

And, it also includes Amendment 282, which will require the GAO to study the procedures for investigating missing persons by the Armed Forces.

As members of Congress, we have a responsibility to our women and men in uniform. We must honor Vanessa's memory by ensuring this never again happens to another soldier or her family.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, my amendment No. 330, which is included in the en bloc amendment No. 2, ensures the 1,700 small businesses in my district can receive assistance through grants from the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) program and through FAST, the Federal and State Technology program.

My district, the Northern Mariana Islands, is the only place in the U.S. not included in these Small Business Administration (SBA) programs, which help small businesses access the knowledge and capital needed to grow and compete successfully for federal contracting opportunities.

My bipartisan amendment would correct that by ensuring access on the same basis as their counterparts across the nation. The amendment is the text of my bill, H.R. 6021, the Northern Mariana Islands Small Business Development Act. The Small Business Committee unanimously reported the bill favorably in March.

Under my legislation, the Marianas can apply to establish a Lead SBDC, which would make available renewable funding to expand the reach and capacity of the existing SBDC service center on Saipan. With additional funding, small businesses on Saipan, Tinian and Rota will have better access to free or low-cost services such as incubator workspaces for entrepreneurs, business planning, operations, and other areas required for small business growth and success.

The amendment would also help our small businesses participate in federal research and development opportunities. The legislation does this by including the Marianas in the SBA's FAST program which funds outreach and assistance to small businesses interested in competing for the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs.

I urge the adoption of my amendment, so we can be sure that all small businesses in our country can fully benefit from the SBDC and FAST programs, regardless of where in our nation they happen to operate.

The gentlelady from American Samoa, Mrs. Radewagen, is a cosponsor of the amendment.

I ask my colleagues to support the en bloc No. 2.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1053, the previous question is ordered on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. SMITH).

The question is on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. SMITH).

The en bloc amendments were agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of H.R. 6395 is postponed.

RESIGNATIONS AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR, COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS, AND COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. HOULAHAN) laid before the House the following resignations as a member of the Committee on Education and Labor, Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and Committee on Foreign Affairs:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, July 17, 2020.

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

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: I write to respectfully tender my temporary resignation as a member of the House Committee on Education and Labor, House Veteran Affairs Committee, and House Foreign Affairs Committee. It has been an honor to serve in this capacity.

Sincerely,

STEVE WATKINS,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignations are accepted.

There was no objection.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in my district and I missed the rule vote on the NDAA. If I were present, I would have voted "aye." I missed the previous question on the NDAA. If I were present, I would have voted "aye."

RISING COVID-19 CASES IN TEXAS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, it was very difficult to come to Washington, leaving my constituents behind, having engaged with them for all of the moments that I have been in the district.

They are good people. The State of Texas is filled with good people. The Nation is filled with good people.

How we got to 300,000 cases and thousands of deaths, 10,000 cases in the last 24 hours in our jurisdictions of Harris County and Houston, is tragic and baffling. We opened too early.

A number of Members of Congress have written our Governor and asked

him to return authority to our local communities, our county and our city, to allow them to make determinations of a stay-at-home order—painful, I know it is—in order to be able to do this by science and medicine.

Let me be very clear. The headlines in my paper said today it is difficult doing contact tracing. People are out and about. You don't have good information. So I am asking the Governor to adhere to our request.

But more importantly, I want my colleagues to work with me to restore the National Guard that were stupendous in doing testing. We do not have enough. And I look forward to working with Armed Services and others to ensure the Texas National Guard can be back to do testing to help save lives.

We have got to save lives, and we should not be a respecter of what State. We are one State and one Nation.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. JACKSON LEE (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today until 3 p.m. on account of representational activities in congressional district.

Mr. GRIFFITH (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of health concerns.

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported that on July 2, 2020, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill:

H.R. 7440. To impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons involved in the erosion of certain obligations of China with respect to Hong Kong, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 42 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, pursuant to section 4(b) of House Resolution 967 and pursuant to House Resolution 1054, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, July 21, 2020, at 9 a.m., for morning-hour debate and 10 a.m. for legislative business, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable JOHN LEWIS.

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, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 3504, the Ryan Kules and Paul Benne Specially Adaptive Housing Improvement Act of 2019, as amended, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.