

NOT VOTING—4

Gabbard
OmarSerrano
Timmons

□ 1404

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PAYNE). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

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

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

AUTHORIZING OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO RETAIN PRIVATE COUNSEL IN SUPPORT OF ONGOING INQUIRY INTO WHETHER SUFFICIENT GROUNDS EXIST FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO EXERCISE ITS CONSTITUTIONAL POWER TO IMPEACH PRESIDENT DONALD JOHN TRUMP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 695, H. Res. 661 is considered as adopted.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 661

Resolved, That the Office of General Counsel of the House of Representatives is authorized to retain private counsel, either for pay or pro bono, in support of the ongoing inquiry into whether sufficient grounds exist for the House of Representatives to exercise its Constitutional power to impeach Donald John Trump, President of the United States of America.

AUTHORIZING DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AND DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF THE WHISTLEBLOWER OMBUDSMAN TO EACH APPOINT AND FIX PAY OF EMPLOYEES OF THEIR RESPECTIVE OFFICES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 695, H. Res. 693 is considered as adopted.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 693

Resolved, That, pursuant to regulations issued by the Committee on House Administration—

(1) the Director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion established under section 104(d) of House Resolution 6 may appoint and fix the pay of employees of the Office; and

(2) the Director of the Office of the Whistleblower Ombudsman established under section 104(e) of House Resolution 6 may appoint and fix the pay of employees of the Office.

PERMISSION FOR MEMBER TO BE CONSIDERED AS FIRST SPONSOR OF H.R. 1915

Mrs. TRAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may hereafter be considered to be the first sponsor of H.R. 1915, a bill originally introduced by Representative Cummings of Maryland, for the purposes of adding cosponsors and requesting reprintings pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII.

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

There was no objection.

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 14, 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 14, 2019, at 11:51 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 2851.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 72.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

UNITED STATES EXPORT FINANCE AGENCY ACT OF 2019

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 4863 and to insert extraneous materials thereon.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 695 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 4863.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1409

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the 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, with Mr. BLUMENAUER in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Committee on Financial Services.

The gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4863, the United States Export Finance Agency Act of 2019.

H.R. 4863 reauthorizes and makes key improvements to the job-creating Export-Import Bank. Let me begin by describing why the Ex-Im Bank is so important.

The Ex-Im Bank was established 85 years ago and is the official export credit agency of the United States. Its mission is to promote the export of U.S. goods and services in order to help create and sustain jobs in the United States.

Over the last 10 years, the Ex-Im Bank has supported more than 1.5 million American jobs at no cost to the taxpayer, financed more than \$255 billion in U.S. exports, and remitted more than \$3.4 billion in deficit-reducing receipts to the Treasury.

In my district, the Ex-Im Bank is currently financing \$269 million worth of exports from 13 different exporters, including 10 small businesses.

Ex-Im does not compete with the private sector but, instead, fills in gaps when the private sector lacks the capacity or willingness to provide the financing required by U.S. exporters.

During the financial crisis, the Ex-Im Bank was an important source of financing when private capital was simply unavailable to many businesses. Ex-Im estimates that during fiscal year 2010, in the depths of the financial crisis, it supported 227,000 jobs at more than 3,300 companies.

The Bank also plays a key role in leveling the international playing field by offsetting the financing offered by foreign export credit agencies. The Ex-Im Bank is one of more than 100 export credit agencies around the world that help their home-country exporters compete in the global markets.

If we fail to reauthorize the Bank, American businesses will be harmed, and thousands of jobs will be lost.

Unfortunately, in 2015, the Republican leadership in the House allowed the Bank's charter to expire for the first time in the Bank's history. At that time, a number of countries, including China, celebrated the Bank's closure because of the competitive advantage it gave them over U.S. businesses and workers.

Later, Republicans in the Senate hobbled Ex-Im for 4 years by refusing to confirm board directors, which prevented them from having a quorum. Ex-Im reported that it was unable to approve \$40 billion worth of transactions during this period, which would