us physically, your spirit will endure forever.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Houston for sharing those very inspiring, uplifting comments about our dear, beloved colleague at this time.

It is important for us, as we go through the stages of mourning, to recognize, as he has stated, rightly stated, that we were fortunate to have Elijah Cummings with us for 68 years—his family, his friends, even longer—and during the 68 years, we were fortunate to have him as part of our family here in the Congressional Black Caucus and in the Halls of Congress.

In that time, he was able to accomplish so much through his God-given talents and abilities that he has become well-known not only here in the United States, but around the world.

I am hearing from members of the Caribbean community who have read about and heard about the passing of Elijah Cummings, all of whom have reached out to share with me their comments and their condolences because they understand what Elijah has meant not only to the United States House of Representatives, United States Congress, but, indeed, because he was a world-class leader.

Mr. Speaker, I have some friends and colleagues of the honorable chairman of the Oversight and Reform Committee who would like to say a few words, if you will, about our great colleague.

It is my honor, at this time, to yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN), my classmate and colleague, a member of the Oversight and Reform Committee and the Judiciary Committee, to give his remarks.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I was just walking back to my office and I saw on the video this memorial service, this celebration of life, and I wanted to come listen. It has been inspiring for me, so many appropriate remarks made about this great man.

I feel privileged just to stand here at the podium where he spoke and next to his photograph just as I felt privileged to know him and become a friend, and where we spoke over here when he was in the wheelchair and in the Speaker's lobby before votes and during votes.

When I was home this weekend, more people came up to me in Memphis, and people on social media, and expressed their condolences, their appreciation of his life and their knowledge that the Congress had lost a person who was irreplaceable.

Elijah Cummings was one of the great people that I have had the opportunity to interact with in my life, in Congress, and in other places.

Truly, a giant has fallen. He had grace. He had knowledge. He had judgment. He had character.

It has been spoken, and I remember seeing him on television walking in Baltimore at some risk to himself, during the riots, to help bring calm to Baltimore, leadership where he put his community first and his safety second.

He talked about: We are better than this. Well, we are better than this, and, hopefully, one day, we will be as good as him.

He knew that we were only here for a minute and you should make that time worthwhile, and he made it worthwhile.

Friday, a week ago, the last Friday that Elijah was in our caucus, we had a caucus conference call, and the discussion toward the end was about the Congress' issuance of subpoenas and the attempt to get them enforced through the courts.

I believe Elijah was the last person to speak on the call, and when he spoke, it was like hearing the voice of God. He said that these cases will go through the courts, and they will be appealed, and they will eventually be appealed to

the Supreme Court, and, at that point, our democracy will be in the balance.

He was right, and those were his last words to the caucus.

He cared about democracy. He cared about this Congress. He cared about the Constitution.

And even when President Trump degraded his city, he was gracious in his response and never was in any way defensive or attacking the President.

Elijah Cummings would stop you and give you a word of encouragement to keep going. He was one of the great people to serve in the Congress. I am just blessed to have my life interface with his. I will miss him greatly.

I also extend my condolences to his family, and I hope I get the chance to serve along with his wife.

□ 2115

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee for sharing his insight and his own personal experiences with our dear colleague, Elijah Cummings, who touched so many lives, Members here in Congress, the members of their family, our own constituents.

Like Mr. COHEN, so many people in my district were reaching out and expressing their condolences and sharing their stories with me this past week. I attended a church service where, again, people talked about Elijah Cummings. His influence has gone far and wide, and I think that the values that he held about our democracy are reverberating, and that should give us all great heart to move forward and press forward as we fight the battle to preserve our democracy and lift up the Constitution and rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH), another colleague and also another classmate of mine, who has joined us and would like to share his sentiments, his insights into the life of Elijah Cummings and his interactions with our dear colleague.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I thank my classmate for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, it has been so wonderful to be sitting here listening to members of the Congressional Black Caucus talk about their work, their friendship, their respect for a giant who walked among us, and of course, that is Elijah Cummings.

The Congressional Black Caucus is regarded by many, myself included, as the conscience of this Congress. And there was no better representative of that conscience than Elijah Cummings, who served for a couple of years as the chair of the Black Caucus. All of us who served with Elijah are better for it and have fond memories and great appreciation for our friendship and admiration for him.

I was quite lucky because I have served with Elijah on the Oversight and Reform Committee for 13 years. So in those committees, along with you my friend, Representative CLARKE, we really got to see Elijah face a lot of very tough situations.

I am going to make it a little bit personal here about some of my vivid experiences I have had with Elijah. Elijah and I worked very hard on the drug bill that is now going to be named in his honor to provide the government with the ability to negotiate lower prices so that the people he represents, and we all represent, can get the drugs they need.

Shortly after President Trump was elected, I think it was April of 2017, the President invited Elijah to the White House to talk about prescription drugs. Since I had been working with Elijah on this for years, Elijah invited me. I kind of crashed the party.

Number one, how many of our colleagues would invite a junior Member to a White House meeting just because the two of us had been working on the issue together? I would like to say all of us would. Elijah did.

We went to the White House, and we talked a lot with the President about the prescription drug negotiation bill. But in the course of the conversation, the President expressed dismay about where Elijah lived. This was before the President was saying the horrible things about that community with rats and rodents and all the other things. He was genuinely dismayed that a person in Congress could live in a community that the President just didn't think that he could ever live.

And I remember Elijah was dismayed that anybody, including the President of the United States, didn't understand how wonderful the people were in that community, how dignified they were, how they faced adversity every single day, how they helped one another get up when somebody fell down. Elijah was astonished. He lived in the best place in the world. That was what Elijah conveyed to the President. And Elijah conveyed that he represented the best people in the world. That was Elijah Cummings.

I remember the topic was prescription drugs, and Elijah was quite disciplined. You know, the topic is the topic, we will get to the business at hand. But the question of voter fraud came up, and in the way that only Elijah can do, where he is not intimidated but he is not showing off—and it is a fine balance—he just said in his direct way, we don't have a problem with voter fraud. We have a problem with voter suppression.

And to be in the presence of this man in the Oval Office where there was no artifice to Elijah's presence, there was no sense from Elijah of disrespect for the office, certainly, even though he disagreed with the President on so many things, but it was no different for Elijah than if he was in a local diner in Baltimore talking to the people he represented; he was direct, to the point, and empathetic to the concerns of the people that he represented.

So it was just a wonderful opportunity for me to see a great man in action. It is how he lived. It wasn't like he had to think about it. It wasn't like

he had to calculate anything. He was present in that moment. He was present in that moment as he was present every moment of the day. It was there for the people he represented. He conveyed the immense appreciation and respect for the dignity of the people he represented and the humility that he felt that he had been given this opportunity to be their Member of Congress, a special man.

The memory of Elijah for all of us will sustain us through difficult times, and may his example be the one we aspire to follow.

I thank my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus for this wonderful tribute to a wonderful leader from the ranks of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Vermont for sharing his insight as a member of the committee led by the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings.

As we wind down here this evening, there are a couple of things that have been a running theme among our colleagues this evening, and it is sort of the quiet thunder, the strength, the dignity, the integrity of the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings. And I thought about the fact that still waters run deep. He wasn't a boisterous person, a showboater, but he knew how to command the moral authority that moves a Nation. Whether it was voting rights or civil rights, whether it was the children of Flint or the children of the border, whether it was preserving this democracy and making sure that the rule of law stands above all else in the Constitution of the United States, we could turn to our North Star, Elijah E. Cummings to be a champion, to be a voice, to be the compass that led this Congress into the next level of integrity that we need to move this Nation forward.

And so, we are honored this evening that so many colleagues have taken the time to be here in tribute to the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings. We again want to, on behalf of the members of the Congressional Black Caucus and colleagues of the wider body, express our heartfelt condolences to Maya Rokeymoore, the family, the constituents of Maryland's Seventh District, as well as the very dedicated staff of the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings.

Congressman Cummings will never be forgotten. As I stated in my comments, we are legacy keepers, and so everything that we have been taught and learned from Elijah will be applied in the days ahead as he would have us do.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a great leader, legislator and servant of the people. A man of principle and unyielding resolve to be the voice of the people; Congressman Elijah Eugene Cummings.

A native of Baltimore, Maryland, Congressman Cummings maintained an unbreakable bond to the community that raised him, fighting for the people he loved every day.

From his days as Speaker pro tempore of the Maryland House of Delegates, to becoming Chairman of the powerful House Committee on Oversight and Reform of the U.S. Congress, Congressman Cummings defended the less fortunate by ensuring federal government programs were meeting the needs of the people of his district and this country. He became a powerful voice for equality and opportunity, a tireless advocate for affordable healthcare, quality education, civil rights, and criminal justice reform.

Congressman Cummings committed himself to civil rights advocacy and social justice. He was known as the gentleman who “will not yield” when it comes to educating our children, protecting communities of color, and migrant families. As his colleague, it was no surprise to see him take to the streets to extinguish the flames of outrage sparked by racism and excessive violence by law enforcement in his hometown. He will forever be remembered as a calming spirit in a time of civil unrest in the city of Baltimore.

Congressman Cummings’ lifetime of public service was defined by compassion, integrity, and a commitment to empowering the people he was sworn to represent. His presence will be sorely missed. His legacy of leadership will continue to be an inspiration to us all. It was an honor to know him, and call him friend.

Elijah was a man of great and unwavering faith. I can imagine, as he was making his transition early last Thursday morning, he sang the words of the old hymn, “Oh, I want to see Him, look upon His face; There to sing forever of His saving grace; On the streets of glory let me lift my voice; Cares all past, home at last, ever to rejoice.”

Farewell my friend. Another soldier gone home.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, last week, we lost the earthly man Elijah Cummings. Most of the country and many around the world knew him as a member of Congress from the city of Baltimore. He was a fierce fighter for the forgotten, a sworn opponent of hunger, poverty, abuse and addiction and a relentless advocate for civil rights. Chairman Cummings was a driven man, a person who pushed for what was right because he believed in the supreme responsibility of elected officials to advocate for those we represent.

I have the honor of being a member of the Committee he chaired for 5 years. Congressman Cummings was a mentor to me. I and those who had a chance to interact with him knew him as more than a Member of Congress. More importantly, he was a man of God. He lived and worked in Congress on Christian values.

He was a man of great wisdom and, although he needed little protection, I viewed my role on the Committee as not only being the

consummate prosecutor and counselor but as a frontline and protector to this gentleman. With a booming voice and speaking cadence that hinted of the pulpit—his parents were preachers—Chairman Cummings was a compelling figure on Capitol Hill for more than two decades, repeatedly re-elected by voters in Maryland’s Seventh Congressional District, which covers much of Baltimore, including a section of the city with more than its share of social problems. He campaigned tirelessly for stricter gun control laws and was a consummate voice for those addicted to drugs. He was at times gruff, but always respected. But, it was as Chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform—the panel charged with maintaining integrity in government—that Chairman Cummings may have left his most legacy.

When it came to the notion of democracy, Chairman Cummings, in his speeches—particularly those he gave in the past few years—insistently invoked it, and not in the inert way that elected officials tend to. He spoke of democracy as something vital and fragile and valuable—an inheritance that had to be safeguarded for future generations. When he spoke of HR–1, the exhaustive election-protection bill that the Democrats introduced in January as their first piece of legislation of this Congress, he mentioned his ninety-two-year-old mother, who had died a year earlier. She was a former sharecropper, who implored him, “Do not let them take our votes away from us.” He viewed his Chairmanship of the House Oversight and Reform Committee as part of the battle to protect voting rights. What remains clear is the void that Chairman Cummings’s absence leaves in his district and his country. This would have been the case at nearly any point in his quarter century in Congress. But it’s even more acute in this one. In a fiery bit of oration delivered at the introduction of HR–1, he pledged to “fight to the death” in defense of voting and, thereby, democracy. It was a promise that he made good on.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to memorialize the life of an honorable statesman and dear friend, Congressman Elijah Cummings.

Congressman Cummings graduated from Baltimore City College High School before attending Howard University, where he earned a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science. At Howard, he served as the president of the student government and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the oldest academic honor society in the United States. He continued his studies at the University of Maryland School of Law and went on to be admitted to the Maryland Bar Association.

Congressman Cummings was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in 1982, where he served for 16 years. As a Member of the House of Delegates, he was elected as the first African American Speaker Pro Tempore in the state’s history and was selected as Chairman of the Legislative Black Caucus. Following the conclusion of his service in the state legislature, Congressman Cummings was entrusted to represent the constituents of the 7th District of Maryland in the United States House of Representatives, where he had served dutifully since.

During his tenure in the House of Representatives, Congressman Cummings championed issues including civil rights, access to

affordable healthcare, and congressional oversight, to name a few. He has served as Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus in the 108th Congress and Ranking Member of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform. At the time of his passing, he was Chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform and a senior Member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Congressman Cummings was a faithful member of the Baltimore community above everything else. He served on many local boards, including the U.S. Naval Academy Board of Visitors, the University of Maryland Board of Advisors, and the SEED School of Maryland Board of Directors. In addition, he was an Honorary Board Member of KIPP Baltimore Schools and the Baltimore School for the Arts.

Mr. Speaker, I join with Members of Congress in extending our sympathies to Congressman Cummings’ wife, Maya Rockey Moore Cummings, his family, and to all who had the great pleasure of knowing him. The legacy of Congressman Cummings will endure in this great institution, as those that live in the hearts of others never truly perish. May he rest in peace.

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Congressman Elijah Cummings, a friend, mentor, patriot and titan of the House of Representatives.

Congressman Cummings was a giant among us who led with his heart and governed with the love of his district and our country. He worked until his very last breath for the good of our nation because he believed in the power of the American people to make our country a better place for our children to live and prosper.

After all, Congressman Cummings knew firsthand the power of the American dream. The son of sharecroppers, he grew up to graduate Phi Beta Kappa from Howard University, receive his law degree from the University of Maryland and go on to serve his beloved home of Baltimore in both the state legislature and in Congress.

Day in and day out, Congressman Cummings fought to ensure our government worked for the people, providing the tools to help Americans succeed and the opportunities to make their dreams a reality. He understood that patriotism is not looking at our nation’s past through rosy glasses and a revisionist history, but rather that it is having the courage to examine more closely those areas that are broken and believing in the power of our system to fix them.

Social justice was in his blood—when he was just 11 years old, he and his friends worked to integrate a segregated swimming pool in his native Baltimore. I was honored to work with him closely to ensure every American is able to cast his or her ballot on election day. And he fought passionately against forces that undermine the integrity of our democracy and the principles upon which our nation was founded.

Congressman Cummings will be forever missed, but his legacy lives on and continues to inspire us to live our lives for the benefit of others—and the good of our nation.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today.

Ms. HAALAND (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of flight canceled.

Mr. MCEACHIN (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for September 9 until October 23.

EXPENDITURES BY THE OFFICE
OF GENERAL COUNSEL UNDER
HOUSE RESOLUTION 6, 116TH
CONGRESS

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE
ADMINISTRATION,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 21, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 302(c) of House Resolution 6 (116th Congress) I hereby submit the attached statement "setting forth the aggregate amounts expended by the Office of General Counsel on outside counsel and other experts pursuant to this title on a quarterly basis" for the quarter beginning on July 1, 2019 and ending on September 30, 2019, for publication in the Congressional Record.

Sincerely,

ZOE LOFGREN,
Chairperson.

AGGREGATE AMOUNT EXPENDED ON OUTSIDE COUNSEL
OR OTHER EXPERTS
(H. RES. 6)

January 1–March 31, 2019	\$0.00
April 1–June 30, 2019	0.00
July 1–September 30, 2019	0.00
Total	0.00

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 2635. An act to require the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to declassify any and all information relating to whether the government of Saudi Arabia assisted a citizen or national of Saudi Arabia in departing the United States while the citizen or national was awaiting trial or sentencing for a criminal offense committed in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker pro tempore, Mr. RASKIN, on Friday, October 18, 2019, announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 1196.—An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1715 Linnerud Drive in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, as the "Fire Captain Cory Barr Post Office Building".

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the

House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, October 22, 2019, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO
LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 4406, the Small Business Development Centers Improvement Act of 2019, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

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

2680. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's notification of its 2019 compensation program adjustments, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1833b(a); Public Law 101-73, Sec. 1206(a); (103 Stat. 523); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2681. A letter from the Director, Regulations Management Team, Rural Development, Rural Housing Service, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Major notice — Community Facilities Guaranteed Loan Program Guarantee Fee Rate, Annual Renewal Fee, Rural Area Definition, and Funding Priority for Fiscal Year 2020; and Water and Waste Disposal Programs Guaranteed Rural Area Definition and Funding Reservation for Fiscal Year 2020 received October 10, 2019, 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.

2682. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's Major non-regulatory guidance — Title 1, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as Amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act: Providing Equitable Services to Eligible Private School Children, Teachers, and Families received October 17, 2109, 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.

2683. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report entitled, "Evaluation of the Medicaid Emergency Psychiatric Demonstration (MEPD): Report to Congress (RTC)", pursuant to Public Law 114-255, Sec. 12004(b); (130 Stat. 1275); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2684. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report entitled "Harmonization of Differences Between the Department of Health and Human Services' Human Subject Regulations and the Food and Drug Administration's Human Subject Regulations", pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 289 note; Public Law 114-255, Sec. 3023(e); (130 Stat. 1098); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2685. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances (17-5) [EPA-

HQ-OPPT-2018-0567; FRL-10000-42] (RIN: 2070-AB27) received October 10, 2019, 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.

2686. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final authorization — North Carolina: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions [EPA-R04-RCRA-2019-0425; FRL-10001-05-Region 4] received October 10, 2019, 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.

2687. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report covering the period from May 11, 2019 to July 10, 2019, on the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1541 note; Public Law 107-243, Sec. 4(a); (116 Stat. 1501) and 50 U.S.C. 1541 note; Public Law 102-1, Sec. 3 (as amended by Public Law 106-113, Sec. 1000(a)(7)); (113 Stat. 1501A-422); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2688. A letter from the Acting Director, International Cooperation, Acquisition and Sustainment, Department of Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 18-19, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Executive Order 13637; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2689. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. RSAT-19-6937, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2690. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. RSAT-16-5363, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2691. A letter from the Chairman, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, transmitting notification that the Annual Report on Commercial Activities at the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for Fiscal Year 2017 has been posted on the Open Government page of the Board's public website, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 501 note; Public Law 105-270, Sec. 2(c)(1)(A); (112 Stat. 2382); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

2692. A letter from the Associate Director for Legislative Affairs, Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, Department of Commerce, transmitting a copy of the request regarding the Department of Commerce's report to Congress on Fiscal Year 2017, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 501 note; Public Law 105-270, Sec. 2(c)(1)(A); (112 Stat. 2382); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

2693. A letter from the Director, OCFO-Transparency and Accountability Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension [0505-AA17] received October 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2694. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Gulf of Alaska; Final 2019 and 2020 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish; Correction [Docket No.: 180831813-9332-03] (RIN: 0648-XG471) received October 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public

Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2695. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's interim final rule — International Fisheries; Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; Fishing Restrictions in Purse Seine Fisheries [Docket No.: 190220141-9141-01] (RIN: 0648-BI78) received October 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2696. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final temporary rule — Temporary Rule To Establish Management Measures for Red Grouper in the Gulf of Mexico [Docket No.: 190213109-9385-02] (RIN: 0648-BI63) received October 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2697. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Adjustment of Georges Bank and Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic Yellowtail Flounder Annual Catch Limits [Docket No.: 190220138-9138-01] (RIN: 0648-XG833) received October 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2698. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Affairs, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Groupers Fishery of the South Atlantic Region; Abbreviated Framework Amendment 2 [Docket No.: 181019966-9244-02] (RIN: 0648-BI56) received October 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2699. A letter from the Register of Copyrights and Director, U.S. Copyright Office, transmitting a schedule and analysis of proposed fees for Copyright Office Services, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. 708(b); Public Law 94-553, Sec. 101(b) (as amended by Public Law 106-379, Sec. 3(a)(3)); (114 Stat. 1445); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2700. A letter from the Associate Director for Legislative Affairs, Department of Commerce, transmitting the FY 2018 Annual Report on Small Entity Compliance Guides; to the Committee on Small Business.

2701. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final regulations and removal of temporary regulations — Liabilities Recognized as Recourse Partnership Liabilities under Section 752 [TD 9877] (RIN: 1545-BM83) received October 10, 2019, 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.

2702. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final regulations and removal of temporary regulations — Removal of Temporary Regulations on a Partner's Share of a Partnership Liability for Disguised Sale Purposes [TD 9876] (RIN: 1545-BO05) received October 10, 2019, 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.

2703. A letter from the General Counsel, Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, transmitting a Biennial Report — Americans with Disabilities Act Public Services and Accommodations Inspections — 114th Congress, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 1341(e)(2); Public Law 104-1, Sec. 215(e)(2) (as amended by Public Law 108-271, Sec. 8(b)); (118 Stat. 814); jointly to the Committees on House Administration and Education and Labor.

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:

Ms. WATERS: Committee on Financial Services, H.R. 2514. A bill to make reforms to the Federal Bank Secrecy Act and anti-money laundering laws, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116-245, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. LOFGREN: Committee on House Administration H.R. 4617. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to clarify the obligation to report acts of foreign election influence and require implementation of compliance and reporting systems by Federal campaigns to detect and report such acts, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116-246, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PERLMUTTER: Committee on Rules. H. Res. 646. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2513) to ensure that persons who form corporations or limited liability companies in the United States disclose the beneficial owners of those corporations or limited liability companies, in order to prevent wrongdoers from exploiting United States corporations and limited liability companies for criminal gain, to assist law enforcement in detecting, preventing, and punishing terrorism, money laundering, and other misconduct involving United States corporations and limited liability companies, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-247). Referred to the House Calendar.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, Committee on Ways and Means discharged from further consideration. H.R. 2514 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 4617 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. MCHENRY:

H.R. 4767. A bill to promote innovation in financial services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, 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. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Mr. NEAL, Mr. DOGGETT,

Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. EVANS, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LEWIS, Ms. MOORE, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, and Mr. SUOZZI):

H.R. 4768. A bill to amend section 511 of the Social Security Act to reduce maternal mortality by continuing to invest in evidence-based home visiting models that are addressing the social determinants of maternal health and morbidity; to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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 Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 4769. A bill to amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to deliver a meaningful benefit and lower prescription drug prices under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. BAIRD (for himself and Mr. HARDER of California):

H.R. 4770. A bill to revise and improve the advisory committees of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. CUNNINGHAM (for himself and Mr. KATKO):

H.R. 4771. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to permit appellants to appear in disability compensation cases before the Board of Veterans' Appeals by picture and voice transmission from locations other than facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 4772. A bill to provide for the protection of proprietary information provided to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mr. LUCAS, and Ms. CHENEY):

H.R. 4773. A bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to make grants for the purpose of improving the farm management knowledge and skills of livestock producers; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. KHANNA:

H.R. 4774. A bill to amend section 3554(a)(4) of title 44, United States Code, to direct the head of each agency to ensure Federal employees are trained in cyber security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. TED LIEU of California:

H.R. 4775. A bill to limit the amount of expenditure on Presidential travel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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 Ms. NORTON (for herself and Mr. EVANS):

H.R. 4776. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to establish a competitive grant program to award grants to local educational agencies to address implicit bias in elementary and secondary schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. VAN DREW (for himself, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. STEUBE, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. CRENSHAW):

H.R. 4777. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require States to take steps to ensure domestic ownership and control of election service providers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. BIGGS:

H. Res. 647. A resolution raising a question of the privileges of the House.

By Ms. NORTON:

H. Res. 648. A resolution honoring the lives, work, and sacrifice of Joseph Curseen, Jr., and Thomas Morris, Jr., the 2 United States Postal Service employees who died as a result of their contact with anthrax while working at the United States Postal Facility located at 900 Brentwood Road, NE, Washington, DC, during the anthrax attack in the fall of 2001; United States Postal Service employees, who have continued to work diligently in service to the people of the United States notwithstanding the anthrax attack; as well as the other 3 Americans who died and the 17 who became ill in the attack; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. SIREs):

H. Res. 649. A resolution expressing the support of the United States for the grassroots development programs the Inter-American Foundation has undertaken for the past 50 years; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

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. McHENRY:

H.R. 4767.

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

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence . . . of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts, Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 4768.

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

Section 8, Article 1: to provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 4769.

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

The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. BAIRD:

H.R. 4770.

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

Pursuant to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3, Congress has the authority to regulate foreign and interstate commerce. In addition, Congress has the power to make all Laws necessary and proper to carry out all other of its vested powers pursuant to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mr. CUNNINGHAM:

H.R. 4771.

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

Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 1 "The Congress shall have Power To . . . provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States;"

Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 18 "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. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 4772.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 4773.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. KHANNA:

H.R. 4774.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. TED LIEU of California:

H.R. 4775.

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

Article I Section VIII

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 4776.

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

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. VAN DREW:

H.R. 4777.

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

Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 3: Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. CRIST, Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Ms. SCHRIER, and Mr. CUELLAR.

H.R. 38: Mr. RICE of South Carolina.

H.R. 94: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.

H.R. 141: Mr. ROSE of New York and Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico.

H.R. 435: Mr. EVANS and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 464: Mrs. BUSTOS.

H.R. 510: Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. DEAN, Mr. VISCLOSKEY, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, and Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 553: Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio.

H.R. 568: Mr. POCAN, Mr. BAIRD, and Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 598: Mr. TAYLOR and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

H.R. 616: Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina.

H.R. 647: Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 649: Mrs. DAVIS of California and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 651: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.

H.R. 655: Mrs. LURIA.

H.R. 663: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 724: Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. RUIZ, and Mr. TAYLOR.

H.R. 726: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 737: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico and Mr. LAMALFA.

H.R. 741: Mr. RICE of South Carolina.

H.R. 763: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.

H.R. 827: Mr. CASE.

H.R. 865: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. LEWIS, and Mr. FOSTER.

H.R. 871: Mr. MORELLE.

H.R. 874: Mr. SIREs.

H.R. 879: Mr. CISNEROS.

H.R. 884: Mr. RUTHERFORD and Mr. LUJÁN.

H.R. 886: Mr. MORELLE.

H.R. 912: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

H.R. 935: Mr. SABLÁN.

H.R. 945: Ms. TITUS.

H.R. 1030: Ms. UNDERWOOD.

H.R. 1034: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 1042: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, and Mr. CROW.

H.R. 1066: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 1109: Mr. DEUTCH.

H.R. 1140: Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. FUDGE, and Mr. STANTON.

H.R. 1153: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 1154: Ms. ESHOO and Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 1175: Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. SPANBERGER,

Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. HARRIS, Mrs. LAWRENCE,

Ms. ADAMS, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. VELA, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, and Ms. SCANLON.

H.R. 1220: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 1225: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 1228: Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio and Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 1274: Mr. CISNEROS.

H.R. 1296: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.

H.R. 1364: Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 1370: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.

H.R. 1374: Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. UPTON, and Mr. KIND.

H.R. 1379: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mrs. WALORSKI, and Mr. LAMB.

H.R. 1380: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. PORTER, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 1383: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma.

H.R. 1398: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.

H.R. 1400: Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 1418: Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 1450: Mr. VELA, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. GOMEZ, and Mrs. BUSTOS.

H.R. 1511: Mr. ESPAILLAT.

H.R. 1549: Mr. KILDEE and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1579: Mr. HARDER of California and Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 1629: Mr. TIPTON.

H.R. 1643: Mr. MEEKS.

H.R. 1682: Ms. FRANKEL.

H.R. 1688: Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H.R. 1692: Mr. SUOZZI.

H.R. 1695: Mr. KIM.

H.R. 1721: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.

H.R. 1754: Mr. GREEN of Texas and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.

H.R. 1786: Mr. CORREA.

H.R. 1811: Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 1855: Mr. RICE of South Carolina.

H.R. 1869: Mr. BYRNE, Mr. BUCK, and Mr. FORTENBERRY.

H.R. 1873: Mr. BUDD and Mrs. LEE of Nevada.

H.R. 1897: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma.

H.R. 1922: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.

H.R. 1923: Mr. SOTO, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. BERA.

H.R. 1948: Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Ms. FINKENAUER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. MCBATH,

- Mr. STANTON, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. GOLDEN, and Mrs. TORRES of California.
H.R. 1959: Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 1981: Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. TRONE, Mr. GALLEG0, and Mr. GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 1987: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 1992: Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 1998: Mr. VARGAS.
H.R. 2048: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 2096: Mr. DESAULNIER and Mr. LIPINSKI.
H.R. 2137: Ms. SPANBERGER and Mr. WALBERG.
H.R. 2146: Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. SANCHEZ.
H.R. 2150: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 2153: Mr. COLE and Mrs. LAWRENCE.
H.R. 2166: Mr. DEUTCH.
H.R. 2191: Mr. LAMB.
H.R. 2195: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Ms. DEAN.
H.R. 2208: Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 2213: Mr. PANETTA, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 2214: Mr. LAWSON of Florida and Mr. RUIZ.
H.R. 2245: Mr. YARMUTH and Mrs. LOWEY.
H.R. 2256: Mr. MEEKS and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
H.R. 2275: Mr. KATKO.
H.R. 2283: Mr. COLE, Mr. SRES, and Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 2311: Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. BRINDISI.
H.R. 2315: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 2339: Ms. MATSUI, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mrs. DEMINGS, and Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 2344: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 2351: Ms. BASS.
H.R. 2382: Mr. MEUSER.
H.R. 2420: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 2423: Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. KIM, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, and Ms. CHENEY.
H.R. 2426: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mr. MEEKS, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. POCAN, Ms. SPEIER, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Mr. ESTES.
H.R. 2435: Ms. DEGETTE and Mr. CISNEROS.
H.R. 2452: Mr. BEYER.
H.R. 2457: Mr. SWALWELL of California.
H.R. 2466: Mr. KIM.
H.R. 2482: Mrs. HARTZLER.
H.R. 2491: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN and Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 2501: Ms. DEAN and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 2506: Mr. GAETZ.
H.R. 2508: Mr. LIPINSKI.
H.R. 2529: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 2550: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 2566: Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 2585: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 2639: Mr. CISNEROS.
H.R. 2645: Mrs. AXNE and Mr. CUELLAR.
H.R. 2653: Mr. SARBANES and Mr. SIRES.
H.R. 2679: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 2681: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 2683: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 2687: Mr. SIRES.
H.R. 2694: Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. SIRES, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 2700: Mr. AMODEI.
H.R. 2702: Mr. CISNEROS.
H.R. 2711: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 2748: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 2771: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 2836: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 2846: Mr. LAMB and Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 2863: Ms. HAALAND.
H.R. 2867: Mrs. LAWRENCE.
H.R. 2887: Mr. LUCAS.
H.R. 2905: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 2931: Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 2982: Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MAST, Mr. CASE, and Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 2986: Ms. LEE of California and Ms. SPANBERGER.
H.R. 3043: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico.
H.R. 3062: Mr. FLORES.
H.R. 3077: Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. WILLIAMS.
H.R. 3082: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 3094: Mr. PAPPAS and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 3098: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 3121: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma.
H.R. 3162: Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 3180: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma.
H.R. 3182: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.
H.R. 3195: Mr. SCHNEIDER and Ms. FRANKEL.
H.R. 3197: Mr. SABLAN, Mr. VARGAS, and Mr. KIM.
H.R. 3219: Mr. GALLEG0.
H.R. 3222: Mr. CASTEN of Illinois.
H.R. 3243: Mr. OLSON.
H.R. 3369: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 3373: Ms. HAALAND.
H.R. 3378: Mrs. DINGELL and Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 3398: Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 3447: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 3461: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 3463: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 3473: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 3503: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 3517: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 3524: Mr. POCAN and Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 3598: Mr. WATKINS.
H.R. 3612: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 3637: Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL.
H.R. 3702: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 3706: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 3742: Mr. HORSFORD.
H.R. 3757: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3778: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 3801: Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 3835: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 3956: Mr. BEYER and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 3961: Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. MALINOWSKI, and Mr. ROUDA.
H.R. 3973: Ms. LOFGREN and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
H.R. 3975: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire and Mr. COLE.
H.R. 4004: Mr. MOOLENAAR.
H.R. 4031: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 4035: Ms. DELBENE and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4044: Mr. NADLER and Mr. SWALWELL of California.
H.R. 4056: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 4098: Mr. BUCK, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, and Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 4099: Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 4111: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 4132: Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 4137: Mr. KILMER and Mr. STANTON.
H.R. 4162: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 4189: Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio, Mr. STEUBE, and Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 4193: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 4194: Mr. YARMUTH and Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 4206: Ms. SCHRIER, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 4220: Mr. ROUDA.
H.R. 4228: Mr. POCAN, Mr. KING of New York, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
H.R. 4247: Mr. BAIRD.
H.R. 4248: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 4263: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 4271: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 4283: Mr. LUCAS.
H.R. 4289: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 4296: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 4297: Mr. COHEN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 4305: Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mr. HURD of Texas, Mr. UPTON, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. PENCE, Mr. KATKO, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. MEEKS.
H.R. 4309: Mr. HASTINGS.
H.R. 4331: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. MAST, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. PINGREE, and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 4346: Mr. ROONEY of Florida.
H.R. 4348: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. HIMES, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. MALINOWSKI.
H.R. 4355: Ms. SPANBERGER.
H.R. 4370: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 4371: Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 4372: Mr. SWALWELL of California.
H.R. 4373: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma and Mr. CASTEN of Illinois.
H.R. 4388: Mr. SPANO and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 4391: Mr. VELA.
H.R. 4399: Mr. BAIRD and Mr. EMMER.
H.R. 4468: Mr. KIND.
H.R. 4478: Mr. SAN NICOLAS.
H.R. 4499: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
H.R. 4502: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 4508: Mr. MOOLENAAR and Mr. HURD of Texas.
H.R. 4560: Mr. VELA and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 4579: Ms. LEE of California, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. BASS, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. EVANS, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. VEASEY, and Mr. MCEACHIN.
H.R. 4618: Mr. CUELLAR.
H.R. 4639: Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Mr. BERA.
H.R. 4640: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 4647: Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 4650: Mr. BUTTERFIELD and Mr. CUELLAR.
H.R. 4665: Ms. CASTOR of Florida and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 4671: Mr. CUELLAR.
H.R. 4673: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 4674: Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MENG, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. BASS, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. PAYNE, and Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 4686: Mr. KING of New York, Mr. BABIN, and Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 4691: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 4692: Mr. PHILLIPS.
H.R. 4694: Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. TIPTON, and Mr. WEBER of Texas.
H.R. 4695: Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. STEWART, Mr. CROW, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. TRONE, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. COOPER, and Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 4698: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 4705: Mr. OLSON.
H.R. 4708: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 4709: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 4716: Mr. FERGUSON and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4729: Mr. MAST.
H.R. 4730: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 4732: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 4736: Mrs. WAGNER.

H.R. 4744: Ms. NORTON, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, and Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 4745: Mr. LONG.
H.R. 4751: Ms. NORTON.
H.J. Res. 2: Ms. TLAIB, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. PETERSON, and Ms. PINGREE.
H.J. Res. 76: Ms. CRAIG.
H. Con. Res. 32: Mr. KING of New York and Mr. TAYLOR.
H. Con. Res. 50: Mr. MAST and Mr. KINZINGER.
H. Res. 23: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico.
H. Res. 54: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, Mr. MEUSER, and Mr. COLE.
H. Res. 138: Mr. SOTO.
H. Res. 230: Mr. FORTENBERRY.
H. Res. 310: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H. Res. 387: Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H. Res. 495: Ms. BONAMICI.
H. Res. 515: Mr. WALTZ.
H. Res. 517: Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky and Ms. PORTER.
H. Res. 552: Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. TAYLOR, and Mr. CRENSHAW.
H. Res. 585: Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SIRES, and Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas.
H. Res. 594: Ms. JAYAPAL.
H. Res. 597: Mr. OLSON.
H. Res. 604: Mr. BARR, Mr. UPTON, and Mr. GRAVES of Georgia.
H. Res. 630: Mr. GUTHRIE, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. UPTON, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. WALDEN.
H. Res. 639: Mr. GAETZ, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. DUNN, Mrs. WALORSKI, Ms. STEFANK, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. STEIL, and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.