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No. 181

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 13, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR 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 11:50 a.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

I RISE TO DEFEND DACA RECIPIENTS

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise. And still I rise because I love my country.

And today I rise to defend those who are recipients of the DACA program. I rise to defend these young people because, unfortunately, bigotry is being weaponized against them.

I rise because the Chief Executive Officer has indicated that there are hard-

ened criminals among them, but he does it in such a way as to demean and defame all of them. He does it on the day that the Supreme Court of the United States of America is considering a case with reference to DACA recipients.

I rise to defend them. These are young people who came to this country at a very early age. They did not come of their own volition. These are young people who have been screened and vetted. These are young people who have gone on to get good educations. These are young people who are contributing to our society.

So I rise to defend the DACA recipients. I rise because I understand what is going on. This Chief Executive Officer is not going to stop. This is just another phase of his attempts to weaponize bigotry, hatred, racism.

He did it with the Muslim ban, weaponizing religion. He did it with the s-hole countries, weaponizing race. He did it with some "fine people" among those in Charlottesville where a woman lost her life, weaponizing anti-Semitism.

And he has done it repeatedly and will not stop. He went on to do it with the ban on transgender persons in the military, weaponizing homophobia.

This is not going to stop. We must move to impeach this President.

I am proud to say that history, now, is going to record that, on this day, witnesses appeared to give testimony with reference to why the President should be impeached. That is how the testimony is going to be presented.

I am not proud that this is happening. I love my country. I don't want this to happen in my country.

I didn't come to Congress to be a part of an impeachment effort against the President, but when a President attempts to weaponize race, bigotry, xenophobia, Islamophobia, homophobia, that President ought to be impeached—and he will be.

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

IMPEACHMENT MUST NOT BECOME WEAPONIZED

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

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, the House of Representatives most certainly faces a vote to impeach the President before the end of this year. I urge my colleagues to carefully and deliberately contemplate this next step in their votes.

The Constitution provides great latitude to this body in impeaching a President. It is up to us, all 435 of us in this Chamber, to determine what constitutes a "high crime and misdemeanor," and those determinations clearly vary greatly among us.

As we cast those votes, we must consider our place in history and the implications of those votes in the future of this Republic.

Alexander Hamilton warned of the risks of impeachment becoming a partisan act. In Federalist No. 65, he wrote of his fear that, during impeachment, ". . . there will always be the greatest danger that the decision will be regulated more by comparative strength of parties, than by the real demonstrations of innocence or guilt." I fear the proceedings have not heeded this warning.

Impeachment was never designed to be a supplemental election process but, rather, a safety valve to be used in the rarest of occasions when an elected official acts in such an immoral and blatantly unlawful manner as to threaten the very basis of our Republic.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to remember this as they assess the interviews, depositions, and hearings that are unfolding today and their impending vote on impeachment.

☐ 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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Impeachment must not become weaponized. It cannot simply be another election tool.

The question before this body is not whether a Member is comfortable with the rhetoric of the President, his political tactics, his use of Twitter, his policy choices, or his political rallies. The question is: Have high crimes and misdemeanors been committed? And if so, they must be prepared to demonstrate that specifically.

I urge the Speaker of the House to ensure that each Member, should they desire, be afforded time, 5 minutes per Member, during debate on impeachment to explain his or her view and impending vote. It is critical the American people, who will be watching closely, be afforded an opportunity to see and hear those views.

Impeachment must not be based upon polling data, election advantages, or social media commentary. It must be based upon clear and compelling facts. To do anything else threatens our Republic.

I intend to approach this matter in just that way. I will uphold my oath and vote as the circumstances require.

But this judgment also must not be preordained based on political party or political maneuvering by anyone serving in this Chamber.

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this week, we celebrate the fifth year of National Apprenticeship Week, a week dedicated to showcasing the impact that apprenticeship programs have on preparing Americans for the jobs of today and tomorrow.

Our Nation has 7 million unfilled jobs. A 2018 survey of U.S. employers showed that nearly half of all job creators struggle to hire employees with the right skills for the job.

Apprenticeships offer one of the strongest solutions to closing the skills gap and strengthening the American workforce. That is why Republicans on the Committee on Education and Labor are committed to expanding apprenticeship opportunities nationwide.

According to the Department of Labor, 94 percent of apprentices retain employment after completing an apprenticeship program, and the average starting salary after completion is \$70,000.

Apprenticeships help integrate the education system with the workforce development system, which allows all students to be better prepared to compete successfully in the 21st century economy.

ALABAMA A&M 50TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University.

The school was originally established not long after the Civil War, in 1873, by the legislature of the State of Alabama. Through the tireless efforts of the first principal and president, William Hooper Council, the Huntsville Normal School opened on May 1, 1875, with an appropriation of \$1,000 per year. It had 61 students and two instructors.

In 1885, because of its success with industrial education, the Alabama Legislature changed its name to the State Normal and Industrial School in Huntsville.

In 1891, the name was again changed to the State Agricultural and Industrial Institute for Negroes, and a new location was provided at Normal, Alabama.

In 1969, the school became a fully accredited member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and its name was changed to Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University, the name that it has today.

In the 50 years since its university designation and establishment of the foundation, Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University has grown to encompass widely respected programs in engineering, computer science, business, food sciences, agricultural and animal sciences, and education, as well as Ph.D. programs in plant and soil science, food science, physics, and reading.

Today, Alabama A&M University is comprised of over 70 buildings and more than 1,000 acres, is home to more than 6,000 students, is a designated Gold Military Friendly institution, and serves as a regional State, national, and international resource, while maintaining its mission of educating the underserved and uplifting the people of Alabama, the Nation, and the world through its excellence in education.

On a more personal note, my mother, Betty Brooks, is a proud graduate of Alabama A&M University, having received her master's degree there. I thank Alabama A&M for helping her to successfully serve for a quarter of a century as a Lee High School government and economics teacher.

In sum, I am, and all of the State of Alabama is, proud of Alabama A&M University's accomplishments and wish Alabama A&M a happy 50th anniversary as a fully accredited university.

Go Bulldogs.

May their future success in helping prepare, train, and educate our youth be as great and productive as their past.

CONGRATULATING COLONEL ANTHONY POLASHEK ON 32 YEARS IN THE AIR FORCE

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

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Colonel Anthony Polashek on his retirement from the U.S. Air Force after 32 years of service.

Colonel Polashek graduated from Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, an officer training school, before commissioning into the Air Force.

During his long career, Colonel Polashek's deployments included Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. By the end of his distinguished career, he logged more than 5,800 flight hours as a command pilot, more than 500 of which were in combat.

Since 2016, Colonel Polashek has served as commander of the 934th Air-lift Wing, located at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Air Reserve Station, overseeing 12 squadrons with more than 1,400 airmen.

Minnesota has been fortunate to have such an accomplished member of our Nation's Armed Forces lead the charge and train our airmen and -women of tomorrow.

Again, we congratulate Colonel Polashek on his retirement, and we wish him the best as he moves to his next chapter.

RECOGNIZING NANCY LIBERSKY'S LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO THE SMALL BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Small Business Administration's Minnesota district director, Nancy Libersky, on her retirement.

District Director Libersky has served our great State of Minnesota for 28 years. She will be missed.

Nancy's time at the SBA in Minnesota began in 1994 as the regional manager for SBA's Twin City's international trade programs. In this capacity, Nancy helped hundreds of Minnesota businesses compete in the global marketplace.

At the same time, Nancy also served as an adjunct instructor at Saint Paul College and was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce to sit on the Minnesota District Export Council.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Nancy for almost three decades of service to Small Business Minnesota, and we wish her the best in her retirement.

THE WALL FAMILY, MINNESOTA FAMILY BUSINESS AWARD OF 2019 RECIPIENT

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Wall family of Highland Bank in St. Michael, Minnesota, for receiving the 2019 Minnesota Family Business Award.

The Walls have proudly owned and operated the bank for more than four decades, serving as a lifeline for their customers and their community.

As a small financial institution, the financial crisis took its toll on Highland and families in and around St. Michael. Nevertheless, the Wall family persevered and led their bank and their community during a very difficult economic time.

The resiliency and community-focused nature of banks like Highland are essential to helping Minnesotans

and Americans pursue and achieve their American Dream. Family-owned institutions like the Highland Bank understand the needs of their neighbors and business owners and, in turn, empower families and local economies on Main Streets across our country.

I congratulate the Highland Bank and the Wall family on their recognition and thank them for all they do for St. Michael and Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District.

□ 1015

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE
MINNESOTA FARM BUREAU

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation a very happy 100th birthday.

For 100 years, the Minnesota Farm Bureau has been an ally and advocate for growers, ranchers, and producers across the 87 counties in Minnesota. Even after a century of work, the Minnesota Farm Bureau remains the leading voice for farmers, their families, and the agriculture community at large.

I want to give a special thanks to Minnesota Farm Bureau President Kevin Paap and Vice President Dan Glessing, both of whom go above and beyond to advocate for their members.

I would also like to recognize Amber Hanson Glaeser, the bureau's director of public policy, who always keeps our office apprised of the challenges facing our agricultural families and their community.

It has been an honor to work with everyone at the Minnesota Farm Bureau throughout my time in Congress, and I am grateful for the opportunity to wish them all a happy 100th birthday.

HONORING THE LIFE OF STACY MANNING AND
HER LEGACY OF HELPING FAMILIES

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Stacy Manning from Zimmerman, Minnesota.

Stacy tragically passed away earlier this year, leaving behind a legacy of compassion and support for Minnesota families working through the process of adoption.

Stacy and her husband, Pat, had three children of their own when they decided to adopt three more. While working to meet the challenges that adoption can bring with a family of six, Stacy realized that other adoptive parents were experiencing many of the same challenges.

Stacy wanted to help, so she established Hope Connections, a support network designed to connect with families for adoption coaching and education.

Stacy's work touched the lives of thousands of families across this country.

This week, Stacy's family is in Washington to honor her memory and receive the Angels in Adoption award that Stacy earned for the work that she believed in so deeply.

Stacy may no longer be with us, but her spirit and Hope Connections' mission lives on through her son Andrew,

who continues her legacy in assisting those experiencing the challenges that adoption can bring.

Stacy's impact on so many Minnesotans will never be forgotten.

CELEBRATING ACCOMPLISHMENTS
OF WOMEN IN TECHNICAL AND
MANUFACTURING FIELDS

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is National Women in Apprenticeship Day, and today I celebrate the accomplishments of all women who are working in the nontraditional technical and manufacturing fields.

During World War II, we saw women across the Nation flock to factories to fill technical and manufacturing jobs that were vacated by men leaving to fight for our country. We saw it in Fort Worth at what is now the Lockheed Martin plant—just some great pictures that capture that time period that still exist today.

But, nearly 70 years later, we are struggling to give women equal representation in these fields.

That is why my fellow co-chair of the Blue Collar Caucus, Representative BRENDAN BOYLE, and I are proud to introduce the Women in Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations Amendment Act that will break employment barriers that face women of all races and backgrounds entering into technical and manufacturing occupations.

Because the best way we can celebrate National Women in Apprenticeship Day is by taking action to ensure that all Americans have a fair shot at entering our workforce and achieving the American Dream.

I also want to thank my colleague, Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER, for her work on the legislation that we will vote on later this week, the Rosie the Riveter Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019, which will honor any female individual who held employment or volunteered in support of the war efforts during the World War II time period back in the 1940s.

RECOGNIZING NECCO FOSTER
CARE OF KENTUCKY

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Necco Foster Care of Kentucky, an organization with offices across Kentucky's First Congressional District and the Commonwealth. Necco works tirelessly to place thousands of children with supportive and caring families. With foster parents from all walks of life and a variety of backgrounds, the organization ensures that each child is matched with a loving, stable, and comfortable home.

The organization was recently recognized as a 2019 Angels in Adoption honoree.

Necco offers supportive community living for young adults and intensive home-based treatment for families. Through programs like these, Necco shows itself to be a diligent, compassionate guiding hand to society's most vulnerable.

The staff at Necco helps children in both rural and urban settings as well as those in the juvenile justice population. By providing these services, Necco is improving the lives of those most in need while also setting the foundation for a brighter future for coming generations of Kentuckians.

On behalf of my constituents, I congratulate Necco and its staff in their efforts to make the dream of a family a reality for many children in need.

CONGRATULATING DEAN OWEN FOR BEING
AWARDED THE HIRE VETS MEDALLION AWARD

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to applaud my friend, Mr. Dean Owen, for being awarded and recognized last week by the Department of Labor's HIRE Vets Medallion Awards Program.

This program focuses on bringing our Nation's veterans back to the workforce and equipping them with the skills they need to excel at home after serving our country across the world.

As a resident and business owner in the First Congressional District of Kentucky, Dean Owen has gone above and beyond to invest in recruiting, employing, and retaining our Nation's finest through his professional accountant services firm in Paducah, my district's largest city.

The rigorous criteria by which a HIRE Vets Medallion is earned speaks to the remarkable dedication Dean regularly displays in his mission to advance veteran careers.

I want to thank Dean once again for being a valuable, caring, and ambitious figure in my district. With constituents like Dean, there is no question as to why I am proud to stand here today and represent the First Congressional District of Kentucky.

CONDUCT THE BUSINESS OF THE PEOPLE

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, this must be a proud day for many Washington Democrats: the beginning of their quest to impeach our duly-elected President of the United States, with wall-to-wall coverage from all the major media networks of this circus of an event.

But I, again, rise today to implore the Speaker of the House, NANCY PELOSI, to conduct the business of the people.

The people of America elected all 435 of us to do the things that they expect Congress to do—real business, not theater. And the business that the people expect us to do, of the utmost importance today, would be to ratify the USMCA and to take up the demand to try to have some type of prescription drug reform legislation passed before the end of the year.

But, instead of doing these two most essential acts that Congress should be taking up to represent the people of

America, we have, instead, the majority party conducting baseless impeachment hearings.

I conclude again by calling on NANCY PELOSI and the majority party to do the things the American people actually want Congress to do.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are here as guests of the House and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings is in violation of the rules of the House.

FUND THE MILITARY

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

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, there are 8 days until our military funding runs out. Instead of funding the military, the House is kicking the can down the road. Instead of bringing stability to our servicemembers, House Democratic leadership is focused on a partisan impeachment process.

Our men and women in uniform deserve better than this. They deserve to have their mission, training, weapons, and equipment properly funded.

However, next week, when we reach the funding deadline, we will likely vote on a continuing resolution, a CR. A CR is not a thoughtful approach to support our servicemembers. A CR maintains current spending levels for the military and continues this cycle of uncertainty for our servicemembers.

While better than a shutdown, there are real-world consequences to simply passing a CR:

The Air Force is short 2,100 pilots. A CR does not provide the Air Force with new funding to train new pilots to fill these positions.

A CR prevents the Army from building 4,000 housing units for its members.

A CR forces the Navy to cancel ship maintenance periods and undermines critical training programs.

This is a dangerous funding cycle that jeopardizes our servicemembers' safety and their ability to protect our country.

Once again, our Federal spending process is broken, and it has gotten us into this mess. Let's stop the partisan politics. Let's focus on supporting our military. And let's work to fix the broken spending process here in Washington.

Mr. Speaker, we must never allow our servicemembers and their mission to be put at risk again.

RECOGNIZING 100 YEARS OF THE WISCONSIN FARM BUREAU

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize 100 years of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau. For a century, the Wisconsin Farm Bureau has supported farmers in Wisconsin.

Agriculture is a Wisconsin tradition. Generations of Wisconsinites have dedicated their life to farming and feeding our State and the world. From milk to cheese, from sweet corn to soybeans, from cranberries to whey, our proud, hardworking Wisconsin farmers are there.

I thank the Wisconsin Farm Bureau for helping Wisconsin become and remain America's dairyland.

Happy 100 years.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM ON FIFTH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Wisconsin women's hockey team on winning their fifth national championship in program history.

They beat the Minnesota Gophers 2-0 to win their first national championship in 8 years. Kristen Campbell did not give up a goal, and it was her 11th shutout of the season. To make the victory better, we beat our rival, Minnesota.

The Badgers' women's hockey team is visiting my office and the White House to celebrate this success.

Congrats to the University of Wisconsin women's hockey team for their hard-earned victory. The Badger State is proud of them. On, Wisconsin.

HONORING CHIEF OF STAFF RYAN THOMPSON

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

Mr. WRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, what are the best things an American can do for his or her country?

Public service, military service, community service.

What does a true public servant look like?

Someone who possesses exemplary character, integrity, and inspires confidence. Someone who has the network of relationships on both sides to be both respected and effective.

How do you honor a man who gave 20 years to the United States Government and the House of Representatives, the United States Marine Corps Infantry, and dedicated his free time to bringing Democrats and Republicans together in the name of charity?

Ryan Thompson, my trusted chief of staff and dear friend, who sits here with me, joins us on the House floor for the final time today.

He has accompanied me and our former boss to the floor countless times and always helped us look and do our best. Today is different, though, because this is his moment.

Mr. Speaker, there are proud members of the United States Marine Corps and there are proud graduates of Texas A&M University—Texas Aggies.

Occasionally, God blesses the world by combining both of those things in one person. Such is the case with Ryan Thompson.

Ryan is a proud, sixth-generation Texan of the Aggie variety, who serves

as a past president of the Texas State Society. A true philanthropist, Ryan has dedicated thousands of hours over the past decade to organizing the bipartisan, bicameral Congressional Baseball Game, which raises millions of dollars for local charities each year.

Furthermore, Ryan founded and leads the Congressional Sports for Charity Foundation, which was created to ensure that the Congressional Baseball Game and other congressional charity events live on for decades to come.

Ryan wisely understands that the game is not only essential to the many charities it helps but serves another cause in need, the Congress itself.

Today, on behalf of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Washington, D.C.; the Washington Nationals Dream Foundation; and the Washington Literacy Council, which honored him with the Champion for Literacy Award—not to mention a grateful institution and Nation—thank you and happy trails to Ryan Scott Thompson.

Like a Texas live oak, he is strong from the roots up.

□ 1030

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Apprenticeship Week. This year is the fifth anniversary for the celebration that aims to connect job seekers with businesses and educators in our communities to highlight the wealth of apprenticeship opportunities that are available.

For too long, it has been implied that the only respectable or worthwhile option available to achieve a successful career is spending 4 or more years on a campus to earn a college degree. Yet, the more than 7 million unfilled jobs in America today suggest workers don't have the necessary skills to fill these jobs.

We need to defy this misconception, invest in skills-based education, and fix our Nation's growing skills gap by providing students and job seekers with the skills and hands-on experience they need to improve their own lives.

As co-chair of the bipartisan Career and Technical Education Caucus, I am proud to push for accessible career and technical education alongside my good friend and colleague, Congressman JIM LANGEVIN.

Career and technical education, or CTE, goes hand in hand with apprenticeships. Equipping learners of all ages with real-world experience in fields like STEM, nursing, information technology, cyber technology, agriculture, and more can bring us one step closer to closing our Nation's skills gap. In the past several years, we have

seen a rapid expansion in skills-based education like on-the-job learning, earn-while-you-learn programs, and apprenticeships.

Workforce development programs are successful only if they are adaptable to the changing needs of employers. The notice of proposed rulemaking by the Department of Labor issued this past June recognizes this through the proposed establishment of industry-recognized apprenticeships programs, or IRAPS. IRAPS cut through the bureaucratic red tape to put businesses and employees at the center of the conversation.

The proposed flexibility in the notice of proposed rulemaking will allow businesses the ability to quickly meet labor market needs. These changes will help foster continued innovation that recognizes the dignity of all work and provides another tool for apprentices to move into meaningful work in the rapidly evolving 21st century economy.

We can ensure IRAPS create as many career opportunities as possible by encouraging employer innovation and allowing students and families the freedom to choose the path that is best for them. That is the power of work. That is the power of CTE. And that is the power of apprenticeships, putting employers and students in the driver's seat of their own professional futures.

CONGRATULATING STEVE JOHNSON ON RECEIVING IMTA'S FOUNDERS AWARD

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend, Steve Johnson, for receiving the prestigious Indiana Motor Truck Association's Founders Award.

The IMTA's Founders Award is an honor bestowed to those who embody the spirit of the association's founders and have made outstanding contributions to the association and the Indiana trucking industry. Steve is only the ninth individual to have received this award in the past 14 years.

Always one to give back, Steve proudly serves his Nation in uniform and remains involved in his local church, charitable foundations, and children's hospitals in Indiana.

I congratulate my good friend, Steve Johnson.

CONGRATULATING THREE HIGH SCHOOLS ON SPECIAL OLYMPICS RECOGNITION

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate three high schools located in Indiana's Sixth District on their achievement of becoming a National Banner Unified Champion School.

Columbus East High School, Muncie Central High School, and South Ripley High School were recognized by the Special Olympics for their servant hearts and commitments to inclusion. These three high schools achieved the status of a Unified Champion School after meeting 10 national standards of excellence set by the Special Olympics.

As institutions dedicated to inclusion, collaboration, and engagement, we are proud of Columbus East, Muncie Central, and South Ripley. We congratulate the students and faculty for this significant achievement.

RECOGNIZING BATESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL AND IVY TECH'S PARTNERSHIP

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Batesville High School for their tremendous achievement of having one-half of the 2020 graduating class earn college credits. Through their innovative programs with Ivy Tech Community College, Batesville will see 50 percent of their graduating seniors walk across the stage with an entire year's worth of college credits.

The Ivy Tech program gives Hoosiers the opportunity to take 16 college courses at no cost, enabling them to obtain a bachelor's degree in just 3 years after they go to college.

I thank Batesville High School faculty and staff for continuing to provide innovative educational programs that set our students up for success.

RECOGNIZING RUSHVILLE CONSOLIDATED HIGH SCHOOL FFA PROGRAM

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Rushville Future Farmers of America chapter for being one of six chapters across the country to participate in the Turn the Bag Blue and Gold program.

The Turn the Bag Blue and Gold program is a partnership between FFA and Mycogen Seeds that gives students the opportunity to visit with farmers and polish their professional skills while raising money for their communities. This program will allow students to sell directly to local farmers, providing industry experience and a wonderful educational opportunity. A percentage of these sales will go directly to the Rushville FFA chapter.

Congratulations to Rushville FFA.

CONGRATULATING INDIANA NATIONAL GUARD

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Indiana National Guard for the stationing of the 127th Cyber Protection Battalion at Muscatatuck. As the seventh largest Army National Guard contingent in the Nation, the Indiana National Guard continues to make our Nation's defenses better.

The Hoosier State is proud to be home to cyber force structures such as the Muscatatuck Urban Training Complex, the Defensive Cyber Operations Element, and Cyber Protection Team 172. We are honored to have such a distinctive battalion.

Indiana's Sixth District boasts the Department of Defense's only live, full-scale cyber range, and I join the Army National Guard in congratulating our distinguished Hoosiers in uniform on this outstanding achievement.

CONGRATULATING BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA VOLUNTEER BETH CURTISS

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Beth Curtiss of Shelbyville, Indiana. Beth was awarded the 2019 Crossroads of America Silver Beaver Award, in association with the Boy

Scouts of America. This award is the highest honor the Crossroads of America Council may bestow on a volunteer.

Beth has volunteered with the Boy Scouts of America for over 15 years. This is the fifth time Beth has been recognized for her outstanding service.

I am pleased to congratulate Beth, and I thank her for investing in our communities.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 38 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Ms. Verna Teller, Southern Tiwa, Pueblo of Isleta, New Mexico, offered the following prayer:

O, Creator and Great Mother, having asked and received Your permission to invoke Your blessings today to all directions—to the east, north, west, south, and the center—we thank You for the life You give to all Your children: the two-legged ones, the four-legged, those who live in the waters, and those who watch over us from the skies above.

Sacred pollen, sacred Earth Mother, sacred water that manifest Your desires, O Creator and Great Mother, we thank them for the nourishment they give us equally, with no regard to race, color, or creed.

Creator and Great Mother, bless those standing before You who carry a sacred trust to all of us who inhabit Turtle Island, our homeland. And I pray today that You will give them the wisdom and the courage to carry out their sacred trust with the same equality that we receive from the Sun and rain.

“Hurrd kem,” thank you.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. PETERS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PETERS 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.

WELCOMING MS. VERNA TELLER

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. HAALAND) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Ms. HAALAND. Madam Speaker, I am honored to have a fierce woman from my district to deliver a historic opening prayer.

Isleta Pueblo Chief Judge Verna Teller is the first Native American to deliver the opening prayer in the U.S. House.

This is a special time in our country's history and, in honor of Native American Heritage Month, a time to reflect on the contributions of Native Americans to this country.

Chief Judge Teller made her own history in New Mexico. She broke barriers when she was elected as the first woman Pueblo Governor. Because of the history of colonization, many Pueblos generally don't allow women to hold leadership positions, but that didn't stop Judge Teller from knowing her value as a Tribal leader.

I am proud to stand with Chief Judge Teller to highlight the resilience of indigenous women and our perseverance to uplift our girls and our women in all of our communities.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. VEASEY). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

COMMENDING MEMBERS OF NIAGARA FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT AND NEW YORK STATE PARK POLICE

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our everyday heroes—police and fire personnel—who sign up to rush into dangerous situations most people would run from.

Today I want to take this opportunity to commend the outstanding members of the Niagara Falls Fire Department and the New York State Park Police.

Last week, a man was discovered in the fierce and frigid rapids of the Niagara River. Without hesitation, the Niagara Falls firefighters and New York State Park Police took quick action, entering the water just yards away from the brink of Niagara Falls and, under the most dangerous of circumstances, completed a successful rescue.

We are grateful for the brave and selfless service of these first responders

and others across my community and this Nation who risk their own safety and save the lives of others.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF DEBBIE BONE-HARRIS

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Debbie Bone-Harris as she begins her retirement from the Franklin Public Utility District.

Deb began working for Franklin PUD in 2003 and has held many roles throughout the organization. She has been a stalwart advocate for hydro-power in the Northwest. She has spent countless hours educating our community about the value of the Columbia and the Snake River dams, and she has worked with both State and Federal legislators to advocate for their protection.

Deb is a leader, not only with the Franklin PUD, but in the greater community as well. She has served on numerous boards and held leadership roles with community organizations, including Pasco Chamber of Commerce, Visit Tri-Cities, Tri-Cities Legislative Council, Washington Public Utility District, Northwest Public Power Association, and Pacific Northwest Waterways Association.

As Deb begins her well-earned retirement, our community wishes her the best as she enjoys spending more time with her grandchildren, going on hot-rod adventures with her husband, and attending those rowdy sewing conventions.

I thank Deb for her advocacy and congratulate her.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FLEET READINESS CENTER SOUTHWEST

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Fleet Readiness Center Southwest at Naval Air Station North Island in Coronado, the birthplace of naval aviation maintenance.

In 1912, the entire Navy aviation squad consisted of four officers and three planes, which called North Island home. As more planes routinely landed at sea, it became necessary for the Navy to have an official aviation maintenance facility.

Shortly after the U.S. Government obtained the island in 1917, it established the Overhaul and Repair Department, the first maintenance repair and overhaul facility in the Department of Defense.

Now designated as the Fleet Readiness Center Southwest, the goals are the same: to produce quality equipment and provide support to our Nation's aviation war fighters through the overhaul, repair, and modification

of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps frontline aircraft.

Encompassing 358 acres and over 80 buildings, the Fleet Readiness Center is one of the largest aerospace employers in San Diego County, employing approximately 3,500 civilians and 900 military personnel.

Please join me in honoring one of the best facilities in the U.S. Navy, the Fleet Readiness Center Southwest at Naval Air Station North Island, on its 100th anniversary.

HONORING WALTER B. JONES, JR.

(Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I proudly announced my first piece of legislation as a Member of Congress, H.R. 5037.

Of course, every bill that goes through this great legislative body is important, but I think it is fair to say that every Member's first bill carries with it an importance in its own right. It marks the beginning of a new path forward, and I wanted mine to begin in remembrance of my predecessor, friend, and mentor, the late Congressman Walter B. Jones, Jr.

Congressman Jones served the great people of eastern North Carolina for over 20 years. He supported our military, he supported our farmers, and he supported our coasts. As his successor, I pledged to do the same.

This bill, which would name a post office in the town Congressman Jones was born and raised, in the great town of Farmville, North Carolina, is the least that we can do to honor the remarkable statesman and steward that he was.

In this time of great divisiveness, it is wonderful to have an issue that we all can rally around and support. I look forward to this bill becoming a reality for the people of eastern North Carolina.

LOWER THE COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

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

Mrs. AXNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because the price of prescription drugs is too high and prescription drug prices have risen 44 percent in 5 years.

Big pharmaceutical companies have raised the cost of the most commonly used drugs by 100 percent. I am talking about every day, basic prescription drugs like insulin for diabetes or Advair for asthma.

Experts say there is no end in sight, and we will see prices rise in 2020 if this continues and if we don't act now.

I recently heard from Joan in west Des Moines, who said the cost of her generic suddenly skyrocketed, and there is nothing she can do, because if she doesn't take it she will need a liver transplant.

And I heard from John in Madrid, who discovered his insulin refills literally cost more than the price of gold if you broke it down by price per ounce.

That is why I am supporting H.R. 3, the Lower Drug Costs Now Act. Iowans and Americans can't wait any longer. Every dollar spent on overpriced drugs is stealing money away from someone's retirement, from someone's college fund, and from buying a home, and it is putting someone's life at risk.

We must act now and pass and support the Lower Drug Costs Now Act.

COMMEMORATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL

(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 commemorate the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

In a 1987 speech in West Berlin, President Ronald Reagan famously declared: "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall."

For nearly 30 years, East and West Berlin were separated, both physically and ideologically.

On November 9, 1989, freedom prevailed. East Germany's communist government and the Berlin Wall, one of the starkest symbols of the Cold War, would fall.

That evening, on a West German television channel, reporter Hanns Friedrichs proclaimed:

This 9th of November is a historic day. East Germany has announced that, starting immediately, its borders are open to everyone.

While East and West Germany would not officially unify until the following year, East and West Berliners rushed to the Brandenburg Gate to celebrate this historic moment that would lead to the end of the Cold War.

Let today serve as a reminder that freedom is always worth fighting for.

REPRESENTING NEW YORK'S 25TH DISTRICT

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

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, 1 year ago today, I took the oath of office and was sworn in as a Member of the United States House of Representatives.

It is truly the honor of a lifetime to represent New York's 25th District, and I am grateful every day for the opportunity to serve the community I love.

I am so proud of the work we have done in the past year to improve the lives of everyday Americans. The House has passed landmark legislation to create universal background checks on all gun sales. We are taking action to lower the cost of prescription drugs

and make healthcare more affordable for working families. We are fighting to protect our climate, strengthen our economy, close the gender pay gap, and ensure everyone has access to a quality education.

Back home, I am working with community partners on strategies to reduce poverty and give opportunity to all of our citizens.

I am proud of our work, but there is so much more still to be done, and I look forward to another year continuing my work for the people of my community and the people of the United States.

□ 1215

KEEPING SOLEMN PROMISE TO NATION'S VETERANS

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

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, we gathered around the country to honor our veterans to whom we owe a tremendous debt. But sentiments expressed at parades and ceremonies ring hollow if we don't follow our good words with meaningful deeds for those who have served and sacrificed so much.

Although the VA has countless care providers and employees who have dedicated their careers to veterans, they work in a system that has serious problems that must be addressed quickly.

It is unacceptable that the health network for more than 9 million veterans has remained on the High-Risk List of Federal agencies prone to deficiencies and waste. That is why I introduced the Reducing High Risk to Veterans and Veterans Services Act with my colleague, General BERGMAN, to improve the management and care at the VA.

It is also unacceptable that the VA has not met the needs of a growing number of women veterans. I introduced legislation with Congresswoman STEFANIK that will ensure the VA is equipped to provide women veterans with life-changing prosthetics as part of the Deborah Sampson Act.

We made a solemn promise to our veterans, and we should be working together every day to fulfill that promise. These pieces of legislation are an important step forward, and I thank my colleagues for supporting these bipartisan bills.

ENACT GUN SAFETY LEGISLATION TO PROTECT POLICE, CITIZENS

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

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, on June 13, a gunman from another State sat in the parking lot of Tamaques Elementary School in my district, armed with a loaded .45-caliber handgun, hol-

low-point bullets, and 130 rounds of ammunition.

Because of the quick work of the Westfield Police Department of New Jersey, the gunman was disarmed and taken into custody. Officers Jeffrey Johnson, Michael Pollock, Joseph Habeiche, Elizabeth Savnik, and Tiffany Kenny, along with Detectives Nicholas Bruno and Jason Merritt, prevented what could have been a devastating tragedy.

I am eternally grateful for their brave and swift actions, and I am proud to recognize them this month as they are honored with the New Jersey PBA's Unit Citation Award for their heroism.

Mr. Speaker, police officers are the good guys with a gun in America. They are the good guys with a gun.

How many times do we have to experience these tragedies and close calls before Congress finally acts to protect them and us by keeping dangerous weapons from falling into the wrong hands?

The House has passed sensible gun safety legislation that will save lives. It is time for the Senate to act.

TRUMP-ERDOGAN MEETING SHOULD NOT TAKE PLACE

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

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, it is an outrage that President Trump has honored President Erdogan today with a meeting at the White House.

During his infamous May 2017 visit to the White House, Erdogan dispatched his thugs to beat up peaceful protesters at Sheridan Circle here in the Capital of the United States of America, demonstrating before the world his contempt not only for human rights but for the rule of law in our country. He should have been banned from America until he makes all of his victims whole.

This time, his visit coincides with Turkey's savage military campaign in northern Syria, an invasion that has killed hundreds of civilians, displaced and driven from their homes over 160,000 people, threatened our national security, and produced a massive humanitarian crisis.

Just weeks ago, the U.S. House passed H.J. Res. 77 and H.R. 4695, the Protect Against Conflict by Turkey Act, which denounced Turkey's military actions against the Kurdish people in northern Syria.

We also cannot overlook Erdogan's continuing oppressive actions against the Turkish people. He has executed a campaign of repression against anyone who dares disagree with his barbaric policies.

This meeting should not be taking place.

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.

FOUNDATION OF THE FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION CHARTER AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2019

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1663) to amend title 36, United States Code, to revise the Federal charter for the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1663

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 “Foundation of the Federal Bar Association Charter Amendments Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. ORGANIZATION.

Section 70501 of title 36, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (b) and redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (b).

SEC. 3. MEMBERSHIP.

Section 70503 of title 36, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following:

“(a) **ELIGIBILITY.**—Except as provided in this chapter, eligibility for membership in the corporation and the rights and privileges of members are as provided in the bylaws.”; and

(2) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (b).

SEC. 4. GOVERNING BODY.

Section 70504 of title 36, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 70504. Governing body

“(a) **BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**—The board of directors is the governing body of the corporation. The board may exercise, or provide for the exercise of, the powers of the corporation. The board of directors and the responsibilities of the board are as provided in the bylaws.

“(b) **OFFICERS.**—The officers and the election of the officers are as provided for in the bylaws.”.

SEC. 5. RESTRICTIONS.

Section 70507 of title 36, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 70507. Restrictions

“(a) **STOCK AND DIVIDENDS.**—The corporation may not issue stock or declare or pay a dividend.

“(b) **POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.**—The corporation or a director or officer in his or her corporate capacity may not contribute to, support, or participate in any political activity or in any manner attempt to influence legislation.

“(c) **DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME OR ASSETS.**—The income or assets of the corporation may not inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to, a director, officer, or member during the life of the charter granted by this chapter. This subsection does not prevent the payment, in amounts approved by the board of directors, of—

“(1) reasonable compensation; or

“(2) reimbursement for expenses incurred in undertaking the corporation’s business, to officers, directors, or members.

This subsection does not prevent the award of a grant to a Federal Bar Association chapter of which an officer, director, or member may be a member. This subsection also does not prevent the payment of reasonable compensation to the corporation’s employees for services undertaken on behalf of the corporation.

“(d) **LOANS.**—The corporation may not make a loan to a director, officer, member, or employee.

“(e) **IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY.**—Members and private individuals are not liable for the obligations of the corporation.

“(f) **CLAIM OF GOVERNMENTAL APPROVAL OR AUTHORITY.**—The corporation may not claim congressional approval or the authority of the United States Government for any of its activities; it may, however, acknowledge this charter.”.

SEC. 6. PRINCIPAL OFFICE.

Section 70508 of title 36, United States Code, is amended by striking “the District of Columbia,” and inserting “a United States location decided by the board of directors and specified in the bylaws.”.

SEC. 7. SERVICE OF PROCESS.

Section 70510 of title 36, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 70510. Service of process

“The corporation shall comply with the law on service of process of the State or District in which it is incorporated.”.

SEC. 8. DEPOSIT OF ASSETS ON DISSOLUTION OR FINAL LIQUIDATION.

Section 70512 of title 36, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 70512. Deposit of assets on dissolution or final liquidation

“On dissolution or final liquidation of the corporation, any assets of the corporation remaining after the discharge of all liabilities shall be distributed as provided by the board of directors, but in compliance with the charter and bylaws.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

I am proud to have served as the lead Democratic cosponsor of this bill introduced by my friend from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT), H.R. 1663, the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association Charter Amendments Act of 2019.

The Federal Bar Association serves as the primary voluntary bar association for attorneys, both in the private and public sectors, practicing in Federal courts. This bill will permit the FBA Foundation to better fulfill its role as the only institution in America chartered by Congress to promote the Federal administration of justice, the advancement of Federal jurisprudence,

and the practice of law in the Federal courts by providing it with the organizational flexibility that it needs to fully meet its contemporary mission.

The original 1954 charter created a framework that has served FBA for the last six decades. During these years, the foundation has indeed strengthened Federal jurisprudence, advanced legal education, and promoted effective legal practice. The organization’s initiatives have also directly improved the lives of our people.

For example, one community outreach program, the Wills for Veterans Initiative, is a pro bono project where FBA chapters provide the drafting of wills and signing services for veterans in their communities. I know a number of my constituents who participate have found great fulfillment working on this project, just as many veterans have benefited from it.

Another initiative establishes a mentorship program for law students to work alongside experienced attorneys.

The current charter must be amended to allow the organization greater flexibility of operation and growth.

For example, the existing charter codifies strict membership and governance requirements that constrain member development and nimble governance of the organization. This rigidity presents serious challenges as the organization seeks to expand its critical charitable and educational initiatives.

H.R. 1663 makes technical fixes to the charter that will give the FBA the needed flexibility in the new century. In the place of legislatively fixed membership criteria, it permits the FBA to proactively establish and update membership criteria through the bylaws process. Similar provisions authorize enhanced flexibility in the composition and duties of the members of the board.

In general, this measure would enable the FBA to swiftly meet its needs and improve the administration of Federal justice.

A similar version of the bill was introduced last year, which was passed by this body on a voice vote, but it did not pass in the Senate for various reasons. One was that the language in the bill’s proposed nondiscrimination provision did not explicitly prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender identity, as most of the new anti-discrimination legislation does.

To that end, I am very pleased that the Federal Bar Association took it upon itself to amend its own bylaws on April 18 of this year to include the following language: “The terms of membership may not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin.”

As a cosponsor of the Equality Act, introduced by the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE), my good friend, I fully support equal rights for all. The proactive amendment of the FBA bylaws, I believe, makes clear the

intent of the Federal Bar Association that everyone must be protected against invidious discrimination.

In light of this development, I believe that H.R. 1663 will help the FBA to flourish for many decades to come. I strongly support the bill, and I look forward to the FBA's continued positive involvement in our Nation's Federal legal system, and I urge all of my colleagues to support the bill.

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

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 1663, the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association Charter Amendments Act of 2019. I appreciate the gentleman and his fine laying out of what the bill actually does. I thank him and Congressman STEVE CHABOT for their work on this legislation and for their support of the Federal Bar Association.

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

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments.

I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I thank him for bringing this bill to the floor.

I support the mission and work of the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association. I support passage of H.R. 1663, which would give the foundation more operational flexibility, as I did when the House passed a similar version last Congress.

However, I would be remiss if I did not note my concern with section 6 of this bill. Federal law requires the foundation's principal office to be in the District of Columbia. Section 6 would amend that requirement and allow the foundation to have its principal office at any location in the United States decided by its board of directors and specified by its bylaws. Currently, the foundation's principal office is in Arlington, Virginia, in violation of Federal law.

I am speaking on this bill not to oppose it but to make a larger point about the location of Federal agencies. While the foundation is a federally chartered corporation and operates independently of the Federal Government, H.R. 1663 comes to the floor at a time when the Trump administration and many Members of Congress, among them my Republican colleagues, are working to relocate Federal agencies outside the national capital region.

Recently, Senators JOSH HAWLEY and MARSHA BLACKBURN introduced a bill that would relocate most agencies outside of the Nation's Capital and the national capital region. We can have a discussion on ways to make government work better for the American people, but such bills should not be part of that discussion.

These types of bills or administration proposals are often used for cheap talk-

ing points against the national capital region and Federal employees or are intended to undermine the work of the Federal agencies the bills or proposals are ostensibly designed to help.

Eighty-five percent of Federal employees work outside of the national capital region already. Hundreds of Federal employees and their families have already been harmed by the recent relocation of two U.S. Department of Agriculture agencies, as has the work of those agencies.

Congress cannot do its job without the unvarnished facts and briefings that nonpartisan agencies give the House and Senate almost daily. I have already gotten language in appropriations bills that would block politically motivated moves outside of the national capital region, and I will continue to fight agency relocations with every tool at my disposal.

Fortunately, H.R. 1663 is not about relocation.

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

I thank the gentlewoman, who is a great champion for the people of Washington, D.C., and I could not agree more with her sentiments about efforts being made in the Senate to relocate agencies central to the operation of the national government away from the national capital region. I stand firmly with her in opposition to that disturbing trend.

As the gentlewoman noted, the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association operates independently of the Federal Government and is currently headquartered in Arlington. I have received assurances from the FBA that they have no plans to relocate their principal offices as a result of the passage of this bill.

FBA's mission and institutional interests, advancing the quality of justice in the Federal judiciary, necessitate location close to Washington, D.C.

Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman from Ohio is prepared to close, I am as well.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The gentleman from Georgia is not prepared to close because, frankly, the gentleman from Ohio is on his way. I will do the best I can here.

Mr. Speaker, interesting discussion today. I could go on. I think it is interesting. Again, sometimes we get lost in the formalities and everything else of what is going on here. But this discussion about moving offices outside the District and moving them around is an issue and discussion that should be had.

I think there are some that are very vital to being here in the District or, as in the case of this organization, in Arlington, just outside the District. But then there are also some very real concerns on how we can discuss that.

I think one of the things that we have lost, and I will discuss here since

we are in this mode, is this discussion of having a real, honest, back-and-forth discussion on legislation and pieces of legislation or, honestly, where things need to be.

Mr. Speaker, I think this is something that is vitally missing, probably from both sides of the aisle, especially this year, as we look at the context of bills and stuff that have gone on without the benefit of true bipartisan discussion. I can think of the arbitration bill that was just recently on the floor, in which there were very real concerns that Republicans had, very real concerns the Democrats had.

Unfortunately, when I actually mentioned to the chairman that I think we could have gotten a bill that would have had 375, 400 votes on the floor for "yes," my chairman was amazed. Do you think we really could have? And I said, yes, if we had engaged in dialogue to fix what was wrong and not try to do a whole rewrite on something that could get made into law.

I think these are the kind of discussions that are very good. I think these are the kind of discussions that make it.

I appreciate so much the gentlewoman taking up for the District of Columbia. I think that is exactly why we come here. I come here from the perspective of northeast Georgia. The gentleman comes from Maryland. The gentlewoman comes from the District right here.

Members from all over the body bring their ideas and their thoughts of their constituents to the floor, especially in markups and especially in bills, in which not everything, at the end of the day, is from a Republican or Democratic standpoint.

At the end of day, as someone who has authored many pieces of legislation, just as the gentleman has as well, the big things get done when we work together. The big things—I mean, criminal justice reform was when HAKEEM JEFFRIES and I bridged a large gap in a divide, even an unruly Senate, to actually pass something that really worked.

We had the Music Modernization Act, which, again, took 6 years to discuss and 6 years to be a part of. When you had Members of the bodies that ended up being a part of this not even willing to sit down and talk to each other at the beginning of this process and, at the end of the day, having a major accomplishment and a major bill that was passed because of bipartisanship, I think that it gave on both sides.

□ 1230

I appreciate the gentlewoman bringing those things up. I think it is an interesting correlation between the Federal Bar Association and the excellent work that they do. I have no problem with the work that they do.

I will reserve, if the gentleman would like to share and respond on what we just talked about.

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

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

I want to thank the distinguished and always eloquent gentleman from Georgia for his comments on a number of interesting things. One is the question of bipartisanship and us working together, and I think the gentleman correctly invites us to study the record of legislative success and achievements in our body.

It is true that the best legislation, like the Voting Rights Act, for example, is legislation that came through a bipartisan process where we had both parties working together.

All of our great Presidents have been people who themselves were involved in partisan politics, and often in a bare-knuckled way, but also, once they were in office, called the country to try to speak across party lines.

Jefferson said, "We are all republicans. We are all federalists" in his inaugural address in 1800.

And Lincoln, of course, said: We are friends; we must not be enemies. We must be friends, and we must not be enemies.

And President Obama said: We are not the red States of America; we are not the blue States of America. We are the United States of America.

And so we have to try to aspire to that even though we work in a party system. And the reason we have a party system is because we are not a one-party dictatorship.

One way to get rid of partisanship is you get rid of political parties and you have a one-party state. But we don't believe in that. We have got political freedom in America.

But, at the same time, once we get in, the same way that we render constituent service to all of our constituents without regard to whether they are Democrats or Republicans or Independents, we should try to render legislative service to the whole country at the same time.

Let me just make one other point to my friend about the Seat of Government Clause.

Now, as the gentleman knows, the distinguished gentlewoman from the District of Columbia represents 700,000 people who have no voting representation in Congress, and the basis for that, what I think is a historical accident, has been the existence of the District Clause that Congress exercises exclusive legislation over the land that is ceded to Congress for the purposes of a seat of government.

Well, I suppose to the extent that there is an attempt to justify us being the only country on Earth where the people of the Capital City are not represented, it has to do with the fact that this is where the Federal Government is located.

Now, the District of Columbia is involved in a statehood struggle, which I support. Like every other American, they want to be part of a State. But as long as they are in the so-called seat of government, it seems to me that the

gentlewoman makes a good point, which is that truly Federal functions should not be stripped away from Washington, D.C., and relocated around the country.

Now, most Federal employees don't live in the National Capital area; 80 to 85 percent of them live across America at Army bases or post offices, Departments of Justice around the country. They work in all of those Federal functions around the country.

But there are certain things that do belong here. The Federal departments clearly belong within the seat of government, and I think that the gentlewoman was just identifying that there has been an effort to strip away essential Federal functions and to relocate them to other parts of the country, leaving her constituents with the worst of both worlds, which is no representation the way that our constituents are represented, but, at the same time, a gradual stripping away of the Federal offices and departments.

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

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I have one more speaker and I will yield him the balance of my time, so when he yields back, I will close.

I appreciate that now that the airplane has circled enough and we have run out of enough fuel, we are now on to the next topic, and I appreciate the gentleman discussing that.

I yield the remainder of my time to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT).

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) for his leadership on this particular piece of legislation that I am going to discuss now.

I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 1663. Put simply, this bill helps to support those Federal attorneys who prosecute major drug traffickers, white-collar criminals, and others who commit Federal crimes and those Federal judges who preside over cases heard in their courtrooms.

In a few short months, the Federal Bar Association will celebrate the centennial anniversary of its founding. It was founded with a mission to promote and support legal research and education, to advance the science of jurisprudence, to facilitate the administration of justice, and to foster improvements in the practice of Federal law.

Back in 1954, Congress chartered the Federal Bar Association, but in the decades since receiving its charter, it has neither been updated nor amended.

As a former educator and attorney and current senior member of the Judiciary Committee myself, I recognize, as many of my colleagues do, the important work that the Federal Bar Association does to bring civics education to classrooms in my State of Ohio and throughout the country.

Without legislation like this, H.R. 1663, it would take, literally, an act of Congress to allow the Federal Bar Association to make simple changes to its bylaws.

More specifically, this legislation gives the association the ability to choose the location of its principal office, restricts its officers from engaging in political activity, and makes other technical changes to conform to commonly used language used by other congressionally chartered groups.

This legislation being considered today serves to provide the Federal Bar Association with the ability to continue its important work and scholarship in communities throughout the country.

Finally, I want to again thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) for his support of H.R. 1663, and I want to thank both Chairman NADLER and Ranking Member COLLINS for bringing it to the floor today for consideration. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support it.

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

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Mr. CHABOT for his excellent work on this legislation, and I want to thank Mr. COLLINS for his thoughtful intervention.

Mr. Speaker, this bill was advanced to allow the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association the flexibility it needs to successfully manage its own affairs, as Mr. CHABOT pointed out. I urge its passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1663.

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.

REAUTHORIZING SECURITY FOR SUPREME COURT JUSTICES ACT OF 2019

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4258) to authorize the Marshal of the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court Police to protect the Justices, employees, and official guests of the Supreme Court outside of the Supreme Court grounds, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4258

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 "Reauthorizing Security for Supreme Court Justices Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. PROTECTION AUTHORITY OF MARSHAL OF THE SUPREME COURT AND SUPREME COURT POLICE.

Section 6121 of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (2), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking "any State" and inserting "any location"; and

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking “violation of federal or state law” and inserting “violation of Federal or State law”; and

(ii) by striking “regulation under federal or state law” and inserting “regulation under Federal or State law”; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking paragraph (2);

(B) by striking “ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS” and all that follows through “Duties under” and inserting “AUTHORIZATION TO CARRY FIREARMS—Duties under”; and

(C) by striking “any State” and inserting “any location”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. STANTON) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

I would like to thank Chairman NADLER and Ranking Member COLLINS for moving H.R. 4258, the Reauthorizing Security for Supreme Court Justices Act of 2019, through the Judiciary Committee in a swift manner.

I would also like to thank my friend and fellow member of the Judiciary Committee, Congressman STEUBE, for joining me in introducing this important piece of legislation.

The Supreme Court Police currently has permanent authority to protect Justices on Supreme Court grounds; however, its authority to protect them outside of the Supreme Court grounds is temporary and has been reauthorized in a bipartisan manner since 1928. H.R. 4258 is a bipartisan bill that will permanently reauthorize the ability to protect the Justices outside of the Supreme Court grounds.

With the increase of potential threats against the Justices of the Supreme Court in recent years and the current authorization set to expire on December 29 of this year, this bill is needed to remove the threat of disruptions and security gaps caused by the temporary authority.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4258. I hope the Senate acts swiftly and considers this bill. It is critically important that we protect the Justices of the highest court in our land.

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

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4258. The gentleman has spoken well of what it actually does and what it will not do. I support that.

I would like to congratulate Congressmen STANTON and STEUBE on their work on this legislation.

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

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. STANTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4258.

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.

□ 1245

VETERAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRAINING ACT OF 2019

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3537) to amend the Small Business Act to codify the Boots to Business Program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3537

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 “Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. BOOTS TO BUSINESS PROGRAM.

Section 32 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657b) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) BOOTS TO BUSINESS PROGRAM.—

“(1) COVERED INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘covered individual’ means—

“(A) a member of the Armed Forces, including the National Guard or Reserves;

“(B) an individual who is participating in the Transition Assistance Program established under section 1144 of title 10, United States Code;

“(C) an individual who—

“(i) served on active duty in any branch of the Armed Forces, including the National Guard or Reserves; and

“(ii) was discharged or released from such service under conditions other than dishonorable; and

“(D) a spouse or dependent of an individual described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C).

“(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—Beginning on the first October 1 after the enactment of this subsection and for the subsequent 4 fiscal years, the Administrator shall carry out a program to be known as the ‘Boots to Business Program’ to provide entrepreneurship training to covered individuals.

“(3) GOALS.—The goals of the Boots to Business Program are to—

“(A) provide assistance and in-depth training to covered individuals interested in business ownership; and

“(B) provide covered individuals with the tools, skills, and knowledge necessary to identify a business opportunity, draft a business plan, identify sources of capital, connect with local resources for small business concerns, and start up a small business concern.

“(4) PROGRAM COMPONENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Boots to Business Program may include—

“(i) a presentation providing exposure to the considerations involved in self-employment and ownership of a small business concern;

“(ii) an online, self-study course focused on the basic skills of entrepreneurship, the language of business, and the considerations involved in self-employment and ownership of a small business concern;

“(iii) an in-person classroom instruction component providing an introduction to the foundations of self employment and ownership of a small business concern; and

“(iv) in-depth training delivered through online instruction, including an online course that leads to the creation of a business plan.

“(B) COLLABORATION.—The Administrator may—

“(i) collaborate with public and private entities to develop course curricula for the Boots to Business Program; and

“(ii) modify program components in coordination with entities participating in a Warriors in Transition program, as defined in section 738(e) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (10 U.S.C. 1071 note).

“(C) USE OF RESOURCE PARTNERS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall—

“(I) ensure that Veteran Business Outreach Centers regularly participate, on a nationwide basis, in the Boots to Business Program; and

“(II) to the maximum extent practicable, use a variety of other resource partners and entities in administering the Boots to Business Program.

“(ii) GRANT AUTHORITY.—In carrying out clause (i), the Administrator may make grants to Veteran Business Outreach Centers, other resource partners, or other entities to carry out components of the Boots to Business Program.

“(D) AVAILABILITY TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—The Administrator shall make available to the Secretary of Defense information regarding the Boots to Business Program, including all course materials and outreach materials related to the Boots to Business Program, for inclusion on the website of the Department of Defense relating to the Transition Assistance Program, in the Transition Assistance Program manual, and in other relevant materials available for distribution from the Secretary of Defense.

“(E) AVAILABILITY TO VETERANS AFFAIRS.—In consultation with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Administrator shall make available for distribution and display at local facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs outreach materials regarding the Boots to Business Program which shall, at a minimum—

“(i) describe the Boots to Business Program and the services provided; and

“(ii) include eligibility requirements for participating in the Boots to Business Program.

“(5) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection and every year 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 Boots to Business Program, which may be included as part of another report submitted to such Committees by the Administrator, and which shall include—

“(A) information regarding grants awarded under paragraph (4)(C);

“(B) the total cost of the Boots to Business Program;

“(C) the number of program participants using each component of the Boots to Business Program;

“(D) the completion rates for each component of the Boots to Business Program;

“(E) to the extent possible—

“(i) the demographics of program participants, to include gender, age, race, relationship to military, military occupational specialty, and years of service of program participants;

“(ii) the number of small business concerns formed or expanded with assistance under the Boots to Business Program;

“(iii) the gross receipts of small business concerns receiving assistance under the Boots to Business Program;

“(iv) the number of jobs created with assistance under the Boots to Business Program;

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

“(vi) the number of program participants receiving financial assistance under loan programs of the Administration;

“(vii) the type and dollar amount of financial assistance received by program participants under any loan program of the Administration; and

“(viii) results of participant satisfaction surveys, including a summary of any comments received from program participants;

“(F) an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Boots to Business Program in each region of the Administration during the most recent fiscal year;

“(G) an assessment of additional performance outcome measures for the Boots to Business Program, as identified by the Administrator;

“(H) any recommendations of the Administrator for improvement of the Boots to Business Program, which may include expansion of the types of individuals who are covered individuals;

“(I) an explanation of how the Boots to Business Program has been integrated with other transition programs and related resources of the Administration and other Federal agencies; and

“(J) any additional information the Administrator determines necessary.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCHNEIDER. 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 gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 3537, the Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act of 2019, and I thank Mr. SPANO for joining me in introducing this legislation and helping lead this effort to improve the program to ensure veterans can continue to take advantage of the Boots to Business Program.

It is an honor to be here today to celebrate and honor our Nation's veteran

entrepreneurs. Just this week we celebrated Veterans Day and last week we marked National Veterans Small Business Week.

Every member of the military has already demonstrated their love of country by committing everything, including potentially their lives, in the service of our Nation. When their service in uniform is completed, many veterans direct their passion to starting a business. Such dedication to Nation and community should be recognized every day. This is patriotism and not a partisan issue.

That is why I am pleased that the Small Business Committee can once again highlight how we put aside the differences we may have in some areas and now bring these bipartisan bills to the floor today.

Entrepreneurship has always been a bedrock of the American economy, particularly for our returning vets. That is why our committee is focused on bipartisan solutions to repay our veterans through policies designed to ease the risk of starting and running a business.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ and Ranking Member CHABOT, as well as the committee staff, for working with us to increase the opportunities and resources for veteran entrepreneurs.

H.R. 3537 bolsters the Small Business Administration's Boots to Business Program to enhance our ability to ensure that it is effectively serving aspiring veteran businessowners.

There are approximately 2.5 million veteran-owned businesses generating \$1 trillion in receipts. Such successes are a draw for many of the men and women leaving the service today to become their own bosses.

Entrepreneurship provides a promising opportunity to continue serving their country, creating jobs in their local communities, while supporting their families.

Empowering vets to succeed as entrepreneurs should be a viable option for people trained to lead, inspire, and achieve remarkable things. Their success spurs local economic development and demonstrates our commitment to their aspirations of entrepreneurship.

But starting a business can be complex and sometimes daunting. The process can seem overwhelming, but programs like Boots to Business offer resources and assistance from experts, giving aspiring entrepreneurs the lessons of others' previous experience.

Initially launched in 2012, the Boots to Business Program offers transitioning servicemembers and military spouses insights into self-employment and business ownership. The Veterans Business Outreach Centers are trained and empowered to deliver these services to over 180 military installations nationwide. In 2018, over 17,000 veterans, servicemembers, and military spouses participated in the 2-day course.

Research has shown that servicemembers are distinctly qualified to

start and run their own businesses. While serving in the military, they learn how to make good decisions in chaotic environments and are natural, confident, and driven leaders.

Each year, more than 200,000 servicemembers make the transition from military to civilian life. Transition assistance is critical to ensure that those who serve in the military have opportunities for meaningful employment.

H.R. 3537 addresses the many issues we have heard from veterans by updating many aspects of the program and also offering certainty by codifying it for the next 5 years.

Mr. Speaker, I again thank Mr. SPANO and the committee for their work on this important bill. 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. I rise in support of H.R. 3537, the Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act of 2019.

Mr. Speaker, before I speak on the bill, I want to again thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ, who is unable to be with us, so then the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER), for running our committee in such a bipartisan fashion.

Today we have yet another strong package of five bills that are fully bipartisan. So, again, I want to make sure that we recognize that we all have a seat at the table on that committee.

Today's five bills focus on our Nation's heroes, our veterans, service-disabled veterans, reservists, National Guard members, and their spouses.

Last month, four veterans testified before our committee and reminded us of the incredible contributions those who have served our country make. They have made extraordinary sacrifices, put their lives on the line, and kept our country safe.

Their service to our Nation doesn't always stop when they separate from the military. Increasingly, veterans are choosing to open their own small businesses.

Research has shown that servicemembers are especially qualified to start running their own firms. While serving in the military, they learn to make good decisions in chaotic circumstances, and are confident, driven, and natural leaders.

There are a myriad of programs and services across the Federal Government that assist veterans who start businesses after leaving the military.

At the Small Business Committee, we have the unique opportunity to support our Nation's veterans as they embark on their next adventure: business ownership. The SBA offers funding, training, and Federal contracting resources tailored to meet the needs of our veterans. We are committed to making the SBA's programs and services more accessible to our Nation's veteran entrepreneurs.

At the hearing from earlier this year titled, "Continuing to Serve: From

Military to Entrepreneur,” we heard firsthand from veteran small business owners that entrepreneurship has empowered current and former servicemembers and their spouses. The Boots to Business Program is a first step in their journey.

Originally launched in 2012, the Boots to Business Program offers transitioning servicemembers and military spouses information about self-employment and business ownership. Participants complete a 2-day, in-person entrepreneurship program and can access additional training through online courses.

H.R. 3537, the Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act of 2019, codifies the Boots to Business Program, solidifying a crucial piece of veteran entrepreneurs’ support network. Through this program, participants are introduced to the SBA and its resource partners, who will have their back as they experience new challenges of business ownership.

The program’s success is a statement to interagency collaboration, and we can give veterans the holistic support they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is another product of our committee’s bipartisan cooperation, as I mentioned before, and I would like to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SPANO) for working together to increase business opportunities for our Nation’s heroes.

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

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SPANO), and I want to thank him for his leadership on this legislation.

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member CHABOT for yielding.

I rise today in support of the Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act of 2019, a bill that I was proud to introduce with Representative SCHNEIDER.

This bill authorizes the Boots to Business Program for 5 years, which provides educational opportunities to veterans and their families on how to start and manage their own small businesses.

Veterans often have the natural temperament and experience to be successful entrepreneurs. They are trained to be confident leaders and they know how to make tough decisions in very, very difficult environments. However, many veterans often retire from the service with all the right tools but lack the knowledge on how to apply them in the business world. The Boots to Business Program fills this gap.

As a pilot program, it provides a number of opportunities to educate veterans in entrepreneurship. The flagship offering of the program is the Introduction to Entrepreneurship course, a 2-day, in-person training on the fun-

damental principles of business ownership.

Specifically, the course teaches participants how to recognize business opportunities, create a business plan, and consider the legal and financial aspects of how to operate a business. This allows veterans to come to the course with the beginnings of a business idea and leave with the tools to turn it into a viable business model.

Boots to Business also follows up this introductory course with more in-depth educational opportunities on specific topics, such as conducting market research and revenue readiness.

Beyond these educational opportunities, Boots to Business provides veteran entrepreneurs access to free consultants for follow-up questions and to help them navigate loan programs offered by the Small Business Administration.

I have personally seen the positive impacts of the Boots to Business Program in my district. Introduction to Entrepreneurship classes are regularly offered at MacDill Air Force Base, and so far, 100 courses have been given throughout Florida.

The program has been a great benefit to the veterans in my community, and I am confident that it will continue to benefit veterans across the country.

Mr. Speaker, the bill passed unanimously from the Small Business Committee, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BALDERSON), and I want to commend him for his leadership on this as well.

Mr. BALDERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of a bill I cosponsored, H.R. 3537, the Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act.

This bill would authorize the Boots to Business Program, which helps our Nation’s veterans who are transitioning back into the workforce launch and grow their small businesses.

Our Nation just celebrated Veterans Day, and while it is a wonderful way for us to show our appreciation for those who have served the United States honorably, it is also important we honor those veterans year-round.

We must never forget our highest commitment, which is to support our servicemembers, veterans, and their families.

The Boots to Business Program is one such way we can do that for our veterans, by providing them with the tools and resources they need to be successful entrepreneurs in our modern world.

The Boots to Business Program is an important way for our country to support two fundamentally American values: small business and military service.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 3537.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I have no further Members seeking time. If the gentleman is prepared to close, we will close now.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend, again, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SPANO) and Mr. BALDERSON for their leadership on this bill, which works to increase business opportunities for our Nation’s veterans.

As Mr. BALDERSON just mentioned, many of us attended various Veterans Day events earlier this week, and I think he is absolutely right: this is something where we can continue every day of the year to help those who really do seek to start a business, to grow a business, and create more jobs for veterans and for other members of American society.

Mr. Speaker, I urge its support. It is bipartisan legislation. It supports our Nation’s veterans.

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time. Again, I want to thank my colleague, the ranking member, from Ohio.

By developing new products, advancing research, and creating new markets, entrepreneurs are a vital force in our economy. Over the years, we have repeatedly seen the important role veterans play in this process.

Due to their leadership, training, perseverance, knowledge of procurement processes, and other skills acquired in the military, veterans are often exceptionally well qualified to launch and manage their own business. In fact, veterans own one in ten small firms in our country and support more than 5 million jobs.

Despite being positioned to succeed as entrepreneurs, servicemembers transitioning into civilian life face obstacles starting their own small businesses.

The Boots to Business Program is designed to alleviate these challenges by providing a path to entrepreneurship for veterans without compelling them to attend business school, which could mean more time away from their families.

Boots to Business is unlike any other entrepreneurial development program offered by the SBA, because its curriculum focuses on educating servicemembers about the basic concepts of business, SBA resources, real world insight, and how to manage expectations, and it is directly tied in to their transition programming.

The Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act not only codifies the program for the next 5 years, but also ensures that the information is accessible and readily available to all servicemembers wishing to test the waters of entrepreneurship.

□ 1300

At our hearing on the bill, Retired Army Captain Scott Davidson perhaps

put it best when he described Boots to Business as helping servicemembers take a “step in the direction of entrepreneurship and foster and channel the warrior ethos that had them succeed in the military to boost success in the boardroom.”

H.R. 3537 is a commonsense move and one supported by The American Legion.

I, again, thank my colleague Mr. SPANO for joining me in introducing this legislation.

We all duly and respectfully observed Veterans Day on Monday. Every day, we must reinforce our obligation to servicemembers by giving them the education and tools to seize the opportunity of entrepreneurship.

Again, I thank the chairwoman and ranking member for their 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 gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3537.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. 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.

PATRIOTIC EMPLOYER PROTECTION ACT OF 2019

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3661) to support entrepreneurs serving in the National Guard and Reserve, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3661

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 “Patriotic Employer Protection Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF LOAN ASSISTANCE AND DEFERRAL ELIGIBILITY TO RESERVISTS BEYOND PERIODS OF MILITARY CONFLICT.

(a) SMALL BUSINESS ACT AMENDMENTS.—Section 7 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking clause (ii);

(ii) by redesignating clause (i) as clause (ii);

(iii) by inserting before clause (ii), as so redesignated, the following:

“(i) the term ‘active service’ has the meaning given that term in section 101(d)(3) of title 10, United States Code;” and

(iv) in clause (ii), as so redesignated, by adding “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “being ordered to active military duty during a pe-

riod of military conflict” and inserting “being ordered to perform active service for a period of more than 30 consecutive days”;

(C) in subparagraph (C), by striking “active duty” each place it appears and inserting “active service”; and

(D) in subparagraph (G)(ii)(II), by striking “active duty” and inserting “active service”; and

(2) in subsection (n)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking “ACTIVE DUTY” and inserting “ACTIVE SERVICE”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking subparagraph (C);

(ii) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as subparagraphs (B) and (C), respectively;

(iii) by inserting before subparagraph (B), as so redesignated, the following:

“(A) ACTIVE SERVICE.—The term ‘active service’ has the meaning given that term in section 101(d)(3) of title 10, United States Code.”;

(iv) in subparagraph (B), as so redesignated, by striking “ordered to active duty during a period of military conflict” and inserting “ordered to perform active service for a period of more than 30 consecutive days”; and

(v) in subparagraph (D), by striking “active duty” each place it appears and inserting “active service”; and

(C) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “active duty” each place it appears and inserting “active service”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by subsection (a)(1) shall apply to an economic injury suffered or likely to be suffered as the result of an essential employee being ordered to perform active service (as defined in section 101(d)(3) of title 10, United States Code) for a period of more than 30 consecutive days who is discharged or released from such active service on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) SEMIANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and semiannually thereafter, the President shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report on the number of loans made under the Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loan program and the dollar volume of those loans. The report shall contain the subsidy rate of the disaster loan program as authorized under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)) with the loans made under the Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loan program and without those loans included.

(d) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 8(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking “The Administration” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administration”;

(2) by striking “(as defined in section 7(n)(1))”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) DEFINITION OF PERIOD OF MILITARY CONFLICT.—In this subsection, the term ‘period of military conflict’ means—

“(A) a period of war declared by the Congress;

“(B) a period of national emergency declared by the Congress or by the President; or

“(C) a period of a contingency operation, as defined in section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code.”.

SEC. 3. 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 gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCHNEIDER. 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 gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3661, the Patriotic Employer Protection Act of 2019.

Mr. Speaker, this commonsense legislation recognizes the service of our reservists and the companies they work at by broadening the ability of small business employers to access loans when a reservist is deployed.

Across the country, small business owners are doing the right thing by actively employing military reservists. Congress recognized the strain a small business can be under when key employees are deployed on missions. That is why this distinguished body created the SBA’s military reservist programs, which are the Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loan program and the Repayment Deferral for Active Duty Reservists program. These two programs provide emergency working capital and loan flexibility to small business owners who have an essential employee who is an Active Duty reservist called into action.

Over the past decade, our Reserve Forces have experienced a shift from a strategic reserve to an operational reserve. This bill addresses that shift by expanding the pool of eligible reservists through a restructuring of the programs so they are not limited to periods of conflict.

This seemingly minor modification, in addition to increased coordination between the SBA and the National Guard Bureau and State Adjutants General, will lead to targeted outreach and education about the programs while also modernizing them to meet the needs of today’s small employers.

I thank Congressman KIM and Congressman BURCHETT for working with me to improve access to affordable capital for small businesses, especially those owned by or who employ reservists.

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. 3661, the Patriotic Employer Protection Act of 2019.

Mr. Speaker, nearly half of all employees in the United States work for a small business. These employees come from every State and territory, and every congressional district. Many of them also serve our Nation proudly.

When these men and women are called up for military duty, the small business that they work for may be at a disadvantage due to their absence. If a small business experiences an economic loss due to the essential employee being called up to duty, the small business has the ability to apply for a Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loan through the SBA.

To modernize this loan program, H.R. 3661, this bill, adds employees who are also on full-time National Guard duty to the eligibility list. This reform further aligns this SBA program with the way today's military operates.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) for working in a bipartisan manner on behalf of the Nation's military servicemembers. Additionally, I thank the chairwoman, as usual, for moving this legislation forward in a bipartisan manner.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, which was favorably reported out of committee via voice vote, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, it is now my privilege to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. KIM), my friend and colleague who is a sponsor of this bill.

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to stand up for small business owners across our country who want to do the patriotic thing and provide economic opportunities to those serving in the military Reserves.

I represent Burlington County and Ocean County in New Jersey, home to Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. Approximately 5,500 reservists are currently serving at our joint base, and 99 percent of New Jersey businesses are classified as small businesses.

For those small business owners who are members of the Reserves or want to hire reservists, there is uncertainty and risks that come with unexpected deployments and activations to Active Duty. During times of war, we not only ask these reservists to sacrifice during their service but to sacrifice their economic well-being.

In 2003, during the Iraq war, a small business owner and servicemember named Stanley Adams was called to

Active Duty. Mr. Adams, who owned two thriving livestock trailer companies, had to close one down and saw revenue plummet during his deployment. In an interview, Mr. Adams said, "Everything came to a halt, and all this money still had to be paid."

We owe our servicemembers more than that. Serving our country shouldn't be a barrier to those who want to start or work for a small business. We should reward these patriots, not create an environment of economic uncertainty.

That is why I am proud to introduce the bipartisan Patriotic Employer Protection Act with Congressman BURCHETT. The Patriotic Employer Protection Act would restructure two programs—the Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loan program and the Repayment Deferral for Active Duty Reservists program—so that they better reflect the current deployment trends of reservists. The bill would allow these programs to be used for any reservists being ordered to Active Duty for a period of more than 30 consecutive days, broadening the program to more people in need.

In addition, the bill would create a new business training program to provide counseling and assistance to support members of the Reserves and their spouses, as well as direct the Small Business Administration to develop more targeted and effective outreach to reservists and small business owners.

The American Legion, which has endorsed this bill, has called these important programs "underutilized because their eligibility restrictions do not fully reflect current deployment practices." This bill fixes that and empowers small business owners across the country to provide a path to the American Dream for those servicemembers who fight to protect it every day.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join myself and Congressman BURCHETT in supporting this bill.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT), the Republican leader on this particular bill.

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Patriotic Employer Protection Act. I am proud of this bipartisan legislation that encourages small business owners to hire military reservists.

Military reservists bravely serve America and are also members of our Nation's small business workforce. In east Tennessee and throughout America, small business owners rely on the abilities and skills of reservists. When an employee is activated from the Reserves to answer the call of duty, small businesses should not struggle while that employee is absent.

This legislation improves small businesses' access to Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loans and Repayment Deferral for Active Duty Reservists. These programs offer finan-

cial support to small businesses that lose valuable production when a reservist is activated for military service.

By improving access to these programs, small businesses can continue to operate while an employee is serving in the military. Additionally, it gives small businesses peace of mind that their businesses will not suffer in the absence of military reservists.

It takes courage to put your livelihood and career on hold to serve our country, and small businesses should be proud of their employees' military commitments.

Mr. Speaker, it has been an honor to champion this legislation with Representative KIM, and I encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, a small business should not be disadvantaged if the men and women who they employ are called to military duty.

H.R. 3661 updates the SBA's Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loan program to ensure it aligns with today's military.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation. I thank Mr. BURCHETT and Mr. KIM for their leadership on this, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I, too, commend and thank Representative KIM and Representative BURCHETT for their leadership on this. The Small Business Committee, as a whole, commends those small business owners who support their employees serving in the National Guard and Reserves and thereby support our national security.

Reservists can be called away at a moment's notice and fulfill their duty in a variety of ways. For instance, we rely on them during our most vulnerable times, like during natural disasters, and they can be tapped to serve abroad when needed and necessary.

They protect us and our communities by leaving their lives and communities behind. Though they may be called upon temporarily, their absence is sorely noticed by their families and employers who rely upon them.

The bill before us today, H.R. 3661, takes their absence into consideration by reflecting how our Nation has changed the way we call upon them. By making the SBA's Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loan and Repayment Deferral for Active Duty Reservists programs more accessible to servicemembers and their employers, we are helping to sustain small businesses, families, and local communities.

This legislation makes sure that the SBA can be a resource for when employers support their workers while on deployment.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3661, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SERVICE-DISABLED VETERANS SMALL BUSINESS CONTINUATION ACT

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 499) to amend the Small Business Act to clarify the treatment of certain surviving spouses under the definition of small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 499

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 “Service-Disabled Veterans Small Business Continuation Act”.

SEC. 2. TECHNICAL AMENDMENT REGARDING TREATMENT OF CERTAIN SURVIVING SPOUSES UNDER THE DEFINITION OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY SERVICE-DISABLED VETERANS.

Effective on the date specified in subsection (e) of section 1832 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328; 130 Stat. 2660), section 3(q)(2) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(q)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C)(i)(II), by striking “rated as 100 percent” and all that follows through “service-connected disability”; and

(2) by amending subparagraph (C)(ii)(III) to read as follows:

“(III) the date that—

“(aa) in the case of a surviving spouse of a veteran with a service-connected disability rated as 100 percent disabling or who dies as a result of a service-connected disability, is 10 years after the date of the death of the veteran; or

“(bb) in the case of a surviving spouse of a veteran with a service-connected disability rated as less than 100 percent disabling who does not die as a result of a service-connected disability, is 3 years after the date of the death of the veteran.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCHNEIDER. 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 gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 499, the Service-Disabled Veterans Small Business Continuation Act, which protects small businesses owned by disabled veterans by providing a transitional period to keep service-disabled veteran-owned small business status in the event of the business owner’s death. This bill codifies our intention to bridge the differences between the SBA and VA by establishing uniformity.

We know that running a small business often involves many members of a family. By extending surviving spousal rights to the SDVOSB definition, we are honoring the sacrifice a deceased veteran previously made for our country. We are also providing stability for the business and its employees to ensure that they can remain competitive, rather than being effectively penalized by the death of the service-disabled veteran business owner.

I thank Ranking Member CHABOT and Mr. DELGADO for working together to ensure that when a disabled veteran business owner passes, the law does not impose insult to injury by penalizing the surviving spouse.

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

□ 1315

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 499, the Service-Disabled Veteran Small Business Continuation Act.

First, I would like to thank Chairman TAKANO and Ranking Member ROE of the House Veterans’ Affairs Committee for their leadership and collaboration on this issue. I would also like to thank the gentleman from New York, a member of our Small Business Committee, Mr. DELGADO, for his willingness to work with me and be a leader on this legislation.

I, like all Members of this body, hear from many constituents on a wide range of issues. One issue that is particularly important to me and the folks in my district is to ensure that veterans and their families are treated fairly by the government that they have served so bravely.

Many of our men and women in uniform come home after serving and decide to use their considerable talents to become small business owners. Unfortunately, the laws and regulations around starting a business can be difficult to navigate—almost prohibitive—when they shouldn’t be. Further exacerbating the problem is when one part of the law says one thing, yet another part of the law says something entirely different.

How can we expect our veterans to come home and become successful entrepreneurs when our laws are often

unclear? That is why this bill, H.R. 499, is so important. While Congress has already codified in title 38 a common-sense policy allowing the surviving spouse of the service-disabled veteran small business owner to retain the company’s SDVOSB status for a certain length of time, the Small Business Act has no such policy and this lack of parity creates legal uncertainty in the application of the law and confusion for veterans and their families.

H.R. 499 provides clarity in the law by ensuring continuity across the government in the way we treat our veteran entrepreneurs and their families. The bill amends the Small Business Act to align with title 38, guaranteeing that the surviving spouses of service-disabled veteran small business owners can keep the valuable SDVOSB small business designation for their company for a certain period of time, even after the veteran owner passes away.

Correcting this misalignment in the law is the least we can do to provide our Nation’s heroes and their families with some measure of comfort and peace of mind, especially when dealing with this type of family tragedy.

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. DELGADO).

Mr. DELGADO. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend and colleague Representative SCHNEIDER from Illinois for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the first bill I introduced as a Member of Congress, the bipartisan Service-Disabled Veterans Small Business Continuation Act.

This legislation which I introduced with Members from both sides of the aisle, Ranking Member CHABOT, Congressman JACK BERGMAN, and Representative CORREA, responds to the critical need to ensure that spouses of service-disabled veterans can start or continue operating a small business after the veteran’s passing.

The spouses, families, and loved ones of our servicemembers carry enormous burdens. Not only do they make sacrifices to support their loved ones in the military, they are integral to the transition back to civilian life.

The Service-Disabled Veterans Small Business Continuation Act seeks to address one of the many burdens carried by the spouses of our military veterans. Rightfully so, both the Small Business Administration, and the VA give contracting preferences to small businesses owned by service-disabled veterans. However, currently, when the veteran dies, only a small handful of spouses can retain that contracting preference. That is because this contracting preference is only given to the spouses of veterans with a 100 percent disability.

Spouses of service-disabled veterans should be able to retain this preference

regardless of the veteran's disability rating. This bill makes an important correction ensuring that all spouses of service-disabled veterans retain Federal contracting preference as a service-disabled veteran-owned small business no matter the severity of that veteran's injury.

This will give surviving spouses the opportunity to remain competitive in the Federal contracting market and help ensure that businesses are not upended after the death of their veteran spouse.

I want to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their cooperation on this issue and commitment to the families and spouses of our veterans. Caring for our Nation's heroes should never be a partisan issue. I urge the House to support this legislation.

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

Mr. Speaker, this commonsense bill fixes an oversight by Congress to align the way the Federal Government treats the surviving spouse of a service-disabled veteran-owned small business. The bill simply aligns title 15, the Small Business Act, with title 38, ensuring continuity across the government for this important policy.

This bill will provide our Nation's heroes and their families with peace of mind. I urge this bill's adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, both the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Small Business Administration value the sacrifices of America's veterans and, in particular, we note today, service-disabled veterans who remain committed to their country by starting small firms.

In that vein, the VA and the SBA have contracting preferences for service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses. Despite the success of these programs, neither adequately address what happens when the service-disabled veteran owner dies. The death of a loved one by itself, an already devastating event, is compounded by needing to attend to the duties of running his or her small business and it is often debilitating.

The sudden death of a veteran whose small business relies upon a contracting preference takes a toll on the spouse of the deceased veteran, the business operations, and the business' employees.

H.R. 499 establishes much-needed certainty by rectifying inherently critical oversight. Setting forth the rules by which a surviving spouse can retain the service-disabled veteran-owned small business status honors the dedication of the veteran, the surviving spouse, and their business.

The government has a responsibility to ensure those who give so much to their country have the opportunity for their small business passions to survive and prosper, even upon death.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 499.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. 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.

SUCCESSFUL ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR RESERVISTS AND VETERANS ACT

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3734) to require the Comptroller General of the United States to report on access to credit for small business concerns owned and controlled by covered individuals, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to report on the veterans interagency task force, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3734

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 "Successful Entrepreneurship for Reservists and Veterans Act" or the "SERV Act".

SEC. 2. REPORTING REQUIREMENT FOR VETERANS INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE.

Section 32(c) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657b(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(4) REPORT.—Along with the budget justification documents for the Small Business Administration submitted to Congress in connection with the budget for a fiscal year submitted under 1105 of title 31, United States Code, the Administrator shall submit a report—

"(A) discussing the appointments made to and activities of the task force; and

"(B) identifying and outlining a plan for outreach and promotion of the programs and services for veterans, including Veteran Business Outreach Centers, Boots to Business, Boots to Business Reboot, Service-Disabled Entrepreneurship Development Training Program, Veteran Institute for Procurement, Women Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Program, and Veteran Women Igniting the Spirit of Entrepreneurship."

SEC. 3. GAO REPORT ON ACCESS TO CREDIT.

(a) REPORT ON ACCESS TO CREDIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report on the ability of small business concerns owned and controlled by covered individuals to access credit to—

(A) the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include, to the extent practicable, an analysis of—

(A) the sources of credit used by small business concerns owned and controlled by covered individuals and the average percentage of the credit obtained from each source by such concerns;

(B) the default rate for small business concerns owned and controlled by covered individuals, disaggregated by each source of credit described in subparagraph (A), as compared to the default rate for the source of credit for small business concerns generally;

(C) the Federal lending programs available to provide credit to small business concerns owned and controlled by covered individuals;

(D) gaps, if any, in the availability of credit for small business concerns owned and controlled by covered individuals that are not being filled by the Federal Government or private sources;

(E) obstacles faced by covered individuals in trying to access credit;

(F) the extent to which deployment and other military responsibilities affect the credit history of veterans and Reservists; and

(G) the extent to which covered individuals are aware of Federal programs targeted towards helping covered individuals access credit.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

(1) COVERED INDIVIDUAL.—The term "covered individual" means—

(A) a veteran;

(B) a service-disabled veteran;

(C) a Reservist;

(D) the spouse of an individual described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C); or

(E) the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces.

(2) RESERVIST.—The term "Reservist" means a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces, as described in section 10101 of title 10, United States Code.

(3) SMALL BUSINESS ACT DEFINITIONS.—The terms "service-disabled veteran", "small business concern", and "veteran" have the meanings given those terms, respectively, under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCHNEIDER. 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 gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3734, the Successful Entrepreneurship for Reservists, or SERV Act.

The SBA offers several programs to help aspiring and existing veteran entrepreneurs launch and grow their small businesses. But as valuable as they are, more must be done to promote these programs to guarantee that our veterans are aware of them and utilizing them.

The Interagency Task Force on Veterans Small Business Development was established to do just that. The task force is chaired by the SBA and is comprised of representatives appointed by the SBA's administrator from a variety of agencies, including: the SBA's Office of Veterans Business Development, Department of Defense, Department of Labor, Department of the Treasury, Veterans' Affairs, General Services Administration, Office of Management and Budget, and four representatives from veterans service and military organizations.

The task force is charged with coordinating efforts to improve capital access, business development, and contracting goals for veterans. Unfortunately, it hasn't filed an annual report since fiscal year 2015. This delay is wholly unacceptable on its face. Considering we heard from veterans about the needs for more outreach and coordination of business services, it only makes the delay more painful.

Today's legislation requires the SBA administrator to report annually on the appointments made, highlighting the activities of and plan for outreach and engagement by the Interagency Task Force on Veterans Small Business Development.

Annual reporting will give Congress the visibility over the task force responsible for serving our veterans at SBA and the ability to provide proper oversight. Gathering a regular snapshot of the program will enable Congress to make modifications where they are needed in a timely fashion.

I want to thank Ms. DAVIDS and Ranking Member CHABOT for their collaboration on this bill. I urge Members to support this bipartisan 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. 3734, the Successful Entrepreneurship for Reservists and Veterans Act or the SERV Act.

Veteran-owned small businesses are some of the Nation's most innovative companies. They are nimble and move quickly as markets change directions. The resources that are available to our veteran-owned small businesses should be as effective and as efficient as the owners themselves.

The SERV Act requires the SBA to outline the agency's veteran outreach plans and veteran promotion plans to Congress. Additionally, H.R. 3734, requires the Government Accountability Office to evaluate credit availability of veteran, service-disabled veteran, and reservist-owned small businesses.

I want to thank the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS) for working with me in a bipartisan manner on this legislation. I also want to thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ for advancing this commonsense legislation that will assist veterans as they work to launch and build strong small businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the SERV Act which was favor-

ably reported out of committee by voice vote, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS), my good friend and cosponsor of this bill.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend and colleague from Illinois for yielding.

The first thing I would like to do is thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ and Ranking Member CHABOT for continuing the Small Business Committee's bipartisan efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 3734, the Successful Entrepreneurship for Reservists and Veterans Act, or the SERV Act, which I introduced with Ranking Member CHABOT.

This bipartisan piece of legislation helps veteran business owners succeed by studying the barriers they face, including lack of access to capital and credit. It also helps ensure that veterans are aware of all of the resources available to them through the Small Business Administration.

I was fortunate enough to spend this past weekend on Veterans Day at home in the district I represent in Kansas. I was meeting the brave men and women who have served our country and was hearing about the issues and opportunities that they have.

After everything our veterans have done for us, we must have their backs. They deserve nothing less than access to jobs, healthcare, and the services that they deserve.

That includes the ability to start and grow a small business. Veterans possess many of the leadership and entrepreneurial skills to start and grow small businesses, but they face unique challenges, including difficulty accessing capital and credit.

Since it is tough to accumulate the type of credit needed to start a business during your time in service, those issues are exactly what the SERV Act is intending to address. The SERV Act requires a report from the Comptroller General of the United States on the ability of veteran and reservist small business owners to access credit.

The report will include new information and analysis on the sources of credit that veterans and other reservists use to start and maintain their businesses, as well as how deployment and other military responsibilities affect a veteran's and reservist's credit.

Studying the problem of access to credit for veterans and reservists is a crucial first step in finding the right solutions. This legislation also helps connect veterans to existing programs in the Small Business Administration that are aimed at helping veterans transition their military skills from service to business, like Veteran Business Outreach Centers, Boots to Business, or the Service-Disabled Entrepreneurship Development Training.

These programs provide vital resources for veterans, but they are only

useful if veterans know about them. Without understanding the programs, veterans are not going to be able to access them.

That is why the SERV Act requires the Interagency Task Force on Veterans Small Business Development to develop a plan for outreach and promotion of these incredible programs.

The task force is responsible for coordinating Federal efforts to improve capital access, business development, and contracting opportunities for veteran and service-disabled small businesses. But the task force has not submitted a report to Congress since 2015. That is why the SERV Act would require an annual report to Congress on its appointments and to outline its plan for outreach on the many programs available to veterans, service-disabled veterans, reservists, and their spouses.

I urge all of my colleagues to support the SERV Act and help set our veteran entrepreneurs up for success.

□ 1330

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, veteran-owned small businesses deserve the resources that will prepare them for future growth.

In order to improve our capital access programs for our Nation's veteran-owned businesses, we must fully understand what they are facing when seeking access to affordable and reliable capital. This bipartisan bill will provide future Congresses with a better picture of what is available to them and what is not and where we can plug the gaps for them.

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

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

Assisting entrepreneurs requires integrated, comprehensive solutions that leverage a combination of government and private efforts. Despite progress we have made, hundreds of thousands of veterans and their families continue to struggle, demonstrating how much more must be done.

The interagency veterans task force is a critical part of this effort, and we must hold agencies accountable for ensuring they are meeting the duties placed upon them to maximize outreach to our servicemembers. H.R. 3734 does just this by requiring regular reporting by the task force to gather snapshots of programmatic outreach and education to veterans.

It also asks the Government Accountability Office to study the many issues raised by veteran entrepreneurs facing difficulty accessing credit so that this body can better understand the financing needs of veterans. Doing so enables us to take additional steps to ease the burdens of not just transitioning back to civilian life, but also risking more to start a business.

It is incumbent upon all of us to ensure that resources reach the veterans

and servicemembers held in such high regard.

I sincerely thank Ms. DAVIDS for spearheading this bill and working with Ranking Member CHABOT to make certain we hold agencies, through the task force, accountable.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3734, 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.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. 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.

VERIFICATION ALIGNMENT AND SERVICE-DISABLED BUSINESS ADJUSTMENT ACT

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1615) to transfer the responsibility of verifying small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans or service-disabled veterans to the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1615

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Verification Alignment and Service-disabled Business Adjustment Act” or the “VA-SBA Act”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Transfer date.
- Sec. 3. Amendment to and transfer of veteran-owned and service-disabled veteran-owned business database.
- Sec. 4. Additional requirements for database.
- Sec. 5. Procurement program for small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans.
- Sec. 6. Certification for small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans.
- Sec. 7. Status of self-certified small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans.
- Sec. 8. Transfer of the Center for Verification and Evaluation of the Department of Veterans Affairs to the Small Business Administration.
- Sec. 9. Report.
- Sec. 10. Determination of budgetary effects.

SEC. 2. TRANSFER DATE.

For purposes of this Act, the term “transfer date” means the date that is 2 years after

the date of enactment of this Act, except that such date may be extended an unlimited number of times by a period of not more than 6 months if the Administrator of the Small Business Administration and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs jointly issue a notice to Congress and the Law Revision Counsel of the House of Representatives containing—

(1) a certification that such extension is necessary;

(2) the rationale for and the length of such extension; and

(3) a plan to comply with the requirements of this Act within the timeframe of the extension.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENT TO AND TRANSFER OF VETERAN-OWNED AND SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESS DATABASE.

(a) AMENDMENT OF VETERAN-OWNED AND SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESS DATABASE.—Effective on the transfer date, section 8127 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (e)—

(A) by striking “the Secretary” and inserting “the Administrator”; and

(B) by striking “subsection (f)” and inserting “section 36 of the Small Business Act”;

(2) in subsection (f)—

(A) by striking “the Secretary” each place such term appears, other than in the last place such term appears under paragraph (2)(A), and inserting “the Administrator”;

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking “small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans with service-connected disabilities” each place such term appears and inserting “small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans”;

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “to access” and inserting “to obtain from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs”; and

(ii) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(B) For purposes of this subsection—

“(i) the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall—

“(I) verify an individual’s status as a veteran or a service-disabled veteran; and

“(II) establish a system to permit the Administrator to access, but not alter, such verification; and

“(ii) the Administrator shall verify—

“(I) the status of a business concern as a small business concern; and

“(II) the ownership and control of such business concern.

“(C) The Administrator may not certify a concern under subsection (b) or section 36A if the Secretary of Veterans Affairs cannot provide the verification described under subparagraph (B)(i)(I).”;

(D) by striking paragraphs (4) and (7);

(E) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively, and redesignating paragraph (8) as paragraph (6);

(F) in paragraph (4), as so redesignated, by striking “The Secretary” and inserting “The Administrator”; and

(G) in paragraph (6), as so redesignated—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking “verify the status of the concern as a small business concern or the ownership or control of the concern” and inserting “certify the status of the concern as a small business concern owned and controlled by veterans (under section 36A) or a small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans (under section 36(g))”; and

(II) by striking “verification” and inserting “certification”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in clause (i), by striking “small business concern owned and controlled by veterans

with service-connected disabilities” and inserting “small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans”; and

(II) in clause (ii)—

(aa) by amending subclause (I) to read as follows:

“(I) the Secretary of Veterans Affairs or the Administrator; or”; and

(bb) in subclause (II), by striking “the contracting officer of the Department” and inserting “the applicable contracting officer”; and

(iii) by striking subparagraph (C);

(3) by redesignating subsection (k) (relating to definitions) as subsection (l);

(4) by inserting after subsection (j) (relating to annual reports) the following:

“(k) ANNUAL TRANSFER FOR CERTIFICATION COSTS.—For each fiscal year, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall reimburse the Administrator in an amount necessary to cover any cost incurred by the Administrator for certifying small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans that do not qualify as small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans for the Secretary for purposes of this section and section 8128 of this title. The Administrator is authorized to accept such reimbursement. The amount of any such reimbursement shall be determined jointly by the Secretary and the Administrator and shall be provided from fees collected by the Secretary under multiple-award schedule contracts. Any disagreement about the amount shall be resolved by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.”; and

(5) subsection (1) (relating to definitions), as so redesignated, by adding at the end the following:

“(4) The term Administrator means the Administrator of the Small Business Administration.”.

(b) TRANSFER OF REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO DATABASE TO THE SMALL BUSINESS ACT.—Effective on the transfer date, subsection (f) of section 8127 of title 38, United States Code (as amended by subsection (a)), is transferred to section 36 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657f), inserted so as to appear after subsection (e).

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The following amendments shall take effect on the transfer date:

(1) SMALL BUSINESS ACT.—Section 3(q)(2)(C)(i)(III) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(q)(2)(C)(i)(III)) is amended by striking “section 8127(f) of title 38, United States Code” and inserting “section 36”.

(2) TITLE 38.—Section 8128 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “section 8127(f) of this title” and inserting “section 36 of the Small Business Act”.

SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR DATABASE.

(a) ADMINISTRATION ACCESS TO DATABASE BEFORE THE TRANSFER DATE.—During the period between the date of the enactment of this Act and the transfer date, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall provide the Administrator of the Small Business Administration with access to the contents of the database described under section 8127(f) of title 38, United States Code.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this Act may be construed—

(1) as prohibiting the Administrator of the Small Business Administration from combining the contents of the database described under section 8127(f) of title 38, United States Code, with other databases maintained by the Administration; or

(2) as requiring the Administrator to use any system or technology related to the database described under section 8127(f) of title 38, United States Code, on or after the

transfer date to comply with the requirement to maintain a database under subsection (f) of section 36 of the Small Business Act (as transferred pursuant to section 3(b) of this Act).

(c) RECOGNITION OF THE ISSUANCE OF JOINT REGULATIONS.—The date specified under section 1832(e) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (15 U.S.C. 632 note) shall be deemed to be October 1, 2018.

SEC. 5. PROCUREMENT PROGRAM FOR SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY SERVICE-DISABLED VETERANS.

(a) PROCUREMENT PROGRAM FOR SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY SERVICE-DISABLED VETERANS.—Section 36 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657f) is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (d) and (e);

(2) by redesignating subsections (a), (b), and (c) as subsections (c), (d), and (e) respectively;

(3) by inserting before subsection (c), as so redesignated, the following:

“(a) CONTRACTING OFFICER DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘contracting officer’ has the meaning given such term in section 2101 of title 41, United States Code.

“(b) CERTIFICATION OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY SERVICE-DISABLED VETERANS.—With respect to a procurement program or preference established under this Act that applies to prime contractors, the Administrator shall—

“(1) certify the status of the concern as a ‘small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans’; and

“(2) require the periodic recertification of such status.”;

(4) in subsection (d), as so redesignated, by striking “and that the award can be made at a fair market price” and inserting “, that the award can be made at a fair market price, and if each concern is certified by the Administrator as a small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans”;

(5) by adding at the end the following:

“(g) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—Notwithstanding subsection (c), a contracting officer may only award a sole source contract to a small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans or a contract on the basis of competition restricted to small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans if such a concern is certified by the Administrator as a small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans.

“(h) ENFORCEMENT; PENALTIES.—

“(1) VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY.—In carrying out this section, the Administrator shall establish procedures relating to—

“(A) the filing, investigation, and disposition by the Administration of any challenge to the eligibility of a small business concern to receive assistance under this section (including a challenge, filed by an interested party, relating to the veracity of a certification made or information provided to the Administration by a small business concern under subsection (b)); and

“(B) verification by the Administrator of the accuracy of any certification made or information provided to the Administration by a small business concern under subsection (b).

“(2) EXAMINATIONS.—

“(A) EXAMINATION OF APPLICANTS.—The procedures established under paragraph (1) shall provide for a program of examinations by the Administrator of any small business concern making a certification or providing information to the Administrator under subsection (b), to determine the veracity of any statements or information provided as part

of such certification or otherwise provided under subsection (b).

“(B) EXAMINATION OF CERTIFIED CONCERNS.—The procedures established under paragraph (1) shall provide for the examination of risk-based samples of small business concerns certified under subsection (b), or of any small business concern that the Administrator believes poses a particular risk or with respect to which the Administrator receives specific and credible information alleging that the small business concern no longer meets eligibility requirements to be certified as a small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans.

“(3) PENALTIES.—In addition to the penalties described in section 16(d), any small business concern that is determined by the Administrator to have misrepresented the status of that concern as a small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans for purposes of subsection (b), shall be subject to—

“(A) section 1001 of title 18, United States Code;

“(B) sections 3729 through 3733 of title 31, United States Code; and

“(C) section 8127(g) of title 38, United States Code.

“(i) PROVISION OF DATA.—Upon the request of the Administrator, the head of any Federal department or agency shall promptly provide to the Administrator such information as the Administrator determines to be necessary to carry out subsection (b) or to be able to certify the status of the concern as a small business concern owned and controlled by veterans under section 36A.”.

(b) PENALTIES FOR MISREPRESENTATION.—Section 16 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 645) is amended—

(1) in subsection (d)(1)—

(A) by striking “, a” and inserting “, a ‘small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans’, a ‘small business concern owned and controlled by veterans’, a”;

(B) in paragraph (A), by striking “9, 15, or 31” and inserting “8, 9, 15, 31, 36, or 36A”;

(2) in subsection (e), by striking “, a” and inserting “, a ‘small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans’, a ‘small business concern owned and controlled by veterans’, a”.

SEC. 6. CERTIFICATION FOR SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY VETERANS.

The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 36 the following new section:

“SEC. 36A. CERTIFICATION OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY VETERANS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—With respect to the program established under section 8127 of title 38, United States Code, the Administrator shall—

“(1) certify the status of the concern as a ‘small business concern owned and controlled by veterans’; and

“(2) require the periodic recertification of such status.

“(b) ENFORCEMENT; PENALTIES.—

“(1) VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY.—In carrying out this section, the Administrator shall establish procedures relating to—

“(A) the filing, investigation, and disposition by the Administration of any challenge to the eligibility of a small business concern to receive assistance under this section (including a challenge, filed by an interested party, relating to the veracity of a certification made or information provided to the Administration by a small business concern under subsection (a)); and

“(B) verification by the Administrator of the accuracy of any certification made or information provided to the Administration by

a small business concern under subsection (a).

“(2) EXAMINATION OF APPLICANTS.—The procedures established under paragraph (1) shall provide for a program of examinations by the Administrator of any small business concern making a certification or providing information to the Administrator under subsection (a), to determine the veracity of any statements or information provided as part of such certification or otherwise provided under subsection (a).

“(3) PENALTIES.—In addition to the penalties described in section 16(d), any small business concern that is determined by the Administrator to have misrepresented the status of that concern as a small business concern owned and controlled by veterans for purposes of subsection (a), shall be subject to—

“(A) section 1001 of title 18, United States Code;

“(B) sections 3729 through 3733 of title 31, United States Code; and

“(C) section 8127(g) of title 38, United States Code.”.

SEC. 7. STATUS OF SELF-CERTIFIED SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY SERVICE-DISABLED VETERANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any small business concern that self-certified as a small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans shall—

(1) if the concern files a certification application with the Administrator of the Small Business Administration before the end of the 1-year period beginning on the transfer date, maintain such self-certification until the Administrator makes a determination with respect to such certification; and

(2) if the concern does not file such a certification application before the end of the 1-year period beginning on the transfer date, lose, at the end of such 1-year period, any self-certification of the concern as a small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans.

(b) NON-APPLICABILITY TO DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to participation in contracts (including subcontracts) with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(c) NOTICE.—The Administrator shall notify any small business concern that self-certified as a small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans about the requirements of this Act, including the transfer date and any extension of such transfer date made pursuant to section 2, and make such notice publicly available, on—

(1) the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(2) the date on which an extension described under section 2 is approved.

SEC. 8. TRANSFER OF THE CENTER FOR VERIFICATION AND EVALUATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.

(a) ABOLISHMENT.—The Center for Verification and Evaluation of the Department of Veterans Affairs defined under section 74.1 of title 38, Code of Federal Regulations, is abolished effective on the transfer date.

(b) TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS.—All functions that, immediately before the effective date of this section, were functions of the Center for Verification and Evaluation shall—

(1) on the date of enactment of this Act, be functions of both the Center for Verification and Evaluation and the Small Business Administration, except that the Small Business Administration shall not have any authority to carry out any verification functions of the Center for Verification and Evaluation; and

(2) on the transfer date, be functions of the Small Business Administration.

(c) TRANSFER OF ASSETS.—So much of the personnel, property, and records employed, used, held, available, or to be made available in connection with a function transferred under this section shall be available to the Small Business Administration at such time or times as the President directs for use in connection with the functions transferred.

(d) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any other Federal law, Executive order, rule, regulation, or delegation of authority, or any document of or pertaining to a function of the Center for Verification and Evaluation that is transferred under this section is deemed, after the transfer date, to refer to the Small Business Administration.

SEC. 9. REPORT.

Not later than the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 6 months thereafter until the transfer date, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration and Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall jointly issue a report to the Committees on Appropriations, Small Business, and Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations, Small Business and Entrepreneurship, and Veterans' Affairs of the Senate on the planning for the transfer of functions and property required under this Act and the amendments made by this Act on the transfer date. Such report shall include—

(1) whether and how the verification database and operations of the Center for Verification and Evaluation of the Department of Veterans Affairs will be incorporated into the existing certification database of the Small Business Administration;

(2) projections for the numbers and timing, in terms of fiscal year, of—

(A) already verified concerns that will come up for recertification; and

(B) self-certified concerns that are expected to apply for certification;

(3) an explanation of how outreach to veteran service organizations, the service-disabled veteran-owned and veteran-owned small business community, and other stakeholders will be conducted; and

(4) other pertinent information determined by the Administrator and the Secretary.

SEC. 10. 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 gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCHNEIDER. 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 gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1615, the Verification Alignment and Service-Disabled Business Adjustment Act, or the VA-SBA Act.

I want to first take this opportunity to thank Chairman TAKANO and Ranking Member ROE of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. This bill is a culmination of years of collaboration to ensure we are doing right by our Nation's veteran business owners. I thank the gentlemen for their cooperation and recognize the staff of our respective committees, both majority and minority, for seeing this effort through.

Mr. Speaker, considering how veteran-owned businesses increase competition and solidify our industrial base, Congress created the SBA's Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business, SDVOSB, program to maximize their participation in the Federal marketplace.

In 2018, the Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business procurement program awarded \$20.6 billion to over 180,000 contracts. Such awards accounted for approximately 4.27 percent of all contracts, exceeding the 3 percent statutory goal.

While this accomplishment should be applauded, the structure and resources of the program have not kept pace with the growth. Currently, the Department of Veterans Affairs requires all participants to go through a rigorous certification process. In contrast, the SBA allows businesses to self-certify that they meet the regulatory threshold.

The problem with two certification processes is simple: It creates confusion for business owners and contracting officers alike.

This bill harmonizes the two conflicting contracting programs by eliminating the VA certification and transferring it to the SBA. It also institutes a certification process under the SBA program to prevent concerns of fraud and abuse.

I thank all the members of the respective committees who have sponsored this bill, because it is certainly a step in the right direction to eliminate duplication and confusion between the two agencies. This bipartisan legislation will make it easier for the veteran-owned business to do business with our government.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS,

Washington, DC, November 4, 2019.

Hon. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ,
Chairwoman, Committee on Small Business,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRWOMAN VELÁZQUEZ: I am writing with respect to H.R. 1615, the Verification Alignment and Service-Disabled Business Adjustment Act. Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Veterans' Affairs regarding the matters in H.R. 1615

that fall within the Committee's jurisdiction.

As a result of your consultation with us on this measure and in order to expeditiously move the bill to the floor, I forego further consideration of H.R. 1615. The Committee on Veterans' Affairs takes this action with our mutual understanding that we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and the Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues that fall within our jurisdiction. Further, I request your support for the appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs during any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation.

Finally, I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding regarding H.R. 1615 and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Committee Report and the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the measure. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our respective committees.

Sincerely,

MARK TAKANO,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS,
Washington, DC, November 5, 2019.

Hon. MARK TAKANO,
Chairman, Committee on Veterans' Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN TAKANO: Thank you for your letter regarding the Committee on Veterans' Affairs jurisdictional interest in H.R. 1615, the "Verification Alignment and Service-Disabled Business Adjustment Act" and your willingness to forego consideration of H.R. 1615 by your committee. I agree that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs has a valid jurisdictional interest in certain provisions of H.R. 1615 and that the Committee's jurisdiction will not be adversely affected by your decision to forego consideration of H.R. 1615. As you have requested, I will support your request for an appropriate appointment of outside conferees from your Committee in the event of a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation should such a conference be convened.

Finally, I will include a copy of your letter and this response in the Committee Report and in the Congressional Record during the floor consideration of this bill. Thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ,
Chairwoman.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of H.R. 1615.

Before I speak on the bill, I want to thank the gentleman from Mississippi (General KELLY) and the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. CROW)—both veterans, by the way—for their leadership on this important legislation and for their service to our country. We appreciate it greatly.

So many of our Nation's heroes come home to become entrepreneurs, and many choose to continue with their service to the country by entering the Federal contracting space.

Federal contracting can be a confusing minefield of red tape and bureaucracy, and it is up to us to make the process as easy as possible.

Unfortunately, the process is complicated and rife with disparities. In fact, there currently exists an unnecessary duplication of small business programs at the SBA and the VA. Both operate under separate and conflicting standards.

Veterans attempting to make sense of these two programs often feel overwhelmed and frustrated, sometimes to the point where they decline to join the Federal marketplace altogether.

This should not be the case. We need to encourage veteran entrepreneurship by reducing barriers to entry, not creating more confusion.

It is well past time that these two programs consolidate under a single agency, the SBA, and that all rules and regulations governing the Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business program are unified for the benefit of our veteran entrepreneurs. H.R. 1615 takes that critical step in the right direction.

Mr. Speaker, I thank both of these gentlemen for their leadership on this. I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. CROW), my friend and colleague.

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Verification Alignment and Service-Disabled Business Adjustment Act, or the VA-SBA Act.

I start by thanking my friend and colleague from Mississippi (Mr. KELLY)—or, as a former Army captain myself, I like to call him General KELLY—for his leadership and friendship and hard work on this bill as well.

Veterans are uniquely qualified and have a valuable perspective as they start and manage small businesses.

In my home State of Colorado, there are over 52,000 small businesses owned by veterans that continue to give back to the country, the community, and our economy every single day. These veteran-owned businesses have also proven to go above and beyond to hire other veterans, including those who have been injured in the line of duty.

Currently, service-disabled veterans who want to start a business have to go through a complicated, confusing, and redundant application process through both the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Small Business Administration.

The VA-SBA Act removes duplication in regulation and cuts red tape to ensure the Federal Government can provide the support and resources that our veterans deserve. It also ensures that data on service-disabled veteran-owned businesses and veteran-owned small businesses is located at the Small Business Administration, which is uniquely equipped to serve veterans who want to start small businesses.

This bill will greatly ease the burden on our veteran-owned small businesses by cutting unnecessary red tape.

I thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ and Ranking Member CHABOT, as well as

Mr. SCHNEIDER and all my colleagues on the Committee on Small Business. This truly is an example of bipartisan cooperation, as we have all come together to do the right thing by our veterans and our small businesses, a true win-win for the country and for our communities.

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. KELLY), General TRENT KELLY.

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ and Ranking Member CHABOT for working to bring the VA-SBA Act to the House floor. I also thank my friend and cosponsor from Colorado (Mr. CROW) for working on this very important legislation. I thank all of them for being champions of both our veterans and our small businesses all across America.

As we have heard in the hearings held in the Committee on Small Business, the VA proactively verifies service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses while the SBA allows business owners to self-certify. This process creates inconsistent outcomes, such as a business qualifying as a service-disabled veteran business for VA contracts but not other Federal agency contracts.

While the SBA-certified businesses' awards are subject to scrutiny, the lack of a front-end verification leaves the door open for fraud and abuse.

We have already made significant strides in the right direction. The National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017 instructed the SBA and VA to unify the definitions for service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses and began moving regulatory responsibility from the VA to the SBA. Additionally, this administration has made substantial improvements in streamlining certifications for small business Federal procurement programs.

The VA-SBA Act marks the next significant step towards unification of the two programs under one umbrella at the SBA and reduces red tape and confusion for veteran small business owners.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for supporting this bill.

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico (Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN).

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in full support of H.R. 1615, known as the VA-SBA Act of 2019, introduced by my dear friend, General KELLY from Mississippi.

Why this bill is important for me: in Puerto Rico, we do have more than 100,000 veterans registered by the VA system.

Our men and women in uniform are an invaluable asset during their time

of service and upon separating from the Armed Forces as well. One of the main challenges upon retiring and adjusting to life as a civilian is actually securing employment.

Many decide to open and operate their own business, employing the community and generating robust gains for our economy. According to the Small Business Administration, close to 2.5 million businesses in the United States are minority-owned by veterans, with a total annual revenue of over \$1 trillion—and Puerto Rico is not a part of these statistics.

Yet, there are additional issues to consider, and that is the reason this bill is presented today. Both the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Small Business Administration are involved in the process of certifying American service-disabled veteran-owned businesses.

These businesses have the option to self-certify with the SBA for contracting purposes with the Federal Government, but, additionally, the Veterans Affairs Administration has its own process for certifying these same businesses through a more rigorous evaluation for Federal contracts within the VA.

This is another hardship for many of those veterans. Having two paths for what is essentially the same outcome can be confusing for service-disabled veteran business owners and creates an opportunity for fraud, waste, and abuse.

This bill will help rectify this problem by streamlining the process and making clear certification requirements for service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses and shifting this responsibility to the Small Business Administration, which has the technical expertise to administer small business programs and properly work with these cases.

By releasing the VA from this task, we help eliminate inconsistencies in the certification process and previous loopholes that impact Federal contracting and also allow the VA to focus on their main mission. We also help focus the VA's attention to its core mission of administering the healthcare services for our veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I am a proud original cosponsor of this bill, and I think we should all vote for it.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, it is vitally important to reduce the red tape and bureaucracy our Nation's heroes endure just to try to contract with the Federal Government.

There currently exists an unnecessary duplication of programs at the SBA and the VA which operate under separate and conflicting standards. This bill is a step in the right direction to eliminate some of that red tape for our Nation's veterans.

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

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

As the largest purchaser of goods and services in the world, the Federal Government is in a unique position to support veteran-owned businesses, yet navigating this process remains complicated to many veteran entrepreneurs.

One of the most challenging obstacles for veteran-owned businesses is getting certified. This first step toward contracting with the Federal Government is the most important, but also the most complex. This is largely due to the fact that the SBA established its own program, which applies government-wide, and the VA administrators established their own program as well.

Although the two programs share the same goal, each has its own participation requirements. Creating more confusion is the fact that firms can self-certify for the SBA programs, ones verified by the VA may not necessarily be found eligible to receive an SBA set-aside contract, and vice versa.

Coordinating certifications between the SBA and the VA can allow the Federal Government to reap the benefits of goods and services provided by veteran-owned businesses.

Again, I would like to thank Chairman TAKANO and Ranking Member ROE. Finally, I commend the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. KELLY) for leading this long effort and continuing to keep the needs of our veteran business owners in mind, as well as my colleague from Colorado (Mr. CROW).

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues 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 gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1615, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ROSIE THE RIVETER CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT OF 2019

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1773) to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the women in the United States who joined the workforce during World War II, providing the aircraft, vehicles, weaponry, ammunition and other material to win the war, that were referred to as “Rosie the Riveter”, in recognition of their contributions to the United States and the inspiration they have provided to ensuing generations, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1773

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 “Rosie the Riveter Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Over 70 years ago there was a call to action, a demand for workers to fill the vacancies left by the men who went to fight in the war.

(2) More than 6 million women answered the call then, entering the workforce during World War II and providing the equipment, weaponry and ammunition to achieve final victory and end the war.

(3) These women left their homes to work or volunteer full-time in factories, farms, shipyards, airplane factories, banks, and other institutions in support of the military overseas.

(4) They worked with the United Service Organizations and the American Red Cross, drove trucks, riveted airplane parts, collected critical materials, rolled bandages, and served on rationing boards.

(5) Our “Rosie the Riveter”, the women who worked and sacrificed to strengthen this country during World War II, are among the greatest living heroines in the United States.

(6) These women persevered, despite often facing harassment from their male colleagues and disapproval from their male family members, and all the while continued to maintain their “other jobs” as caretakers of children and their households.

(7) Minority women also overcame long-held policies of discrimination and made significant contributions to the war effort.

(8) Because of the “Rosies”, Federal, State, and local agencies coordinated with business owners to develop childcare programs and other supports for working mothers.

(9) The example that these women set during World War II continues to inspire us and blaze a path for the working women and young girls of today.

(10) Specifically, the images of “Rosie the Riveter” and the phrase “We Can Do It” continue to symbolize the empowerment of women today, representing patriotic women who want to serve and strengthen their country, and to inspire young girls to become “21st Century Rosies” by aspiring to, and attaining positions of leadership in all walks of life in America.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

(a) ROSIE THE RIVETER.—The term “Rosie the Riveter” includes any female individual who held employment or volunteered in support of the war efforts during World War II.

(b) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Treasury.

SEC. 4. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the award, on behalf of Congress, of a single gold medal of appropriate design in commemoration to Rosie the Riveter, collectively, in recognition of their contributions to the Nation and the inspiration they have provided to ensuing generations.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purposes of the award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the gold medal under subsection (a), the gold medal shall be given to the National Museum of American History of the Smithsonian Institution, where it shall be available for display as appropriate and made available for research.

(2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the National Museum of American History shall make the gold medal received under paragraph (1) available for display elsewhere, particularly at other appropriate locations associated with Rosie the Riveter.

SEC. 5. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 4 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses, and the cost of the gold medal.

SEC. 6. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 7. 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 Texas (Ms. GARCIA) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LOUDERMILK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

During World War II, American women entered the workforce in unprecedented numbers. More than 6 million women answered the call to duty, filling jobs in factories, farms, shipyards, airplane factories, banks, and other institutions left vacant by the men who went to fight overseas.

These women, despite facing harassment and disapproval from their male colleagues and family members—and, in the case of minority women, long-held policies of discrimination—nevertheless persevered to provide critical equipment, weaponry, and ammunition

to the war effort, all while continuing to serve as primary caretakers for children and as heads of household.

The hard work and sacrifices of these women during the war also paved the way for the development of childcare programs and other Federal-, State-, and local-level policies to support working mothers and families.

Today, the iconic image of Rosie the Riveter, first popularized as part of a wartime recruitment campaign for female workers, continues to be a symbol of female empowerment and inspiration for women who wish to serve and strengthen their country.

H.R. 1773 recognizes the brave, patriotic women who stepped up to serve their country in its time of need and whose leadership and spirit of empowerment continues to inspire ensuing generations.

I thank Ms. SPEIER for joining me in introducing this bill this Congress, and I urge Members to vote “yes.”

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

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

Mr. Speaker, as the son of a World War II veteran, the brother of a Vietnam veteran, and as a veteran myself who served during the time of Desert Storm and other conflicts, I understand that victory in battle is not solely due to the soldier on the battlefield, the airman that is flying over the battlefield, or the marine or the sailor. It is as much the responsibility of all Americans and those who actually supply the weapons and the machinery of war that is so desperately needed by those who are on the battlefield.

We saw this play out in a great way during World War II. As our young men and women were across the pond and throughout the Pacific fighting against tyranny, many here at home stepped up and fulfilled the positions that many of them vacated to go fight on the battlefields.

We are honoring such of those women today, being Rosie the Riveters, where 6 million answered their country’s call to make sure that the airmen had the aircraft to fly; that the infantrymen had the bullets and the guns that were needed to defend this country; that the sailors had the equipment, the ships, and the weapons to fight on the seas; and that the Marines that were invading the islands that were held by the Japanese had the materials that they needed.

We could not have seen that victory in World War II if it weren’t for these brave patriots who not only took on the roles and the responsibilities that others left to make sure that we had the weapons and the materials and the logistics that were needed, but while also raising families at the same time.

Back in June, I was honored to be one of the official delegates to travel to Normandy, representing the United States and the House of Representatives for the 75th anniversary of D-day.

I was especially honored because my dad was one of those who stepped on the shores of Normandy during that battle.

And, as I was sitting in the audience waiting on the President to give his remarks, there were three lovely ladies sitting in the row in front of me. We began to engage in conversation, and I found out that they were Rosie Riveters. And, of course, I had to have a selfie with Rosie the Riveter.

They became the stars. Regardless of the number of Members of Congress who were sitting in the audience, those three ladies became the focus of many who were there, and rightfully so. And because of their deeds and their patriotism, I fully support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to do so as well, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK).

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, the Rosie the Riveter Congressional Gold Medal Act honors the 20th century icon that unified women and inspired them to join the workforce and help with the war effort.

Throughout our Nation’s history, countless Americans have answered the call to service during times of conflict and turmoil. During World War II, women across the country left their homes for factory jobs in support of the war effort, working as riveters, buckers, welders, and electricians.

These Rosie the Riveters embodied the “We Can Do It” spirit forever connected with the famous poster.

I am proud to recognize these home-front heroes, especially my constituent Mae Krier. Mae is 93. She is in the Chamber with us today. She lives in my hometown of Levittown, Pennsylvania.

During the war, determined women like Mae manufactured planes, ships, tanks, weapons, jeeps, and everything else that was needed to defeat the enemy. Mae has said, “We worked, we danced, and we slept on Sundays. Most of all, we were duty-bound.”

Mae has been dedicated to get the real-life Rosies recognized for over 30 years. While this bill serves to get a single medal to the important symbol that is Rosie the Riveter, it truly is bestowing the honor and recognition on the millions of women like Mae Krier.

I am proud to recognize these heroes as an original cosponsor of H.R. 1773, alongside Representatives SPEIER, HUFFMAN, and now 289 of our colleagues. And I commend my fellow Pennsylvanian, Senator CASEY, for introducing this bipartisan bill in the Senate.

This legislation is supported by the Pennsylvania Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Marine Corps League, the Philadelphia Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, among countless other orga-

nizations that represent our men and women in uniform and our veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House and Senate to vote “yes” on this important legislation so that we can see these strong American women honored by a Congressional Gold Medal.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. DESAULNIER).

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for their leadership on this and my friend from Texas for yielding.

I rise today as a proud sponsor of the Rosie the Riveter Congressional Gold Medal Act and thank my colleagues again for their bipartisan leadership on this bill.

During World War II, thousands of women joined the war effort at the Kaiser Shipyards in Richmond, California, now home to the Rosie the Riveter World War II Home Front National Historical Park, as part of the National Park System, where they produced over 700 ships, the most productive shipyards in history.

These brave and dedicated women broke barriers by taking jobs as riveters, welders, and electricians, forever changing the role of women in the workforce. They embodied the “We Can Do It” motto.

Among them is Betty Reid Soskin—a constituent, a friend, and a pillar of my local community—who is now the National Park Service’s oldest serving ranger and works at the Rosie the Riveter World War II Home Front National Historical Park at the age of 98.

She has been instrumental in educating thousands of visitors about the Rosies and sharing her experience as a young Black woman working on the home front.

I am so proud to have this important piece of history in my district, and I urge my colleagues to support this tribute to the Rosies’ invaluable service to this country.

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Mr. Speaker, as I have no more speakers on this bill, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to emphatically support this legislation to give recognition to those who stepped up and served our Nation in such an important way during one of the darkest times in our Nation’s history to ensure that we not only brought home the victory, but we liberated millions of those in oppression and tyranny across the globe.

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased to bring forward a bill celebrating women from all walks of life who, in difficult, dark days chose to rise to the occasion and serve their country. They did not let themselves be confined to archaic notions of what women can or cannot do, nor did they let others dictate what a woman’s place is in society.

Let me remind my colleagues that these Rosies were also Rositas, who came from all parts of our country, including our Hispanic community.

I would like to read from an interview with Aurora Orozco, one of the Rositas from Cuero, Texas, who laid out how so many Latinas contributed.

"In the valley there were these packing sheds where they packed tomatoes and lettuce . . . there were not enough men to work, so they started hiring women. So that is when it started to change a little more in women's lives. They were calling from the government for women to go and work in the factories . . . then they started calling women into the Army.

"And first it was like, oh, my goodness, 'dios mio,' how can these women go over there by themselves? Everybody was shocked because we were not used to seeing women leave the house. You didn't leave the house until you were married. With *senoritas*, everything was so strict and then came this change . . . and I think that was wonderful because it opened a new world for women. It showed that women can be independent. This was a real break for women."

So let us honor the example these women set and continue to blaze a path for the working women of today and future leaders of tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER), the sponsor of this legislation.

□ 1400

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for giving me this opportunity to speak on this very important bill.

Rosie the Riveters who are left in this country deserve a Congressional Gold Medal. In one of the most challenging periods of our American history, women stepped up to serve this country. Six million women entered the workforce for the first time during World War II, offering to build weapons, vehicles, and ammunition that helped us win the war.

The critical contributions of Rosie the Riveters changed the course of world history and blazed a trail for today's working women. The Rosies proved that they could work and succeed in jobs and industries that had long been male-dominated. African American women challenged stereotypes and policies of discrimination to contribute to the war effort. Because of the Rosies, the U.S. Government worked with businesses to develop support for working moms, like childcare programs.

The famous image of Rosie the Riveter, sleeves rolled up, muscles flexed, and a bandanna in place, has inspired generations of women and girls to embody the strength, patriotism, and "We Can Do It" spirit that radiates from the poster.

But even the iconic image can't do justice to the real-life Rosies who took on the mantle of the war effort at home, defied expectations, eradicated barriers to women's participation in the workforce, and made victory possible. It has been one of the great honors of my career to work closely with several of these women during my time in Congress.

Phyllis Gould went to welding school from 4 a.m. to 8 a.m. every day for weeks to get a job working at a shipyard in California. She was one of the first women accepted into the boiler-makers union. At 97 years old, Phyllis still works tirelessly to make sure we never forget the sacrifices and the hard work that American women provided during World War II.

Phyllis' sister, Marian Sousa, went to work at 17 years of age as a draftsman in the shipyards in Richmond, California. Marian's volunteer work at the Rosie the Riveter World War II Home Front National Historical Park preserves the Rosie legacy for future generations.

Mae Krier went to work at Boeing Aircraft right out of high school, helping to build B-17s and B-29 bombers. Today, she is one of the foremost Rosie advocates in the country, fighting for recognition of the tremendous wartime contributions of American women.

Betty Reid Soskin, park ranger at the Rosie the Riveter World War II Home Front National Historical Park, worked as a file clerk in the boiler-makers' union hall. Today, she is the oldest national park ranger in the country, dedicated to bringing the Rosies' trailblazing legacy to life for visitors.

These Rosies are true American heroes. It is long past time that they and all the women who served on the home front during World War II receive recognition from the country for which they sacrificed so much. I urge my colleagues to stand with us in honoring our Rosie the Riveters with a Congressional Gold Medal.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. 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 Texas (Ms. GARCIA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1773, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DIRECTING THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE TO MAKE A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 2423

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a concurrent resolution and ask unanimous consent 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 gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 72

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 2423, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following corrections:

(1) In section 2(a)(3), strike "Carrie Chapman Cat" and insert "Carrie Chapman Catt".

(2) In section 4(a)(2)(C), strike the period after "Unum" and insert a period after the closed quotation mark at the end.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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, November 13, 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 November 13, 2019, at 11:20 a.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 1865.

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 subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1629

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) at 4 o'clock and 29 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4863, UNITED STATES EXPORT FINANCE AGENCY ACT OF 2019; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. DESAULNIER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-289) on the resolution (H. Res. 695) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4863) to promote the competitiveness of the United States, to reform and reauthorize the United States Export Finance

Agency, and for other purposes; and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

- H.R. 3537,
- H.R. 499, and
- H.R. 3734.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

**VETERAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP
TRAINING 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. 3537) to amend the Small Business Act to codify the Boots to Business 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 gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 424, nays 1, not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 612]
YEAS—424

Abraham	Bucshon	Courtney
Adams	Budd	Cox (CA)
Aderholt	Burchett	Craig
Aguilar	Burgess	Crawford
Allen	Bustos	Crenshaw
Allred	Butterfield	Crist
Amodei	Byrne	Crow
Armstrong	Calvert	Cuellar
Arrington	Carbajal	Cunningham
Axne	Cárdenas	Curtis
Babin	Carson (IN)	Daids (KS)
Bacon	Carter (GA)	Davidson (OH)
Baird	Carter (TX)	Davis (CA)
Balderson	Cartwright	Davis, Danny K.
Banks	Case	Davis, Rodney
Barr	Casten (IL)	Dean
Barragán	Castor (FL)	DeFazio
Bass	Castro (TX)	DeGette
Beatty	Chabot	DeLauro
Bera	Cheney	DeBene
Bergman	Chu, Judy	Delgado
Biggs	Cicilline	Demings
Billirakis	Cisneros	DeSaulnier
Bishop (GA)	Clark (MA)	DesJarlais
Bishop (NC)	Clarke (NY)	Deutch
Bishop (UT)	Clay	Diaz-Balart
Blumenauer	Cleaver	Dingell
Blunt Rochester	Cline	Doggett
Bonamici	Cloud	Doyle, Michael
Bost	Clyburn	F.
Boyle, Brendan	Cohen	Duncan
F.	Cole	Dunn
Brady	Collins (GA)	Emmer
Brindisi	Comer	Engel
Brooks (AL)	Conaway	Escobar
Brooks (IN)	Connolly	Eshoo
Brown (MD)	Cook	Españalat
Brownley (CA)	Cooper	Estes
Buchanan	Correa	Evans
Buck	Costa	Ferguson

Finkenauer	Langevin	Roby	Wild
Fitzpatrick	Larsen (WA)	Rodgers (WA)	Williams
Fleischmann	Larsen (CT)	Roe, David P.	Wilson (FL)
Fletcher	Latta	Rogers (AL)	Wilson (SC)
Flores	Lawrence	Rogers (KY)	
Fortenberry	Lawson (FL)	Rooney (FL)	
Foster	Lee (CA)	Rose (NY)	
Foxx (NC)	Lee (NV)	Rose, John W.	
Frankel	Lesko	Rouda	
Fudge	Levin (CA)	Rouzer	
Fulcher	Levin (MI)	Roy	
Gaetz	Lewis	Roybal-Allard	
Gallagher	Lieu, Ted	Ruiz	
Gallego	Lipinski	Ruppersberger	
Garamendi	Loeb sack	Rush	
García (IL)	Lofgren	Rutherford	
García (TX)	Long	Ryan	
Gianforte	Loudermilk	Sánchez	
Gibbs	Lowenthal	Sarbanes	
Gohmert	Lowe	Scalise	
Golden	Lucas	Scanlon	
Gomez	Luetkemeyer	Schakowsky	
Gonzalez (OH)	Luján	Schiff	
Gonzalez (TX)	Luria	Schneider	
Gooden	Lynch	Schrader	
Gosar	Malinowski	Schrier	
Gottheimer	Maloney,	Schweikert	
Granger	Carolyn B.	Scott (VA)	
Graves (GA)	Maloney, Sean	Scott, Austin	
Graves (LA)	Marchant	Scott, David	
Graves (MO)	Marshall	Sensenbrenner	
Green (TN)	Massie	Sewell (AL)	
Green, Al (TX)	Mast	Shalala	
Griffith	Matsui	Sherman	
Grijalva	McAdams	Sherrill	
Grothman	McBath	Shimkus	
Guest	McCarthy	Simpson	
Guthrie	McCaul	Sires	
Haaland	McClintock	Slotkin	
Hagedorn	McCollum	Smith (MO)	
Harder (CA)	McGovern	Smith (NE)	
Harris	McHenry	Smith (NJ)	
Hartzler	McKinley	Smith (WA)	
Hastings	McNerney	Smucker	
Hayes	Meadows	Soto	
Heck	Meeks	Spanberger	
Hern, Kevin	Meng	Spano	
Herrera Beutler	Meuser	Speier	
Hice (GA)	Miller	Stanton	
Higgins (LA)	Mitchell	Staubert	
Higgins (NY)	Moolenaar	Stefanik	
Hill (AR)	Mooney (WV)	Steil	
Himes	Moore	Steube	
Holding	Morelle	Stevens	
Hollingsworth	Moulton	Stewart	
Horn, Kendra S.	Mucarsel-Powell	Stivers	
Horsford	Mullin	Suozzi	
Houlahan	Murphy (FL)	Swalwell (CA)	
Hoyer	Murphy (NC)	Takano	
Hudson	Nader	Taylor	
Huffman	Napolitano	Thompson (CA)	
Huizenga	Neal	Thompson (MS)	
Hunter	Neguse	Thompson (PA)	
Hurd (TX)	Newhouse	Thornberry	
Jackson Lee	Norcross	Tipton	
Jayapal	Norman	Titus	
Jeffries	Nunes	Tlaib	
Johnson (GA)	O'Halleran	Tonko	
Johnson (LA)	Ocasio-Cortez	Torres (CA)	
Johnson (OH)	Olson	Torres Small	
Johnson (OH)	Omar	(NM)	
Johnson (SD)	Palazzo	Trahan	
Johnson (TX)	Pallone	Trone	
Jordan	Palmer	Turner	
Joyce (OH)	Panetta	Underwood	
Joyce (PA)	Pappas	Upton	
Kaptur	Pascrell	Van Drew	
Katko	Payne	Vargas	
Keating	Payne	Veasey	
Keller	Pence	Vela	
Kelly (IL)	Perlmutter	Velázquez	
Kelly (MS)	Perry	Visclosky	
Kelly (PA)	Peters	Wagner	
Kelly (CA)	Kennedy	Walberg	
Khanna	Phillips	Walden	
Kildee	Pingree	Walker	
Kilmer	Pocan	Walorski	
Kim	Porter	Walt	
Kind	Posey	Wasserman	
King (IA)	Pressley	Schultz	
King (NY)	Price (NC)	Waters	
Kinzinger	Quigley	Watkins	
Kirkpatrick	Raskin	Watson Coleman	
Krishnamoorthi	Ratcliffe	Weber (TX)	
Kuster (NH)	Reed	Webster (FL)	
Kustoff (TN)	Reschenthaler	Welch	
LaHood	Rice (NY)	Wenstrup	
LaMalfa	Rice (SC)	Westerman	
Lamb	Richmond	Wexton	
Lamborn	Rigglesman		

Wittman	Yarmuth
Womack	Yoho
Woodall	Young
Wright	Zeldin

NAYS—1

Amash

NOT VOTING—5

Beyer	McEachin	Timmons
Gabbard	Serrano	

□ 1700

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.” 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.

**SERVICE-DISABLED VETERANS
SMALL BUSINESS CONTINUATION
ACT**

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BISHOP of Georgia). 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. 499) to amend the Small Business Act to clarify the treatment of certain surviving spouses under the definition of small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans, 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 gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) 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 423, nays 0, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 613]
YEAS—423

Abraham	Brownley (CA)	Conaway
Adams	Buchanan	Connolly
Aderholt	Buck	Cook
Aguilar	Bucshon	Cooper
Allen	Budd	Correa
Allred	Burchett	Costa
Amash	Burgess	Courtney
Amodei	Bustos	Cox (CA)
Armstrong	Butterfield	Craig
Axne	Byrne	Crawford
Babin	Calvert	Crenshaw
Bacon	Carbajal	Crist
Baird	Cárdenas	Crow
Balderson	Carson (IN)	Cuellar
Banks	Carter (GA)	Cunningham
Barr	Carter (TX)	Curtis
Barragán	Cartwright	Daids (KS)
Bass	Case	Davidson (OH)
Beatty	Casten (IL)	Davis (CA)
Bera	Castor (FL)	Davis, Danny K.
Bergman	Castro (TX)	Davis, Rodney
Biggs	Chabot	Dean
Billirakis	Cheney	DeFazio
Bishop (GA)	Chu, Judy	DeGette
Bishop (NC)	Cicilline	DeLauro
Bishop (UT)	Cisneros	DeBene
Blumenauer	Clark (MA)	Delgado
Blunt Rochester	Clarke (NY)	Demings
Bonamici	Clay	DeSaulnier
Bost	Cleaver	DesJarlais
Boyle, Brendan	Cline	Deutch
F.	Cloud	Diaz-Balart
Brady	Clyburn	Dingell
Brindisi	Cohen	Doggett
Brooks (AL)	Cole	Doyle, Michael
Brooks (IN)	Collins (GA)	F.
Brown (MD)	Comer	Duncan
Brownley (CA)		
Buchanan		
Buck		

Dunn
Emmer
Engel
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Estes
Evans
Ferguson
Finkenauer
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx (NC)
Frankel
Fudge
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez (TX)
Gooden
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Haaland
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill (AR)
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
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)

Watkins
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack

NOT VOTING—7
Arrington
Beyer
Gabbard
McEachin
Serrano
Timmons
Woodall
Wright
Yarmuth
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

□ 1709

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.

Stated for:
Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 613.

SUCCESSFUL ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR RESERVISTS AND VETERANS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BUTTERFIELD). 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. 3734) to require the Comptroller General of the United States to report on access to credit for small business concerns owned and controlled by covered individuals, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to report on the veterans interagency task force, and for other purposes, as amended, 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 gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.
The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 421, nays 3, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 614]
YEAS—421
Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Axne
Babin
Boace
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan
F.
Brady
Brindisi
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
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
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Clever
Cline
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw

Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Cunningham
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson (OH)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael
F.
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Engel
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Estes
Evans
Ferguson
Finkenauer
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx (NC)
Frankel
Fudge
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez (TX)
Gooden
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Haaland
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill (AR)
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
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
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Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Nunes
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Olson
Omar
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Olson
Omar
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Phillips
Peterson
Peterson
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Riggleman
Roby
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rouder
Rouzer
Roy
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherman
Sherrill
Shimkus
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spano
Speier
Stanton
Staubert
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Stivers
Suozi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small
(NM)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Van Drew
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters

Tlaib	Visclosky	Wenstrup
Tonko	Wagner	Westerman
Torres (CA)	Walberg	Wexton
Torres Small (NM)	Walden	Wild
Trahan	Walker	Williams
Trone	Walorski	Wilson (FL)
Turner	Waltz	Wilson (SC)
Underwood	Wasserman	Wittman
Upton	Schultz	Womack
Van Drew	Waters	Woodall
Vargas	Watkins	Wright
Veasey	Watson Coleman	Yarmuth
Vela	Weber (TX)	Yoho
Velázquez	Webster (FL)	Young
	Welch	Zeldin

NAYS—3

Amash Biggs Massie

NOT VOTING—6

Beyer McClintock Serrano
Gabbard McEachin Timmons

□ 1717

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AMERICAN DIABETES MONTH

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

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize November as American Diabetes Month.

It is a personal issue for me, as I am one of 30 million Americans living with diabetes. This number is set to rise significantly. There are an estimated 84 million Americans with prediabetes, and it is the seventh leading cause of death in the U.S. In addition, people with diabetes are twice as likely to have heart disease or a stroke.

The CDC estimates diabetes costs this country almost \$330 billion per year.

I hope my colleagues can spread the word about diabetes this month. We need to do all we can to stop this deadly disease.

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize this week as National Apprenticeship Week.

For over 80 years, the Registered Apprenticeship system has been the gold standard for workforce development policy in the United States.

In 2017, President Trump signed an executive order expanding the apprenticeship program, and since then more than 500,000 people have entered the program.

Apprenticeships that are registered with the Department of Labor provide participants on-the-job training and classroom education, equipping them with the skills needed to succeed in today's labor force.

With continued job growth in today's economy, I want to encourage more apprenticeship opportunities. I introduced H.R. 1774, the LEAP Act, which incentivizes more employers to offer the DOL Registered Apprenticeship program through a new tax cut.

DOL registered apprenticeships also come with incremental wage increases, improved skills, career advancement, enhanced retention, and increased productivity.

I would like to thank all the businesses, employers, and the building trades who have utilized these registered apprenticeships and encourage more businesses in various fields to participate.

CELEBRATING SIGMA GAMMA RHO FOUNDERS' DAY

(Ms. KELLY of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority's Founders' Day.

Founded November 12, 1922, Sigma Gamma Rho has been empowering women to give greater service to their communities and help bring about greater progress in our society for nearly 100 years.

We were first established at Butler University in Indianapolis by seven illustrious founders, all educators. Today, we boast more than 100,000 members from more than 500 chapters across the United States, Canada, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Korea, and Dubai.

Throughout our history, we have undertaken work on many causes, including Act Against AIDS; Operation BigBookBag; the March of Dimes; St. Jude; and Swim 1922, a partnership with USA Swimming to increase diversity and inclusion in the sport while reducing drownings in our community.

I am proud to be the third Sigma Gamma Rho elected to Congress, alongside Congresswomen Lindy Boggs and Corrine Brown.

Our membership also includes Alice Dunnigan, the first Black female journalist accredited to cover the White House and Congress; and Mary T. Washington, the first Black female CPA.

I want to give a special shout-out to our International Grand Basileus, Deborah Catchings-Smith.

Happy Founders' Day, sorors. Greater service, greater progress.

IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

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

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, while traveling across Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District, our team consistently hears from employers with open positions about a skills gap of trained labor.

Employers and individuals seeking jobs should have every tool available to fill open jobs needed with skills. That is why celebration of National Apprenticeship Week is so important. National Apprenticeship Week brings awareness to the growing skills gap by highlighting the benefits of apprenticeships.

Apprentices earn wages during on-the-job training, while receiving instruction and having supervision from a mentor. Apprentices also learn important soft skills like work attendance, being a team player, and having a positive work attitude.

Additionally, employers train students in skills they need, often creating a direct pathway from training to employment.

Apprenticeships have been working across PA-12. Partnership opportunities exist between employers—including energy developers and educational institutions—to have apprenticeship-like programs. Programs like these and apprenticeships across the country have proven to grow the economy, lower student debt, and lead to family-sustaining careers.

Please stand with me in support of National Apprenticeship Week.

□ 1730

URGING SENATE TO SECURE DACA

(Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL. Madam Speaker, over half of the people in my district in Florida, including myself, were born in another country. Over 8,000 of those immigrants are DACA recipients who have lived here for many years, some for decades, and have roots in our community. They are entrepreneurs, first responders, teachers, community leaders, and servicemen and -women. They are just as American as any of us.

But today, DACA is at risk, leaving our friends and neighbors terrified for their future.

DACA recipients contribute billions to our economy, and the economic consequences for removing our working DACA recipients would be catastrophic. But more importantly, we would lose valued colleagues, friends, and local business owners.

Protecting DACA recipients is not just the right thing to do for our economy. It is the moral thing to do for us and our country.

I urge the Senate to swiftly pass H.R. 6, the Dream and Promise Act, that we sent them months ago to secure DACA and our country's future.

SUPPORT NATION'S FARMERS AND RANCHERS

(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, the Founding Fathers understood the important role that our farmers and ranchers would play in the construction of our great Nation, and Congress has always played a pivotal role as a friend to our agriculture community.

The USMCA is an agreement that would strengthen trade relations with two of our largest trading partners, Mexico and Canada, and would give a much-needed boost to the American farmer.

In August of this year, I toured Mississippi with the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation. During these visits, and in subsequent meetings, the Mississippi agriculture community has consistently discussed the importance of the USMCA and asked for its approval.

Unfortunately, the House majority has chosen impeachment instead of ratifying this trade agreement. The majority is prioritizing a partisan political process over substantive policy issues that would strengthen our country.

Madam Speaker, I ask that we focus on the real work that needs to be accomplished this year and pass the USMCA in support of our Nation's farmers and ranchers.

STANDING UP FOR DREAMERS

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

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the thousands of Dreamers in my district and the 800,000 Dreamers across the country threatened with deportation due to the administration's decision to rescind DACA.

It is unconscionable that our Dreamers are now at risk of being separated from their families and removed from the only country they know as home.

In addition to the sound economic, educational, and moral arguments we are hearing today, there is another argument for DACA, one that, as a doctor, I know needs our attention. That is the public health argument.

Doing away with DACA would mean the U.S. could lose over 27,000 healthcare workers and support staff around the country. At a time when we can least afford it, we would lose nurses, physicians, EMTs, and hospital workers, people who have spent their careers making our Nation healthier and whose absence would bring our public health great harm.

That is why I cosponsored, and the House passed, H.R. 6, the American Dream and Promise Act, so that 800,000 Dreamers who work, are in school, have joined the military, or are working to improve our public health on a daily basis can live without fear of deportation.

I urge Senate Majority Leader MCCONNELL to stop playing games and have a vote. Let's get H.R. 6 passed.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

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

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support, as others have said, of National Apprenticeship Week.

The Republican-led Congress and President Trump jumpstarted America's economy, making it the best in the world. There has never been a better time to enter the workforce. However, every time I am back in the district, I hear about the need for skilled workers.

That is why apprenticeships are absolutely vital to developing America's future workforce. By connecting employers directly to their future workforce, Americans have the opportunity to develop technical skills while gaining valuable work experience.

The numbers show just how successful these programs are. Ninety-four percent of those who complete an apprenticeship program retain employment with an average salary of more than \$70,000.

I am proud that Georgia is leading the way in career and technical education and apprenticeships. For example, in Lyons, Georgia, Chicken of the Sea has invested millions in state-of-the-art technology and helped train our next generation of skilled workers through their apprenticeship program, creating even more jobs and promoting economic opportunity throughout Toombs County. We must continue with this training.

MARKING 550TH ANNIVERSARY OF BIRTH OF GURU NANAK

(Ms. SPANBERGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, across central Virginia, our Sikh neighbors are celebrating the 550th anniversary of the birth of Guru Nanak, the first Sikh guru.

They are celebrating the man whose teachings have shaped the core beliefs of their families throughout the centuries, and they are remembering Guru Nanak's unwavering commitment to the plight of the poor, his push for equality for all, and his fight against discrimination.

Amid constant threats of invasion and disease, Guru Nanak encouraged his followers to focus on what united their people, not what divided them. In a world consumed by lies and deceit, he taught them to pursue truth. While others sought to destroy and disregard the Earth's resources, Guru Nanak taught his followers to be responsible stewards of the land.

In central Virginia, we have a warm, vibrant, and strong Sikh community. To them, I say happy Gurpurab.

I hope all of our district's Sikh community members will have the oppor-

tunity to enjoy these special festivities alongside family and friends, and I thank you for your rich contributions to our cultural, business, and faith communities.

Together, we thank you for incorporating Guru Nanak's principles of generosity, grace, and compassion into your daily lives. We are stronger because of you.

Madam Speaker, "Waheguru ji ka Khalsa, Waheguruji ki Fateh." Purity belongs to the Creator, all victory belongs to Him.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

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

Mr. SPANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to National Adoption Month.

On any given day in our country, there are 440,000 children in the foster care system, most for 2 to 5 years. This holiday season, I encourage you to open your heart to the possibility of adopting a child. As an adoption attorney, I can personally testify that you can give no greater gift to a child without a home than the security of a parent.

Alternatively, foster care may be a better option for you. My family had the joy of fostering four beautiful children over a 2-year period and simultaneously gave their birth parents the chance to receive help to overcome problems that led to their children's removal from their home.

Tampa Bay is blessed to have the Gladney Center for Adoption, Catholic Charities Adoption Services, Florida Baptist Children's Homes, Heart of Adoptions Alliance, and others on the front lines of this issue.

This National Adoption Month, think of these kids as you sit at your Thanksgiving table, when you shop for Christmas, and, above all, when you consider growing your family. They need us.

RECOGNIZING JACK AND JILL OF AMERICA EASTERN REGION

(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. Madam Speaker, last month, I had the honor of meeting with Jack and Jill of America's Eastern Region teen representatives.

For the past 80 years, the Eastern Region of Jack and Jill of America has been impacting the lives of children by making them civically engaged, charitable, and selfless leaders. The development of this club allowed children to come together in a close, social, and cultural relationship with one another. This organization provides a supportive community for mothers, children, fathers, and teens to assist in the positive transformation of not only the communities but the country.

The Eastern Region is the largest in the country with 56 chapters, and it continues to provide innovative programming in the new millennium. Because of the dedication of these individuals working with the region, the Eastern chapters have provided over 500,000 meals to families in need in the year 2014 to 2015.

It is a job well done by the Eastern Region of Jack and Jill of America. We thank them for their support, their help, and their commitment to America.

STOP IMPEACHMENT SHAM

(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, after several weeks in the secrecy of the basement of this building, the impeachment process has moved upstairs, and it doesn't look a whole lot better in the light of day.

Chairman SCHIFF has made it pretty much a one-man show and continues to deny a due process that you would normally see in a court of law, with bipartisan input. In other modern impeachment examples, you have seen input from both sides. We are not seeing that here. We have this really ugly display going on of a partisan witch hunt against President Trump.

Nothing has changed by coming upstairs. It doesn't look any better under the light of the cameras. The star witnesses brought today, indeed, are not stars at all. They weren't even present on the call between the President of the United States and the Ukrainian President.

Indeed, what we have is a sham. It needs to stop because it is dividing our country and dividing our ability to get anything accomplished in this place for the American people.

STOP PRACTICE OF TELE-ABORTION

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

Mr. WRIGHT. Madam Speaker, the right to terminate a pregnancy has become framed as a woman's health issue, and yet, more and more voices argue in favor of methods of abortion that place a woman's health at great risk, such as tele-abortion, a means of killing an unborn child by acquiring abortion drugs and then being coached, through telemedicine, on how to use them.

Simple, except the woman taking the drugs isn't in a medical facility. No medical personnel are present. If the drugs don't work as planned, and the baby is not stillborn, it may still end up in a dumpster, and the mother may end up in an emergency room.

The obvious danger is why I have filed the Tele-Abortion Prevention Act, H.R. 4935. This is commonsense legisla-

tion, even more so when one considers an FDA report that states that there have been more than 4,000 cases of serious adverse events, including more than 1,000 that required hospitalization.

If the woman's health argument is really more than subterfuge that puts dressing on a tragedy, please join me in passing H.R. 4935, the Tele-Abortion Prevention Act.

DREAMERS ARE AMERICANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. KIRKPATRICK). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials in the RECORD on the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. COSTA).

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about an important issue affecting our country, and that is Dreamers, many of whom are in Washington this week, fighting for their lives in front of the United States Supreme Court.

Dreamers are Americans just like you and me, and they should be treated as such. When the Obama administration established the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, these were infants from 6 months to 6 years of age and anywhere in between. These Dreamers came here through no choice of their own, but for them, this is the only country they have ever known.

They were qualified and granted, under this program enacted by the Obama administration, to be protected from deportation and, thus, granted a legal status.

Since then, these young people have made immense contributions to our society every day. They are our friends. They are our neighbors.

But they have been betrayed by this administration's cruel policies toward migrant communities, including the efforts to repeal the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, otherwise known as DACA, and to dismantle the advance parole initiative, which was a part of this effort and allows Dreamers to visit their loved ones in the event that there is a wedding, a funeral, and some other critical moments in their lives with their families in the country that they originally came from.

These cruel and shameless policies have thrown the lives of these people, most of them young, into chaos. They live in fear every day, fear to see if they will be removed, deported from

the only home that they have ever known, from the only country they really have ever known.

Living with this uncertainty is not right. It is unfair, and it is unjust. It is not the American way.

For 243 years, America has been a beacon of shining light for immigrants around the world. In this case, we made promises to protect Dreamers. If the Supreme Court rescinds these protections, I believe Congress must keep fighting. I will keep fighting.

I know these Dreamers. I have visited with them. They are in my schools, in the community colleges, and in the State universities.

□ 1745

And so I want them to know, I want you to know because these Dreamers reflect and represent what? The American Dream.

What is the American Dream? The American Dream is about immigrants past and immigrants present, and it is the embodiment of what Dreamers are a part of.

So I ask my colleagues to join with us this afternoon in standing up and speaking out for those Dreamers.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I yield to my colleague from California (Mr. VARGAS).

Mr. VARGAS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York for yielding.

I rise today on behalf of hundreds of thousands of Dreamers.

Yesterday, the Supreme Court heard arguments over the future of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or, as you heard, DACA recipients. This decision will determine whether nearly 800,000 Dreamers will lose their legal protections to live and work in the United States.

The average DACA recipient came to the U.S. as a young child and has called our country their home for nearly 20 years. Denying their legal rights or rescinding the promise made to them 7 years ago would be immoral and wrong. They are students, teachers, first responders, entrepreneurs, and community organizers who make our country stronger and contribute to it every day.

Approximately 27,000 DACA recipients are currently employed as healthcare workers and support staff. Rescinding DACA would be a direct threat to the public health, as we heard from our colleague, Dr. RUIZ. We rely on these people. So, at this moment, it would be a disaster to not give them the legal status they need to remain in our country.

DACA recipients and their households hold a combined \$24.1 billion in spending power each year. In addition, DACA recipients boost Social Security and Medicare through payroll taxes.

Many DACA recipients have completed high school, entered 4-year colleges and universities, and graduated. College enrollment rates have dramatically increased for DACA-eligible individuals, and completion rates have skyrocketed.

Dreamers are our brothers and our sisters and our neighbors. They don't know any other country as home. They were brought here as children and, many times, as infants.

They built their lives here since they were little kids. They grew up here in America learning our history and loving and celebrating our culture and freedoms, just like any other American.

They work, they pay taxes, and, like millions before, they dream of serving, too. Turning our backs on them is against our American values.

The choice is clear: We must keep our promise to Dreamers. We must protect the dream and uphold DACA in the highest court of the land.

We heard here very recently from a friend on the other side how we should open our hearts this holiday season to children who need adoption, and he is correct. At the same time, we should open our hearts to these children who came here, oftentimes, when they were infants—no fault of their own; their parents brought them here. They grew up in our country. In fact, many of them thought they were American citizens until they became older.

Madam Speaker, in the words of our great colleague who recently passed, Elijah Cummings: We are better than this. We are better than deporting these children who have never known another country other than our own. We are better than this, and hopefully the Supreme Court is better than this.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I yield to my colleague from California (Mr. CORREA).

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I want to correct the record about Dreamers, who they are in the United States.

I represent central Orange County, home to the largest number of Dreamers in the United States. I will talk a little bit about a few of the Dreamers in my district.

The first one, Jose Angel Garibay, who lived in my district in Santa Ana, enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. Jose was deployed to Iraq, and in 2003 he was killed at the age of 21. Jose was the first servicemember from Orange County to make the ultimate sacrifice.

Jose Angel Garibay, rest in peace.

Jose is a Dreamer.

Madam Speaker, I want to correct the record about the Dreamers, who they are.

Police officer Germain Martinez Garcia grew up in southern Illinois. As an intern, his hard work and positive attitude set him apart and earned him a slot in the local academy. Germain Martinez Garcia is a valued member of his team and his department. In the words of his police chief: "He is part of this community. He's a good citizen. He's a good person. We need him."

Germain Martinez, a Dreamer.

Madam Speaker, I want to correct the record about who Dreamers are. They are lawyers.

Cesar Vargas grew up in Staten Island in New York. He has served our Nation in the Army. After law school, Cesar passed the New York bar on his first try in 2011. Then he applied for admission to the New York bar, but due to his immigration status, he was denied. It would take him 5 more years before Cesar became the first Dreamer admitted to the New York State bar.

Cesar Vargas, he is a Dreamer.

Madam Speaker, I want to correct the record about Dreamers. They are American soldiers.

John grew up in southern California. John joined the U.S. Army, and on March 18 of last year, he shipped out to basic training. John wants nothing more than to defend our country.

John is a warrior and a patriot. John is a Dreamer. John, U.S. Army.

Madam Speaker, I want to correct the record about Dreamers and who they are: American soldiers.

James grew up in southern California. James enlisted in the United States Army. James' goal is to protect the United States of America because he loves this country. James needs DACA reform to ensure that he can come home after being deployed to defend our Nation.

James is a Dreamer. James is part of the U.S. Army.

Madam Speaker, I want to correct the record about who Dreamers are. They are Harvard graduates.

Gloria Montiel grew up in the heart of my district in Santa Ana. Gloria is the first student from Santa Ana High School to be accepted to Harvard. Gloria was the first undocumented student to receive a master's degree from Harvard. Gloria was the first undocumented Ph.D. candidate from Claremont Graduate University.

Gloria Montiel is a Dreamer.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, as the whip of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, I am pleased to lead this monthly Special Order hour. It comes at a critical time in America, a critical time for our Nation and for the communities that we represent.

Yesterday morning, Madam Speaker, you may know that the Supreme Court heard a case. They heard arguments on Dreamers. This decision will determine the lives of nearly 1 million young Americans in the Supreme Court of the United States, a million people who were brought here at a very early age, at a very young age, and have known no other country but the United States of America.

We have come to call them Dreamers because they symbolize, in a quintessential way, what the American Dream stands for. They derived the name from bipartisan legislation introduced in 2001 by none other than the former Republican president pro tempore of the Senate, Orrin Hatch of the State of Utah and DICK DURBIN of the State of Illinois.

That legislation, which was reintroduced multiple times, would have granted residency status to immi-

grants who came here as minors, assuming they had no criminal record and had a high school diploma; and they could become permanent residents if they got a college degree or served honorably in the U.S. military.

This proposal was seen as a critical component of any comprehensive immigration reform and for many was considered a low-hanging fruit, the easiest thing we could all agree on, both sides of the aisle. Opinion polling of the American people bore that out. In fact, we have seen poll after poll after poll indicate that over 80 percent of the American people, whether in red States or blue States, support Dreamers.

In 2013, after the House Republican majority flat-out refused to even consider an overwhelmingly bipartisan comprehensive immigration package painstakingly negotiated, amended, and, finally, approved by the Senate on a healthy bipartisan vote, President Obama looked at what his options were, and he saw the very last deal was this low-hanging fruit.

He used his administrative discretion in enforcing immigration laws, a long-standing authority used by Presidents on both sides of the aisle, to create the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or the DACA program.

While the program couldn't provide permanent legal certainty, it did, essentially, tell those who have been eligible under the DREAM Act that, if they came forward and followed various steps to ensure they met conditions similar to those in the DREAM Act, they would be granted relief from deportation and issued documents allowing them to remain and work legally in the United States.

In essence, the Dreamers came forward and shared their personal information—their address, their date of birth—they shared that with us, the government. They were forward. They were transparent in their approach to share vital, personal, and confidential information with the government.

The DACA program and the DREAM Act were so popular and so important because they are an example of who we are and aspire to be as a nation, a nation of immigrants, and it honors our core principles such as basic fairness, compassion, and common sense.

What is more, it is in our national interest to keep DACA recipients here.

Between 2017 and 2027, DACA beneficiaries are projected to contribute \$460 billion to the national GDP. They pay \$5.7 billion in Federal taxes and \$3.1 billion in State and local taxes, annually.

Researchers estimate ending DACA will cost the United States economy anywhere from \$283 billion to \$460 billion over the next 10 years.

Our Nation also sees benefits from the fact that many DACA recipients are highly educated and skilled workers. Ninety-six percent of DACA recipients are enrolled in school, and 75 percent are pursuing a bachelor's degree or higher.

27,000 DACA recipients are currently employed as healthcare workers and support staff. They are an integral part of the healthcare industry across America.

So it stands to reason that rescinding DACA would do nothing but hurt the economy, drain our businesses of skilled and educated workers, and threaten our public health system.

The reason the current case is making its way through the courts is precisely because the Trump administration has been unable to substantiate their reasoning for terminating the program.

President Trump, himself, has said on numerous occasions that he does not want to deport DACA recipients or so he says. In fact, two lower Federal courts have placed injunctions in the efforts to eliminate the DACA program.

So there are a few things I believe we must do. Most obviously—though, admittedly, unlikely—if the administration really does not want to send DACA recipients to their place, a place that they have never known, it should rescind its order or find other administrative means to give them certainty.

But even more importantly, Madam Speaker, is that we change the law to provide permanent certainty for these young Americans.

And they are truly Americans: They feel American; they have been here for many years; and many of them, with the exception of having their green card, are very much part of the American fabric.

□ 1800

I was proud to vote for the Dream and Promise Act not too long ago when it passed here in the House. And as the only formerly undocumented immigrant in Congress, I was honored, deeply honored to preside over its passage. It is now on the Senate to act.

We heard the arguments yesterday in the Supreme Court. We are hopeful that the Court will be reasonable and understand that these young people have nothing but to give their sweat and their work, their abilities to our Nation.

Based on the vote just 6 years ago, it is clear that H.R. 6 would pass if the majority leader in the Senate, MITCH MCCONNELL, brought it to a vote.

This legislation, a similar legislation, a lot more complex, more comprehensive in scope, was passed not too long ago in the Senate in a bipartisan way.

In the meantime, Democrats in the House, we must continue to consider other legislation that will help Dreamers. For example, the Education and Labor Committee recently passed a sweeping reform of our higher education programs, the College Affordability Act. That bill would make college more affordable and accessible to Dreamers by making them eligible for financial aid, Pell Grants, and other kinds of financial assistance.

Besides, if we are encouraging Dreamers to complete their education in order to grant them legal status, the least we can do is help them afford the education.

There are numerous reasons to keep Dreamers here and give them the certainty they need to succeed, the most basic being that we have always been, and will continue to be, a Nation of immigrants.

For the rest of this special hour, you will hear from other colleagues in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus who will share their stories about why this is critically important for the future of America. In fact, I am compelled to tell you that this is a fight for the soul of America. But here I yield to them.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank the many groups who continue to serve our constituents through their advocacy, their legal assistance, their organizational skills, and their moral support, groups like UnidosUS, United We Dream, the Hispanic Federation, Make the Road New York, faith-based groups, labor unions, and countless others. They are all shining examples of what America stands for, and we could not be successful in our work inside the Capitol without the work that they do outside of the Capitol.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO), my colleague.

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT), my dear friend, for yielding.

You know, we had a rally a while ago where I got to hear my dear friend from New York talk about, as he was addressing Dreamers, that they were the tears of their grandparents, they were the dreams of their parents, and how generations led up to the moment where their children can experience the American Dream. And it really got to me.

It was an emotional moment for all of us, thinking about that story that all of our families, other than our Native Americans, experienced at one time or another, that someone had to make a choice, someone had to cross an ocean or a desert, or so many other barriers to get here to the United States.

You know, as we look at what the Supreme Court, yesterday having their oral arguments, is set to rule upon, it is pretty clear that terminating DACA would not be in the best interests of the Sunshine State. It is pretty clear that ending DACA would be bad for Florida, President Trump's new home State.

When you look back, our State passed in a bipartisan fashion in the Florida legislature when I was there in-state tuition for Dreamers. We also passed a bill that I filed and was able to pass to admit Dreamers to the Florida Bar, all defined as DACA recipients.

So in a State that many people refer to as purple, being Democrats and Republicans going back and forth on close

issues and in close elections, we came together to protect our Dreamers.

So I hope as the Trump administration is examining their arguments and working before the Supreme Court, that they recognize that this wouldn't serve in Florida's best interests.

In Florida, we have over 80,000 Dreamers, 30,000 of whom were DACA recipients. I wanted to spend a few minutes tonight talking about their stories, about my constituents.

The first Dreamer I would like to speak about, a DACA recipient, is Herman Younger, otherwise known as Herman to us affectionately.

Herman Younger grew up in the city of Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Wanting to give him and his sister a better life, his family decided to migrate to Miami, Florida, in 2002.

During this time, his parents instilled in him a respect and curiosity for the law. This led him to join the Miami-Dade Police Explorers while in high school.

In 2012, Herman applied for DACA, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, which allowed him to pursue educational opportunities post high school.

After graduating, he moved to Gainesville, Florida, where he studied political science at the University of Florida with a focus on ethics and moral law.

During this time at UF, he joined the College Democrats; prelaw fraternity, Phi Alpha Delta; and Assembly for Action, a conference that aims to build community relations with local organizations.

During his junior year, Herman interned for our office in D.C., where he helped draft a bill I introduced earlier this year, the Artificial Intelligence JOBS Act, otherwise known as AI JOBS Act.

After his internship, Herman worked not only on our campaigns, but oversaw phone bankers and canvassers as our district coordinator.

Herman has since graduated from the University of Florida, receiving his bachelor's degree.

In May of this year, he spearheaded a group advocating for restaurant workers to unionize against unfair treatment and pay, and now currently holds a position with the Sierra Club as their organizing representative for the Wildlands Red Tide Campaign.

Herman continues to be an advocate for other Dreamers and hopes to fight the structural inequities and racism stemming from colonization.

Another amazing DACA recipient, an amazing Dreamer from my district is Mariana Castro.

Mariana came to the United States from Peru at the age of ten with her mother, leaving her brothers and father behind.

While her mother worked three jobs to keep food on the table for her family, Mariana excelled as a central Florida high school student. In tenth grade, she realized that regardless of her excellent grades, involvement in hundreds of community service hours, that

her undocumented status would impact and potentially stop her academic career.

Opportunity shined when DACA became a reality a few months before her graduation. She graduated from Celebration High School in 2013, received the highest academic scholarship in the State, and chose the University of Florida to be her home for the next 4 years.

At the time, even with DACA, she was denied an in-state tuition rate in college and her scholarship was revoked.

Mariana paused her education and fought for the in-state tuition, that I previously mentioned in my speech here tonight, for undocumented students in the State of Florida.

Her efforts came to fruition, as she stood side by side with so many other Dreamers when we finally passed the in-state tuition bill for Dreamers 1 year later.

And what happens when we give someone like Mariana an opportunity? She returned to the University of Florida, where she graduated with a degree in biological sciences this past May.

As a DACA recipient, Mariana was unable to receive any state scholarships, Federal aid, or loans.

While being a full-time student, she worked 40 hours every week at restaurants to pay for her education out of pocket.

During her college career, she interned at my congressional office in 2018 and was later hired as a legislative aid in the Florida Senate.

She also helped start university programs that provide visibility to undocumented students, most recently institutionalizing a training for professional staff about relevant immigration laws that affect the student body, while raising funds for the Out of the Shadows scholarship, a scholarship specifically for undocumented students in Florida that she oversaw for 3 years.

Over the years, she received several awards for her advocacy in the immigrant community, including being named the only female Outstanding Student Leader in her graduating class.

Today, Mariana Castro serves as the central Florida business manager for Impact Fund, working to change public policy around immigration through coalition building and bipartisan action.

Mariana plans to obtain a combined JD and PP degree and continue to use legislation and grassroots organizing in order to fight for disenfranchised communities in the Nation.

Also, as the Civil Rights Action Task Force chair for the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, I wanted to talk a little bit about the issues before the Supreme Court.

We know, with the DACA program, that the Federal Government created a promise, a promise to these eventual DACA recipients that their deportation would be deferred, and it was for an obvious reason: there are over 10 million

undocumented immigrants in the United States, and these were the lowest priority for deportation because they were young people who came here through no fault of their own, that knew no other country other than this one. And I can tell you, as we heard from Mariana's story and from Herman's story, that they are indeed ambitious, and they are indeed contributing to our society.

So a promise was made to these young people, and they relied on that promise, to their detriment, by giving their information to the Federal Government every 2 years periodically. And then from there, the Federal Government should be estopped from being able to use that to deport them, to single them out in any way.

If the program is going to be wound down, it should be wound down in an ordinary and orderly fashion. And I think those who are in the program should at least be able to stay in the program, or if not, not be targeted by the Federal Government. So I think it is right that the Federal Government should be estopped from using this information to the detriment of these young people.

Then we look at the reasoning, and it is hard to see under either a rational review or a higher scrutiny that the court may apply, that there is enough information to strike down this executive order. It was done through the ordinary process.

And now the reason they originally proffered was simply that it was unconstitutional. You know, that is the purview of the Supreme Court. That is not a reason for an administration to be able to strike down a program. They actually have to give a reason beyond their own opinion that something is unconstitutional. Of course, the Trump administration didn't do that in all their procedures to try to end the law.

Then eventually in the appellate courts, they tried to come up with some statistics, come up with some justifications after they had already gone through the process, and now they want to put the genie back in the bottle. Now they want to say, "Well, our rationale was given in the appellate court, so we should be able to just use that from the beginning," and that is not the way the process works.

Even then, it was the same xenophobic misrepresentations that we hear about these young people being spouted to this day.

□ 1815

Whether it is under estoppel or whether it is simply under the court's scrutiny, I think it is pretty clear. We hope the Supreme Court will decline to end the program or, at the very least, have an orderly termination of it, protecting these kids and stopping the Federal Government from hurting them any further.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BARRAGÁN), the second vice

chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for having this special hour and for all of his work.

As the Supreme Court deliberates this administration's attempt to end the DACA program, it is easy for the average American to see the term "DACA" as a case, a policy, a set of immigration statistics, or a political bargaining chip. But DACA is 700,000 living, breathing people who consider America to be their home, the only home most of them have ever had.

Over 8,000 of these DACA members live in my district, and I consider them amongst my most valued and vulnerable constituents. They are our brothers and sisters, our friends and schoolmates, our neighbors and workmates, and, in my instance, my cousin. And in my case, they are also dedicated and talented interns working in both my district office and right here in my Washington office.

Irene Garcia-Brizuela is a DACA recipient who has lived in the United States since she was 10 years old. She is earning her bachelor's degree at Cal State Dominguez Hills. She is a part-time barista, as she is working hard in my San Pedro office.

Even as a young girl, Irene dreamed of working in our government. Very sadly, she worries that interning for me might be as close as she will ever come because she can't work for the government she respects, reveres, and pledges allegiance to without proof of legal residency.

Juan Hinojos is an outstanding member of my D.C. office as an intern. He has lived in this country since he was 2 years old. Of course, it is the only home he has ever known. When Juan graduates Arizona State, he will be the first in his family to do so.

Juan just spent two nights camping out to be in line to get inside the Supreme Court so that he could witness yesterday's oral arguments, not only as an observer wanting to witness history, not only as an appreciator of our government in action, but as a participant whose fate may rest in the hands of that moment.

These are just two examples of the wonderful and meaningful contributions that all DACA recipients make to our communities, our economy, our society, and our American culture.

Our Nation made a promise to them that if they work hard, study hard, play by the rules, and follow the law, they can become American citizens and travel as far as their talents take them. It is quite literally the promise of America.

Madam Speaker, I want to say to DACA recipients nervously awaiting their fates: You are valued. You are appreciated. You are loved. You belong here.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleagues for joining me here today. I would like to reiterate the important message that we are here to support Dreamers.

This is not impossible, Madam Speaker. In 2002, while I was a Member of the New York State Assembly, the lower house of the New York State Legislature, we passed instate tuition allowing undocumented college students the ability to pay instate tuition. We did that with a Republican Governor and with a Republican-led Senate. Just last year, New York State again passed the Jose Peralta Dream Act.

So it could be done, Madam Speaker.

Just recently, I was speaking to a group of Dreamers and advocates in Battery Park, New York, having the Statue of Liberty as a backdrop to our rally. I told them to be cognizant of what they are doing because, very often, those who write history, those who write the chapters and the annals of history, are not aware that they are doing it.

I asked them to pay close attention to what they were doing because they are, in fact, the protagonists. They are the leaders of this movement. When you see their faces, and you see what they want to do for our country, it is almost impossible to say no to them. I told them to be very cognizant of their effort because, in fact, they are an army of goodwill.

They may not have weapons in their hands, and they may not wear military gear, but they are an army of goodwill that I think is fighting every day for the soul of America. And 20 or 30 years from now, they will be able to tell their children and grandchildren that they were successful, that they were critical. They were the protagonists, the leaders of a movement led by an army of goodwill that saved America and what it stands for.

Madam Speaker, we will continue to call on our colleagues in the Senate to take up and pass the American Dream and Promise Act so that the lives of over 800,000 Dreamers no longer hang in the balance.

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

IMPEACHMENT OF PRESIDENT TRUMP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BYRNE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. BYRNE. Madam Speaker, the House of Representatives has been the scene of serious chaos, not only today, but for weeks.

Unfortunately for the American people, we have nothing to show for it. We have issued more subpoenas from this House than we have had bills that have actually been signed by the President.

We haven't been working on the U.S.-Mexico-Canada free trade agreement that President Trump worked so hard to negotiate. We haven't been working on funding the military or bipartisan legislation to lower the cost of pre-

scription drugs. No, 100 percent of the energy of this place has been devoted to the impeachment of President Trump.

There has been a lot of noise, a lot of rumors, and a lot of confusion about exactly what has happened and what is going on, where we are and how we got here. There is a reason for that.

You see, Madam Speaker, by House rules, impeachment is under the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee. The Judiciary Committee has a great big hearing room just across the street. That is where an impeachment inquiry is supposed to take place. But we aren't holding hearings there because Speaker PELOSI doesn't want them there.

Instead, the impeachment charade has been taking place in a small, restricted room, two floors underground, below this Chamber, deep in the bowels of the Capitol. That room is known as the SCIF. The SCIF is a very important room because it is where Members of Congress hear about our country's great secrets. You can't bring a cell phone in there. You can't bring a camera in there. Most importantly, the public can't go in there.

Democrats made a big spectacle about holding their first public hearing today. They act as if they are making some great, virtuous action to bring forth transparency, as if they are operating with the utmost integrity. The truth is that today's hearing is little more than a public showcasing of witnesses they have already interrogated and vetted in that little room to ensure they will only say what the Democrats desire.

You see, Madam Speaker, by conducting impeachment in that little room, Speaker PELOSI and ADAM SCHIFF knew that the American people wouldn't know what was going on, what was being said.

But right outside the SCIF, that tiny room, you will find dozens of cameras and news people. Here they are, you can see, talking to ADAM SCHIFF.

ADAM SCHIFF and his staff have been feeding these reporters bits of information for weeks. For weeks, we have been flooded with reports of so-called explosive things that supposedly have been said in this small, secret room.

Madam Speaker, there is a rule of the House that every Member of Congress has the right to at least watch a committee hearing. A couple of weeks ago, some of my colleagues and I decided that we wanted to know what was really going on in that small, little room. So, we entered the SCIF, that little room, simply to watch. ADAM SCHIFF immediately stopped the proceedings, and he refused to proceed until we left.

There is another rule of the House that says the records of committees are the property of the House, and every Member is entitled to review them. There is a reason for this rule. Those records don't belong to ADAM SCHIFF. They don't belong to Speaker PELOSI. They don't belong to me. They belong to the American people.

So, again, I went back to the SCIF, back to that little room. I showed them that House rule and informed them that I wanted only to read the transcripts from these secret proceedings. But Chairman SCHIFF's staff said no. They would not follow the rules of the House. They would not let me read them. They said: You will get them later, along with everybody else, when we say so.

Finally, they started releasing the transcripts—in a way that fit their agenda. Madam Speaker, I have been reading these transcripts as they come out. I have also been reading what the mainstream media has to say about them. Would you believe it? The mainstream media is saying exactly what ADAM SCHIFF wants them to say. Almost none of them are talking about the other side, about President Trump's defense.

To make sure the American people have the facts, I felt compelled to come down to the floor tonight to talk about the things that, if you are not reading these thousands of pages of materials, you might have missed.

There have now been about 3,000 pages of testimony released. Despite many different opinions of those pages, there is universal agreement that Ukraine is one of the most corrupt countries on Earth. You see, Madam Speaker, Ukraine, like many former Soviet countries, is controlled by oligarchs. These guys have almost all the wealth, most of the industry, and pretty much all the political power.

Corruption is so bad in Ukraine that many American businesspeople refuse to do business there because they don't want to deal with the notorious oligarchs.

It has been the policy of Republican and Democrat Presidents, for nearly 30 years, that Ukraine must end corruption, must adopt the rule of law, and must take away power from the oligarchs. You have had Ukrainian Presidents come and go but, time and time again, things seem to stay the same.

During the 2016 Presidential election, we know that senior members of the Ukrainian Government were very much on Secretary Clinton's side. Don't take my word for it. You can pull this article, which was written in the final days of President Obama's Presidency. You can look at it yourself.

That is not some rightwing website. That is Politico. It might be a little hard to read, but here it says Ukrainian "officials are scrambling to make amends with the President-elect"—President Trump—"after quietly working to boost Clinton." The Ukrainian Government was boosting Secretary Clinton.

Thanks to ADAM SCHIFF's Star Chamber rules, we still have not gotten to hear the President's side of the story. But it should come as a surprise to no one, as some Democrats have pretended, that President Trump did not want to devote his valuable, limited

time by doing things like holding an Oval Office meeting with the President of Ukraine after facing stuff like this.

□ 1830

Of course, a President not offering a rare Oval Office meeting is not the same thing as not providing United States support. As most people know, Ukraine has been at war with Russia for about 5 years. Russia illegally invaded Ukraine and still has forces there today. President Obama rightly began to give nonlethal aid to Ukraine to help in that war. But President Obama would not sell weapons to Ukraine because he was scared that it would upset the Russians.

It actually was, would you believe it, President Trump who began selling real weapons to Ukraine to help them actually bring the fight to the Russians. That decision has had an enormous positive effect on Ukraine. Even those testifying in ADAM SCHIFF's hearings who don't like the President have praised President Trump for that.

But, again, it appears that most of the issues that the Democrats are raising started with a few individuals in the administration trying to convince President Trump that we should forget Ukraine's past, embrace the new President of Ukraine, and put a serious amount of his time into that country. They began, in their own words, working to change President Trump's mind on Ukraine.

For weeks, we have been going back and forth about what these individuals may or may not have been doing. We have a mound of bureaucratic gossip. We have been calling it hearsay, but it is gossip about what was going on, who was doing what.

We have a lot of conflicting testimony, speculation, and, yes, hearsay—gossip—but the Democrats have provided zero, and I mean no, direct evidence showing President Trump ordered some kind of quid pro quo. In fact, they quit talking about quid pro quo because they don't have any evidence of it.

With all of this testimony, with all of these rumors, it is easy to forget that this all goes back to the whistleblower. Of course, we know that the whistleblower also lacked firsthand knowledge of what he reportedly blew the whistle on.

He was, according to the inspector general, a partisan individual. So a partisan individual who has no firsthand knowledge filed a whistleblower complaint and that is what we are dealing with.

The whistleblower made allegations that President Trump made demands on President Zelensky in a phone call that occurred in the White House on July 25, but very few people in the media have reported that President Zelensky has publicly, clearly, and repeatedly denied any demands were made on him.

They also have not reported that the Justice Department, the Criminal Divi-

sion of the Justice Department, reviewed this allegation and declined to pursue a criminal investigation. They found no crime.

Nevertheless, President Trump took the extraordinary step of releasing the transcript of this supposedly extraordinary call. You can read the entire transcript online. I hope the American people will do so because they won't find one demand in there. Not one. Read the transcript.

Madam Speaker, the other issue that has been swirling downstairs in that little room is this hold that was placed on security assistance to Ukraine and apparently some other countries as well.

We know that somewhere around July 10, the Office of Management and Budget placed a hold on certain foreign aid going to Ukraine. That is not a cancellation of funds. That is a process allowing the funds to be reviewed.

Importantly, Madam Speaker, that hold was placed before the phone call that President Trump had with President Zelensky, the call that the whistleblower raised.

But, Madam Speaker, something interesting in the transcript was that neither President Trump nor President Zelensky said one word about the hold on that call. One would think that if President Trump were trying to use the aid for extortion, he would have at least mentioned it. One would have also figured that President Zelensky would have mentioned the issue himself, given how important this aid was to his country.

The truth is, the reason President Zelensky did not mention the funds was because he did not know the funds were on hold and President Trump never told him.

Madam Speaker, this would be a very strange quid pro quo where President Trump did not tell President Zelensky and President Zelensky did not know that the funds were on hold.

In fact, it appears that the Ukrainians first found out about the hold when it was reported in the press on August 29, over a month after the phone call; never mind that the funds were released 11 or 12 days later at the latest, unconditionally.

But let's talk about that hold. Many of the witnesses have speculated about why OMB placed a hold on the aid. But when pressed, in all those thousands of pages, they have all said some version of: I don't know why the aid was placed on hold, or I think it was for this reason, but I don't really know.

Let's just look at the facts. It seems that most everybody has somehow forgotten that President Trump ran a campaign on deep skepticism of foreign aid. He asked some tough questions that the American people appreciated. Are we getting our fair share? Are the Europeans freeloading off of us? Should we be taking a second look at this?

So we have a new President, a new parliament in Ukraine. Is it really that surprising that an administration run

by President Trump would say: Let's take another look at this before we send another \$250 million out the door. I think the American people would find that pretty reasonable.

Again, Madam Speaker, we have a lot of bureaucratic gossip here, a lot of people standing around the water cooler somewhere in the White House; a lot of speculation. But not one person has testified they had any direct knowledge that President Trump ordered the aid be held in exchange for some kind of political favor. Not one person.

In fact, the only witness who had any form of serious contact with President Trump, Ambassador Sondland, testified that he called President Trump and asked him what was going on with this aid.

Almost nobody has reported it, but here is a direct quote from that exchange. In this exchange, Sondland talks about one of the Democrat witnesses raising the rumor of quid pro quo with him.

So Sondland called the President, and here you see the President directly told him: "There is no quid pro quo. No quid pro quo." That is the evidence that is being introduced today and before today.

On top of that, we have Vice President PENCE meeting with President Zelensky on September 1, and about 3 weeks later, you have President Trump, seen right here in this picture, you have President Trump with President Zelensky.

So, Madam Speaker, in closing, let's review. We have got a total sham process, a real Star Chamber. The Star Chamber, by the way, it actually was something that grew up in the 17th century in Great Britain, so that the king, in order to squash his political opponents, could have a closed hearing, have his own rules, and then do whatever he needed to take the people who were dissidents and squash them. That is the Star Chamber that ADAM SCHIFF has been running.

We have no evidence that President Trump ordered any kind of quid pro quo. None. No evidence. And the Democrats have stopped talking about quid pro quo because it isn't working for them. Because they don't have the facts.

The call transcripts show no demand. President Zelensky says there was no demand. And no evidence shows President Trump ordered a demand.

The Ukrainians got the aid money within days of even finding out it was on hold. And, finally, Madam Speaker, they got the high-level meeting, not only with the President of the United States, but also with the Vice President that they wanted.

But here we are, Madam Speaker, so many important issues falling by the wayside with nothing getting done for the American people.

We are going to run out of money to run the government in about a week and we have done nothing about it.

The Constitution makes clear that impeachment is an acceptable redress

only for, let me quote it: “treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.” Nothing less.

I think my friends on the other side, unfortunately, they get up here in Washington, and they forget that although they may not like this President, he was chosen by the American people as the leader of this country.

I am sorry, Madam Speaker, they must do much better than offering the American people some hearsay and bureaucratic gossip if they want to take this President down.

The truth is this about removing the President: They know that the votes in the Senate aren’t there for that. The Senate is not going to remove President Trump from office. It is not happening.

This is about satisfying the Democrat’s desire to play to their resistance base, the people who said the day after the election in 2016 that they wanted to impeach Donald Trump.

The whistleblower’s lawyer wrote that he wanted a coup in January of 2017.

This is also about trying to build up a case for defeating President Trump in the 2020 election. The impeachment process is not supposed to be used for that. We have campaigns for that. We raise money to do that. We don’t use this body for that.

This entire process from its very inception has been a hypocritical, shameful exercise in partisan political opportunism. There is no substance here. None of President Trump’s actions even approach anything remotely near impeachable conduct.

But Democrats have made a critical error in orchestrating their scheme. If you watched what happened today, most of it was boring, and the reason it was boring is because there is no there there.

The Democrats have misunderstood and underestimated the resolve of the American people that elected this President. The facts are on the President’s side, and we will rise to the occasion and fight back against this radical scheme to remove President Trump.

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

WE ARE THE HOPE OF THE SLAVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2019, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, and still I rise. And I rise tonight with love of country and heart inspired by “Harriet.” “Harriet,” the movie.

I saw the movie, “Harriet,” and I was inspired to speak tonight because of some of the horrors associated with the movie. There were some high points in the movie, but the movie is about a person born into slavery, a person who had been given the promise of freedom, freedom that was denied.

Inspired by this movie, I rise. I also would rise because I am inspired by the poem Maya Angelou left us, the poem that allows us to express some of the reasons why I am here in this Congress, if you will.

In this poem in the last stanza, she leaves us these words:

Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,
I am the dream and the hope of the slave.

The dreams and hopes of the Harriets, the dreams and hopes of those who were able to survive the journey across the ocean; those who were able to survive and not be lynched; those who were able to survive Jim Crow laws, and Bull Connor’s dogs.

I am the dream and the hope of the slave.
I rise.
I rise.
I rise.

I am proud that Maya Angelou gave us this poem, because it gives us something to believe in. We are the hope of the slave. There are many of us.

I am not the only one, but I rise tonight. I rise because I am the beneficiary of people who lived and died so that I might have this moment.

I am not supposed to be in Congress. People lived and died, people who survived German Shepherds, and high-pressure water hoses.

□ 1845

I am the beneficiary of people who fought in a war, a war for freedom. And in that war for freedom, some 600,000 Americans lost their lives.

Most people believe that World War II claimed the most American lives—not so. Nor did World War I, nor the Vietnam war—not so. It was the Civil War that claimed the most lives of Americans, a war fought so that I might have the privilege of standing here today.

I don’t say to you that that is what was in the minds of the people, but the liberation of a people has metamorphosed into this opportunity.

So I rise understanding that, in that war, there were some African Americans. Then, they were known as colored troops. Some 30,000 colored troops died, and still I rise knowing that others made a sacrifice.

And I am here tonight to talk about the bigotry that still exists in this country. Bigotry is on the rise in this country, and we, the Members of this House, have acknowledged it, and we are responding to it. We have responded to it with hearings:

Tuesday, April 9, 2019, hearing styled, “Hate Crimes and the Rise of White Nationalism”;

Wednesday, May 8, 2019, hearing styled, “Confronting the Rise of Domestic Terrorism in the Homeland”;

Wednesday, May 15, 2019, hearing styled, “Confronting White Supremacy (Part I): The Consequences of Inaction”;

Tuesday, June 4, 2019, hearing styled, “Confronting White Supremacy (Part II): Adequacy of the Federal Response”;

Wednesday, September 18, 2019, hearing styled, “Meeting the Challenge of White Nationalist Terrorism at Home and Abroad”;

September 20, 2019, hearing styled, “Confronting Violent White Supremacy (Part III): Addressing the Transnational Terrorist Threat.”

These are some of the hearings that we have had in our response to the rise of bigotry, to the rise of hate, white supremacy, anti-Semitism, all of the various invidious discrimination that we find ourselves having to deal with—Islamophobia, xenophobia, homophobia, all of the invidious phobias that we have to contend with.

We are responding, and we are responding because this hate has to be dealt with. Those who ignore invidious discrimination, those who ignore hate, those who ignore racism—all of the various phobias that I have called to your attention—perpetuate these various forms of invidious discrimination.

We perpetuate when we ignore. When we tolerate, we ignore. I rise tonight because we cannot ignore the hate. We have to stare it down. We have to take it on. I must do so because I am the hope of the slave, the many who suffered.

I have been given this opportunity, and it would be a waste, a wasted opportunity, if I but only came to this Congress and took on the issues of our day, the issues du jour, and ignore this issue.

Other issues are important. I don’t put them aside. But this issue cannot be ignored. To ignore it would be a betrayal of those who suffered so that I might be here. It would be a slap in the face to those who died so that I might have this opportunity.

So I take advantage of the opportunity that has been afforded me, not necessarily because I want to, but because I have to. I don’t have a choice. And as long as I am in this Congress, I am going to be the reminder. I am going to be the conscience for those who have suffered. I will not back down.

And tonight, I want to ask the question: Why do more than 51 percent of American voters think that the President is a racist?

This is printed. This is information available.

Yes, in this country, the greatest country in the world—the country that stands for liberty and justice for all; the country with government of the people, by the people, for the people; the country wherein no one is above the law—in this country, 51 percent of American voters believe that the President is a racist.

Why would 51 percent believe that the President is a racist?

This makes people uncomfortable to hear me stand in the well of the House of Representatives and talk about the racism emanating from the Presidency. It makes people uncomfortable.

People want to get back to bigotry as usual, when bigotry is something that

we confront on an as-needed basis, but not anything that we seek to end, bigotry being something that we read about, that we hear about, but we don't have to do anything about.

No, we have to do something about it.

So the question: Why would 51 percent—more than 50 percent—of the American voters believe that the President is a racist?

Could it be because at the time he was promoting an immigration policy he called countries in Africa, countries where people of color are predominant, could it be because he called them s-hole countries?

I don't use scatology. I never use profanity—I should correct myself. I never speak profanity. There are times when I do think it. And I am told that, as a person thinks, so is the person, but I never say it. I respect those around me to the extent that I don't use scatology.

But the question is: Why do people think that the President is a racist?

One answer is: Could it be because he has infused bigotry into policy?

When he was negotiating this policy, immigration policy, he made this comment and thereafter promulgated a policy—or attempted to—that would limit persons coming from countries of color, would limit them access, and open access to persons coming from countries predominated by Anglos.

Could it be because he launched a travel ban against Muslims? Is this why more than 50 percent of the American public believe that the President is a racist, a travel ban based upon religion?

In this country, we appreciate and celebrate freedom of religion. If you can ban one, where is the line? Where must you stop?

The ban was initially shot down. After some tweaking, this policy was implemented.

This President is thought by more than 50 percent of the American public—that is my refrain—to be a racist.

Could it be because he attacked a Muslim Gold Star family, the parents of a Muslim who served in our military, who gave his life for our country? Could it be because he would attack this family, a Muslim family?

Could it be because he claimed that a judge was biased against him and said that he is a Mexican? Could it be because he believes that he cannot get justice from a person of color?

More than 50 percent of the American voters believe that the President is a racist. And if I said "people" before, I correct the RECORD here and now. It is voters.

Could it be because the Justice Department sued his company twice for not renting to Black people? The President of the United States, having been sued for not renting to people of color, maybe this is a reason that more than 50 percent of the American public believe that the President of the United States of America is a racist.

Uncomfortable to hear, not pleasant, but it is the truth. And it is written that, if you know the truth, the truth will set you free. I hope to free some souls tonight.

Could it be because he refused to condemn the white supremacist who advocated for him? He didn't say: "White supremacist, I don't want your support," didn't condemn white supremacy and white supremacists.

Could it be because he questioned whether the only African American to become President of the United States was born in the United States? Could it be because he carried that message near and far?

He was almost proud to take on the challenge of questioning the nationality of the Black President of the United States. And since he has become President, it seems that he has tried to undo the legacy of the African American President.

Could it be because he took out a full-page ad advocating the death penalty for those who were charged in what is known as the Central Park Five, a horrible case? Someone did ungodly things to a young woman in Central Park. Five persons of color were taken into custody. He took out a full-page ad and was an advocate for the death penalty.

Could it have been done because of principle? Let's give him the benefit of the doubt for the moment. But later on, it was proven that the five did not commit the crime—not based on a technicality; based upon DNA evidence.

The President never apologized—stood his ground. As a matter of fact, he hasn't apologized for any of the things that I have called to our attention tonight. He does not apologize. He does not repent. He does not say "I am wrong; I made a mistake"—something that I do more often than I would like to, but I make mistakes. He doesn't apologize.

Five people incarcerated, but five people liberated based upon evidence—no apology, no retraction from the President.

Could it be because he has condoned the beating of a Black Lives Matter protester?

Could it be because he has stereotyped Jews and shared an anti-Semitic image created by white supremacists?

Could it be because he has been sanctioned by the U.S. House of Representatives for his racist comments directed at Members of Congress?

There are many reasons to be discussed, but we have to acknowledge that, with all of this evidence and with our moving forward on impeachment, with all of this evidence, should we not consider the impeachment of this President as the Radical Republicans—as they were called, but they were Republicans—did in 1868 with Andrew Johnson?

□ 1900

Republicans impeached Andrew Johnson in article X—for those who

care to read the articles, article X of the XI Articles of Impeachment against him.

Republicans impeached Andrew Johnson for reasons rooted in his bigotry. He was the President Trump of his time.

Andrew Johnson did not want the freedmen and -women to have the same rights and privileges as other Americans. He fought against this. He fought the Freedmen's Bureau. He did not want them to be accorded freedom—the Harriet Tubmans of the world to have their freedom.

Andrew Johnson was the bigot of his time, but the Republicans took a stand. The Republicans took the moral high ground.

When you are standing on the moral high ground, you have a moral imperative to go forward. And they did. And the Republicans impeached Andrew Johnson. I admire the Republicans of 1868. I believe that what they did was right. And, more importantly, it was the righteous thing to do. I am a person who stands with what they did.

There are those who would say, "Well, that was 1868."

Well, the Constitution hasn't changed. It was based upon the same Constitution that we read, the same Article II, Section 4 that we have used for our impeachment going forward currently—same articles. Nothing has changed.

You can't conclude that what they did in 1868, when they were closer to those who framed the Constitution than we are today, had a greater sense, perhaps, of what—if you measure your sense of what was available by your nexus to those who made it available—they were following the Constitution.

We should follow the Constitution. We have a duty and a responsibility to the Harriets of the world to not allow this level of bigotry to continue to emanate from the Presidency.

Impeachment is moving forward. I had said months ago that the President would be impeached. I repeat only what I have said then when I close with: He will be impeached. The hands of history will record that President Donald John Trump was impeached by this House of Representatives.

And for those who say that I have already made up my mind, you are correct. I have, because the evidence is apparent, and there is no requirement that I must wait until we have had subsequent hearings.

He will be impeached. And I believe that we ought to add articles that include his invidious discrimination harmful to this society.

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, November 14, 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. 1615, the VA-SBA Act, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

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. 1773, the Rosie the Riveter Congressional Gold Medal 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.

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. 3661, the Patriotic Employer Protection 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:

2910. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Dairy Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Milk Marketing Orders—Amending the Class I Skim Milk Price Formula; Correction [Docket No.: AMS-DA-18-0096] received November 7, 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.

2911. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Dairy Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Milk Marketing Orders—Amending the Class I Skim Milk Price Formula [Doc. No.: AMS-DA-18-0096] received November 7, 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.

2912. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Federal Grain Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's direct final rule — Removal of Specific Fee Reference [Doc. No.: AMS-FGIS-18-0063] received November 7, 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.

2913. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's temporary

rule — Olives Grown in California; Establish Procedures To Meet Via Electronic Communications [Doc. No.: AMS-SC-18-0061; SC18-932-1 FR] received November 7, 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.

2914. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Pears Grown in Oregon and Washington; Change in Committee Structure for Processed Pears [Doc. No.: AMS-SC-18-0078; SC19-927-1 FR] received November 7, 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.

2915. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Cranberries Grown in the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, and Long Island in the State of New York; Amendment to Marketing Order 929 and Referendum Order [Doc. No.: AMS-SC-18-0017; SC18-929-3 FR] received November 7, 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.

2916. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Onions Grown in South Texas; Order Amending Marketing Order 959 [Doc. No.: AMS-SC-17-0067; SC17-959-4] received November 7, 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.

2917. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Legislative and Regulatory Review, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Reorganization and Transfer of Regulations [Doc. No.: AMS-FGIS-18-0073 FR] received November 7, 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.

2918. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Dairy Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Bioengineered Food Disclosure Standard [Doc. No.: AMS-TM-17-0050] (RIN: 0581-AD54) received November 7, 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.

2919. A letter from the Administrator, Livestock and Poultry Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Soybean Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information; Beef Promotion and Research; Amendments To Allow Redirection of State Assessments to the National Program [No.: AMS-LPS-13-0083] (RIN: 0581-AD49) received November 7, 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.

2920. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Marketing Order Regulating the Handling of Spearmint Oil Produced in the Far West; Salable Quantities and Allotment Percentages for the 2019-2020 Marketing Year [Doc. No.: AMS-SC-18-0084; SC19-985-1 FR] received November 7, 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.

2921. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty

Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Irish Potatoes Grown in Colorado; Modification of the Handling Regulations for Area No. 2 [Doc. No.: AMS-SC-18-0067; SC18-948-2 FR] received November 7, 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.

2922. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Marketing Order Regulating the Handling of Spearmint Oil Produced in the Far West; Increased Assessment Rate [Doc. No.: AMS-SC-19-0026; SC19-985-2 FR] received November 7, 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.

2923. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Livestock and Poultry Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Voluntary Grading of Meats, Prepared Meats, Meat Products, Shell Eggs, Poultry Products, and Rabbit Products [Doc. No.: #AMS-LP-18-0095] received November 7, 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.

2924. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Pecans Grown in the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Texas; Revision of Reporting Requirements [Doc. No.: AMS-SC-18-0019; SC18-986-1 FR] received November 7, 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.

2925. A letter from the Director, Issuances Staff, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Eligibility of Thailand To Export Siluriformes Fish and Fish Products to the United States [Doc. No.: FSIS-2018-0031] (RIN: 0583-AD74) received November 6, 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.

2926. A letter from the Director, Issuances Staff, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Eligibility of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam To Export Siluriformes Fish and Fish Products to the United States [Doc. No.: FSIS-2018-0029] (RIN: 0583-AD74) received November 6, 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.

2927. A letter from the Director, Issuances Staff, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Eligibility of the People's Republic of China To Export Siluriformes Fish and Fish Products to the United States [Docket No.: FSIS-2018-0030] (RIN: 0583-AD73) received November 6, 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.

2928. A letter from the Department of Agriculture, Specialty Crops Program, Specialty Crops Inspection Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Removal of U.S. Grade Standards [Doc. No.: AMS-SC-18-0081, SC19-329] received November 7, 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.

2929. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Division of Trading and Markets, Securities

and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's statement—Market Structure Innovation for Thinly Traded Securities [Release No.: 34-87327; File No.: S7-18-19] received November 7, 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.

2930. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Tebuconazole; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2018-0094; FRL-10001-27] received November 4, 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.

2931. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Standards of Performance for Stationary Compression Ignition Internal Combustion Engines [EPA-HQ-OAR-2018-0851; FRL-10001-93-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AU27) received November 4, 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.

2932. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Propyzamide; Pesticide Tolerance for Emergency Exemptions [EPA-HQ-OPP-2019-0283; FRL-10000-50] received November 4, 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.

2933. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Priorities List [EPA-HQ-OLEM-2019-0077 and 0078; FRL-10001-92-OLEM] received November 4, 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.

2934. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Dinotefuran; Pesticide Tolerance for Emergency Exemption [EPA-HQ-OPP-2019-0357; FRL-10000-96] received November 4, 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.

2935. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Determination of Attainment by the Attainment Date for the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Phoenix-Mesa, Arizona [EPA-R9-OAR-2018-0821; FRL-10001-65-Region 9] received November 4, 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.

2936. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Illinois; NAAQS Update [EPA-R05-OAR-2019-0331; FRL-10001-88-Region 5] received November 4, 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.

2937. A letter from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Connect America Fund [WC Docket No.: 10-90] received November 7, 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.

2938. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification that the national emergency with re-

spect to Iran, declared in Executive Order 12170 of November 14, 1979, is to continue in effect beyond November 14, 2019, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 202(d); (90 Stat. 1257) (H. Doc. No. 116—79); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

2939. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification that the continuation of the national emergency with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction that was declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994, as amended, is to continue in effect beyond November 14, 2019, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 202(d); (90 Stat. 1257) (H. Doc. No. 116—80); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

2940. A letter from the Acting Chief Privacy and Civil Liberties Officer, Executive Office for Immigration Review, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Privacy Act of 1974; Implementation [CPCLO Order No.: 11-2019] received November 5, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2941. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medicare and Medicaid Programs; CY 2020 Home Health Prospective Payment System Rate Update; Home Health Value-Based Purchasing Model; Home Health Quality Reporting Requirements; and Home Infusion Therapy Requirements [CMS-1711-FC] (RIN: 0938-AT68) received November 5, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

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:

Mr. GRIJALVA: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 729. A bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to authorize grants to Indian Tribes to further achievement of Tribal coastal zone objectives, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-283). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRIJALVA: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 925. A bill to extend the authorization of appropriations for allocation to carry out approved wetlands conservation projects under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act through fiscal year 2024 (Rept. 116-284). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRIJALVA: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1446. A bill to require the United States Postal Service to continue selling the Multinational Species Conservation Fund Semipostal Stamp until all remaining stamps are sold, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116-285, Pt. 1). Order to be printed.

Ms. LOFGREN: Committee on House Administration. H.R. 1980. A bill to establish in the Smithsonian Institution a comprehensive women's history museum, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116-286 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. DEFAZIO: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 4031. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control

Act to reauthorize the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-287). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. DEFAZIO: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 4044. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the National Estuary Program, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-288). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. DESAULNIER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 695. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4863) to promote the competitiveness of the United States Export Finance Agency, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-289). Referred to the House Calendar.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committees on Natural Resources and Transportation and Infrastructure discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1980 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. DUNN:

H.R. 5059. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide for the authority to reimburse local governments for interest expenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. BISHOP of Georgia:

H.R. 5060. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to extend eligibility for concurrent payment of both retired pay and veterans' disability compensation to chapter 61 disability retirees with less than 20 years of service who are not eligible for combat-related special compensation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, 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. CICILLINE (for himself and Mr. LANGEVIN):

H.R. 5061. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 42 Main Street in Slatersville, Rhode Island, as the "Specialist Matthew R. Turcotte Post Office"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mrs. DEMINGS (for herself, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. DUNN, Mr. YOHIO, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. WALTZ, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. POSEY, Mr. SOTO, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. CRIST, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. SPANO, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. MAST, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. FRANKEL, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, and Ms. SHALALA):

H.R. 5062. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9930 Conroy Windermere Road in Windermere, Florida, as the "Officer Robert German Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. GOTTHEIMER (for himself and Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio):

H.R. 5063. A bill to provide for increased authorities relating to United States-Israel unmanned aerial systems cooperation; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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. HAGEDORN:

H.R. 5064. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish an interagency task force to examine animal disease transmission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, 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. JEFFRIES (for himself and Mr. BURCHETT):

H.R. 5065. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to provide re-entry entrepreneurship counseling and training services for formerly incarcerated individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. OMAR, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H.R. 5066. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a corporate tax rate increase on companies whose ratio of compensation of the CEO or other highest paid employee to median worker compensation is more than 50 to 1, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MEADOWS:

H.R. 5067. A bill to transition military veterans into new careers in education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, the Judiciary, and Veterans' Affairs, 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, Mr. BANKS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. GALLEGRO, Ms. HAALAND, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LUJÁN, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. SOTO, Mr. SUOZZI, and Ms. WILD):

H.R. 5068. A bill to authorize the Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ (for herself, Ms. MENG, Ms. GARCÍA of Texas, Ms. MOORE, Ms. TLAIB, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 5069. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop for consideration of the Congress a poverty line for purposes of the Community Services Block Grant Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ (for herself, Ms. MENG, Mr. CLAY, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 5070. A bill to provide access to Federal public benefits for individuals with

criminal convictions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ (for herself, Ms. MENG, Ms. GARCÍA of Texas, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 5071. A bill to provide access to Federal public benefits for aliens, without regard to the immigration status of that alien, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ (for herself, Ms. MENG, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 5072. A bill to create an equitable and stable rental housing market, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. OCASIO-CORTEZ (for herself, Ms. MENG, Ms. GARCÍA of Texas, Ms. TLAIB, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 5073. A bill to require a score of worker-friendliness of each employer before entering into a Federal contract, to establish a contracting preference for such score, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself and Mr. TAYLOR):

H.R. 5074. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide transportation to and from Department of Veterans Affairs facilities in connection with vocational rehabilitation or counseling; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. PORTER (for herself, Mr. KING of New York, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. KATKO, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 5075. A bill to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, to repeal certain limits on leave for a married individuals employed by the same employer; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Reform, and House Administration, 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. SHALALA (for herself, Mr. BUCSHON, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, and Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee):

H.R. 5076. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide information regarding vaccines for seniors as part of the Medicare & You handbook and to ensure that the treatment of cost sharing for vaccines under Medicare part D is consistent with the treatment of vaccines under Medicare part B, and for other purposes; 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. TIPTON:

H.R. 5077. A bill to provide protections and certainty for private landowners related to resurveying certain Federal land under the administrative jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Serv-

ice, and the Forest Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself and Mr. CHABOT):

H.R. 5078. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to provide re-entry entrepreneurship counseling and training services for incarcerated individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. WALBERG (for himself, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mrs. DINGELL):

H.R. 5079. A bill to establish a program to accurately document vehicles that were significant in the history of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. GARCÍA of Texas:

H. Con. Res. 72. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House to make a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 2423; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. LOFGREN:

H. Res. 693. A resolution authorizing the Director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the Director of the Office of the Whistleblower Ombudsman to each appoint and fix the pay of employees of their respective Offices; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. WATERS (for herself, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. BASS, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. RUSH, Mr. CLAY, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. EVANS, Mr. LEWIS, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. PLASKETT, Mrs. BEATTY, and Ms. FUDGE):

H. Res. 694. A resolution recognizing the importance of the Civil Rights Act of 1866 and the laws derived therefrom; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MEADOWS:

H. Res. 696. A resolution establishing the Elijah E. Cummings Room; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. YOHO (for himself, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H. Res. 697. A resolution recognizing the significance of the genuine autonomy of Tibet and the Tibetan people and the work His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama has done to promote global peace, harmony, and understanding; 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. DUNN:

H.R. 5059.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. BISHOP of Georgia:

H.R. 5060.

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

Art. I, Sect. 8, Clause 1: to provide for the common defense and general welfare.

Art. I, Sect. 8, Clause 12: to raise and support armies.

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

Art. I, Sect. 8, Clause 16: to provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the Militia, and for governing such Part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the Militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress.

Art. I, Sect. 8, Clause 18: to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 5061.

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

By Mrs. DEMINGS:

H.R. 5062.

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

Article 1 Section 8 of the Constitution provides Congress with the power to establish post offices and post roads.

By Mr. GOTTHEIMER:

H.R. 5063.

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

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to "provide for the common Defence", to raise and support Armies", and "to make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces" as enumerated in Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. HAGEDORN:

H.R. 5064.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. JEFFRIES:

H.R. 5065.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

"The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . ."

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 5066.

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

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

By Mr. MEADOWS:

H.R. 5067.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 states "The Congress shall have Power To . . . regulate Commerce . . . among the several States. . . ." And Article 1, Section 8, Clause 14 states "The Congress shall have Power To . . . make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces...." And Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 states "The Congress shall have Power To . . . make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the

United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 5068.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ:

H.R. 5069.

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

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ:

H.R. 5070.

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

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ:

H.R. 5071.

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

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ:

H.R. 5072.

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

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ:

H.R. 5073.

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

By Mr. PANETTA:

H.R. 5074.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, clause 18

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 5075.

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

By Ms. SHALALA:

H.R. 5076.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. TIPTON:

H.R. 5077.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
section 8 of article I of the Constitution

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 5078.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

"The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . ."

By Mr. WALBERG:

H.R. 5079.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 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. GARAMENDI, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. VEASEY.

H.R. 4: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico.

H.R. 96: Mr. SAN NICOLAS.

H.R. 144: Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 294: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 302: Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.

H.R. 587: Mr. COMER and Mr. SWALWELL of California.

H.R. 763: Mr. PAYNE and Mr. CLAY.

H.R. 837: Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, and Mr. BUDD.

H.R. 912: Mr. ALLRED, Mr. KEATING, Mrs. LURIA, Ms. MENG, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mrs. MCBATH, and Mr. LAMB.

H.R. 934: Ms. BROWNLEY of California and Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 935: Ms. NORTON and Ms. SCANLON.

H.R. 1002: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico.

H.R. 1104: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1154: Mr. LOEBSACK.

H.R. 1175: Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 1220: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 1329: Mr. FOSTER.

H.R. 1345: Mr. DEUTCH.

H.R. 1349: Mr. SCHNEIDER.

H.R. 1364: Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Mr. DELGADO, Mr. García of Illinois, and Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1393: Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. TAKANO.

H.R. 1398: Mr. KING of New York, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. KINZINGER, and Mr. FLORES.

H.R. 1434: Mr. OLSON and Mr. GIBBS.

H.R. 1450: Mr. TONKO, Mr. RYAN, and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.

H.R. 1549: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 1554: Mr. DEFazio and Mr. LATTI.

H.R. 1556: Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 1694: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 1695: Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 1700: Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. WRIGHT, and Mr. BUDD.

H.R. 1730: Mr. TURNER and Mr. LYNCH.

H.R. 1753: Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee and Mr. FLORES.

H.R. 1786: Ms. ESHOO and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.

H.R. 1816: Mr. LUJÁN.

H.R. 1846: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 1858: Mr. STEUBE.

H.R. 1869: Mr. BUDD, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. PALMER, and Ms. PORTER.

H.R. 1925: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York and Mr. KATKO.

H.R. 1953: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 1963: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.

H.R. 2073: Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Ms. WILD.

H.R. 2079: Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 2113: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 2146: Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 2158: Mr. LATTI.

H.R. 2168: Ms. DEAN and Mr. COLE.

H.R. 2213: Mr. ROUDA.

H.R. 2214: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.

H.R. 2216: Mr. WRIGHT.

H.R. 2223: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 2224: Mr. GRIJALVA and Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 2264: Mrs. FLETCHER.

H.R. 2271: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 2305: Mr. RUTHERFORD and Ms. JAYAPAL.

H.R. 2339: Ms. MOORE, Ms. LOFGREN, and Ms. SCANLON.

H.R. 2382: Mr. TRONE, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mrs. MCBATH, and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.

H.R. 2416: Mr. SPANO.

H.R. 2441: Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 2447: Mrs. WALORSKI.

H.R. 2453: Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 2474: Mr. LAWSON of Florida.

H.R. 2482: Mr. RUTHERFORD.

H.R. 2491: Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 2594: Mr. SMITH of Missouri and Mr. REED.

H.R. 2650: Mr. FLEISCHMANN.

H.R. 2651: Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 2700: Mrs. HARTZLER.

H.R. 2720: Mrs. LEE of Nevada.

- H.R. 2733: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
H.R. 2747: Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 2771: Mr. MOOLENAAR.
H.R. 2818: Mrs. BEATTY and Mr. BALDERSON.
H.R. 2846: Mr. KINZINGER.
H.R. 2896: Ms. WEXTON and Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 2986: Mr. BRINDISI, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 3048: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, Mrs. BEATTY, and Mr. LUETKEMEYER.
H.R. 3068: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 3077: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 3107: Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 3110: Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 3121: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 3131: Mr. GALLEGRO.
H.R. 3138: Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. STANTON, and Mr. KIM.
H.R. 3165: Ms. WEXTON and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 3182: Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina.
H.R. 3250: Ms. WEXTON.
H.R. 3265: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 3272: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 3373: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 3400: Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 3436: Mr. DUNCAN.
H.R. 3463: Ms. SPEIER, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 3467: Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 3495: Mr. POSEY, Mr. KELLER, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. COMER, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. LATTA, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Ms. GRANGER, and Mr. WESTERMAN.
H.R. 3561: Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio and Ms. HOULAHAN.
H.R. 3637: Ms. CLARKE of New York and Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 3647: Mr. STAUBER.
H.R. 3666: Mr. SENSENBRENNER.
H.R. 3702: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 3720: Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio.
H.R. 3742: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington.
H.R. 3757: Mr. LAMB.
H.R. 3760: Mr. HASTINGS.
H.R. 3798: Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 3817: Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 3851: Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
H.R. 3861: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 3918: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 3934: Mr. GOSAR and Mr. SCHWEIKERT.
H.R. 3960: Mr. LOWENTHAL and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 3975: Mr. RUTHERFORD and Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma.
H.R. 3983: Mr. KELLER.
H.R. 4002: Mr. STEIL.
H.R. 4004: Mr. CICILLINE and Mr. MCADAMS.
H.R. 4018: Mr. LAMB.
H.R. 4052: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 4092: Mr. FLORES.
H.R. 4098: Mr. BANKS and Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee.
H.R. 4107: Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 4108: Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 4165: Ms. JUDY CHU of California and Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 4189: Mrs. FLETCHER.
H.R. 4193: Mr. CUELLAR.
H.R. 4194: Mr. LATTA.
H.R. 4215: Mr. AMODEI.
H.R. 4219: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.
H.R. 4230: Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. PETERS, and Ms. SLOTKIN.
H.R. 4304: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER and Mr. TIPTON.
H.R. 4331: Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 4348: Mr. MEEKS, Mr. SHERMAN, and Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 4386: Ms. ESCOBAR and Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 4391: Mr. LAMB.
H.R. 4399: Mr. GAETZ, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. WALKER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. COMER, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. SMITH of Missouri.
H.R. 4421: Mr. BURGESS and Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 4426: Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. GALLEGRO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. POCAN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. SOTO, Ms. TLAIB, and Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 4436: Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. OMAR, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 4485: Mr. BUDD.
H.R. 4500: Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 4508: Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. VARGAS, and Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 4519: Mr. KIM, Mr. POCAN, Ms. DEAN, and Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 4561: Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. PANETTA, and Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 4588: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 4589: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 4672: Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. BASS, and Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 4674: Mr. CRIST, Mrs. LAWRENCE, and Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 4681: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. LAMB, and Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 4684: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 4694: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 4697: Mr. GARAMENDI, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. DEAN, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. FOSTER, and Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 4701: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 4704: Ms. SHERRILL and Ms. WEXTON.
H.R. 4722: Mr. AGUILAR and Ms. OMAR.
H.R. 4732: Mr. ESPAILLAT.
H.R. 4736: Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 4738: Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee.
H.R. 4797: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 4820: Ms. SPANBERGER.
H.R. 4823: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 4880: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 4890: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. SOTO, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. VELA, and Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 4901: Mr. CORREA.
H.R. 4920: Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 4932: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota and Mr. COLE.
H.R. 4934: Mr. SMITH of Missouri and Mr. MITCHELL.
H.R. 4941: Mr. TURNER.
H.R. 4945: Mr. POCAN and Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 4957: Ms. BASS, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. SOTO, and Mrs. RADEWAGEN.
H.R. 4967: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER and Mr. BROWN of Maryland.
H.R. 4968: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 4979: Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. LAMB, Mr. BABIN, and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 4982: Mr. MOOLENAAR.
H.R. 4986: Mr. CARTWRIGHT and Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 4989: Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. BEATTY, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 4990: Mr. BALDERSON.
H.R. 4995: Ms. KELLY of Illinois and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.
H.R. 4996: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.
H.R. 5004: Ms. ESCOBAR.
H.R. 5013: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 5018: Mr. YOHO.
H.R. 5021: Ms. ADAMS, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. FOSTER.
H.R. 5034: Ms. PRESSLEY and Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 5036: Mr. CASE, Mr. DEUTCH, and Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 5042: Ms. FUDGE and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 5052: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 5053: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.J. Res. 20: Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina.
H.J. Res. 79: Mr. PAPPAS.
H. Con. Res. 20: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H. Con. Res. 50: Ms. CHENEY.
H. Con. Res. 52: Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. POCAN, and Ms. TLAIB.
H. Con. Res. 68: Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee and Mr. STEUBE.
H. Res. 49: Mr. MAST.
H. Res. 114: Ms. CASTOR of Florida and Mr. WALBERG.
H. Res. 117: Ms. LEE of California.
H. Res. 153: Mr. CASE.
H. Res. 160: Mr. RIGGLEMAN.
H. Res. 214: Mr. CASE.
H. Res. 255: Mr. VAN DREW.
H. Res. 374: Mr. PETERS, Mr. STIVERS, and Mr. COMER.
H. Res. 410: Ms. SPANBERGER.
H. Res. 538: Mrs. RADEWAGEN.
H. Res. 546: Ms. SPANBERGER.
H. Res. 574: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD and Ms. OMAR.
H. Res. 585: Mr. KIND.
H. Res. 621: Ms. TITUS.
H. Res. 642: Mr. PANETTA, Mr. SUOZZI, and Mr. DEFAZIO.
H. Res. 654: Mr. LEWIS and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H. Res. 676: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.
H. Res. 683: Mrs. WAGNER.
H. Res. 688: Ms. MENG and Mr. CICILLINE.
H. Res. 690: Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BASS, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. LEWIS, and Ms. MOORE.
H. Res. 692: Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma.