

IP-enabled voice service, or other emergency communications service”.

(b) DEFINITION.—Section 7 of the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 (as redesignated by section 101(1) of this Act) is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(8) OTHER EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE.—The term ‘other emergency communications service’ means the provision of emergency information to a public safety answering point via wire or radio communications, and may include 9–1–1 and enhanced 9–1–1 service.

“(9) OTHER EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PROVIDER.—The term ‘other emergency communications service provider’ means—

“(A) an entity other than a local exchange carrier, wireless carrier, or an IP-enabled voice service provider that is required by the Federal Communications Commission consistent with the Commission’s authority under the Communications Act of 1934 to provide other emergency communications services; or

“(B) in the absence of a Commission requirement as described in subparagraph (A), an entity that voluntarily elects to provide other emergency communications services and is specifically authorized by the appropriate local or State 9–1–1 service governing authority to provide other emergency communications services.

“(10) ENHANCED 9–1–1 SERVICE.—The term ‘enhanced 9–1–1 service’ means the delivery of 9–1–1 calls with automatic number identification and automatic location identification, or successor or equivalent information features over the wireline E911 network (as defined in section 9.3 of the Federal Communications Commission’s regulations (47 C.F.R. 9.3) as of the date of enactment of the New and Emerging Technologies 911 Improvement Act of 2008) and equivalent or successor networks and technologies. The term also includes any enhanced 9–1–1 service so designated by the Commission in its Report and Order in WC Docket Nos. 04–36 and 05–196, or any successor proceeding.”.

TITLE III—AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE CUSTOMER INFORMATION FOR 911 PURPOSES

SEC. 301. AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE CUSTOMER INFORMATION.

Section 222 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 222) is amended—

(1) by inserting “or the user of an IP-enabled voice service (as such term is defined in section 7 of the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 (47 U.S.C. 615b))” after “section 332(d))” each place it appears in subsections (d)(4) and (f)(1);

(2) by striking “WIRELESS” in the heading of subsection (f); and

(3) in subsection (g), by inserting “or a provider of IP-enabled voice service (as such term is defined in section 7 of the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 (47 U.S.C. 615b))” after “telephone exchange service”.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

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

There was no objection.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam 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 on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

MOTION OFFERED BY MR. GORDON OF TENNESSEE

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

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

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Gordon of Tennessee moves that the House concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 3403.

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3403, the “New and Emerging Technologies 911 Improvement Act of 2008”.

This legislation ensures that consumers using Voice over Internet Protocol technology, or VoIP, can make full use of the 911 system in two important ways. First, the legislation extends the same liability protections afforded to wireline and wireless carriers, public safety, and end users to VoIP service. This parity in liability protections will encourage service providers, public safety, and end users to continue to rely on the 911 emergency communications system, regardless of the technology used to make a 911 call. Second, the legislation ensures that VoIP providers can interconnect with legacy telephone networks so they can deliver calls and information to 911 call centers.

Representative GORDON, the author of H.R. 3403, Representative MARKEY, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, Representative BARTON, Ranking Member of the Committee, Representatives UPTON and STEARNS, the former and current Ranking Members of the Subcommittee, and I worked very closely with all stakeholders on this legislation, and it has widespread support among the public safety community, industry, and others.

As is clear from the language of the legislation, the requirement for interconnection is for purposes of 911 only and should not be used to bootstrap access for other reasons. Similarly, the legislation makes clear that those who control the legacy gateways to the emergency communications system must provide access, including rights of interconnection, to those seeking to deliver 911 calls and information. Because all stakeholders agreed to the legislative language, we fully expect that this access will not be inhibited by either delay or litigation.

H.R. 3403 also requires the development of a national plan to ensure that the 911 system continues to evolve. It is significant that the plan will include the participation of first responders, including the emergency communications professionals maintaining and using the system. It is also important that the plan will address the needs of the disabilities community when they use emergency communications. I look forward to reviewing the results of this work so we can begin to move to the next generation of emergency communications.

I am disappointed that the Senate stripped out one provision of the House-passed version of this legislation that protected proprietary customer information. This provision prohibited a carrier from using the customer information that other carriers are required to provide for 911 databases for any purpose other than emergency communications. I heard no rational argument against the policy underlying this provision. Nevertheless, in the interest of ensuring that this legislation be enacted swiftly, I will support the bill as passed by the Senate.

I intend, however, to take this matter up again in the future. We owe it to consumers to ensure that their emergency communications system does not become a playground for competitive shenanigans.

H.R. 3403 is a forward-looking bill that ensures that consumers using VoIP service are able to access 911 as easily as consumers using wireline or wireless services. Each of its elements—giving VoIP providers access to the components they need to provide 911 service; extending to VoIP providers, public safety officials, and end users the liability protections currently afforded to wireline and wireless services; and requiring a plan for the continued evolution of the emergency communications system—is a worthy victory for all consumers. I commend Representative GORDON for his years of dedication to this important issue and hail this success, from which all Americans will reap benefits for years to come.

The motion was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING HIGH SCHOOL VALEDICTORIANS OF GRADUATING CLASS OF 2008

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1229) recognizing the achievements of America’s high school valedictorians of the graduating class of 2008, promoting the importance of encouraging intellectual growth, and rewarding academic excellence of all American high school students, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1229

Whereas valedictorians are conferred as the highest academically-ranked student in their high school’s graduating class;

Whereas our Nation’s secondary schools honor their highest academically ranked students with the “valedictorian” title;

Whereas valedictorians have demonstrated consistency in their intellectual inquiry, academic discipline, and utilization of teacher mentoring throughout their high school careers;

Whereas valedictorians serve as peer role models to fellow high school students by succeeding academically and contributing to community improvement;

Whereas valedictorians are charged with the duty of giving a graduation speech that reflects upon the intellectual development and community involvement of the graduating class and inspires all graduating students to further their academic studies and social engagement;

Whereas numerous valedictorians and graduating seniors will further their intellectual interests and academic studies by enrolling in universities and postsecondary educational institutions;

Whereas family members, teachers, school administrators, and community members have nurtured the intellectual growth and rewarded the academic achievements of valedictorians and graduating seniors; and

Whereas valedictorians and graduating seniors will become America’s future civic, business, and political leaders, maintaining our Nation’s global leadership position and

strengthening its economic competitiveness: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) honors and recognizes the valedictorians and graduating seniors of the class of 2008 for their academic achievements and contributions to their communities;

(2) encourages all valedictorians and graduating seniors to further their intellectual inquiry and academic studies in universities and postsecondary educational institutions; and

(3) supports the continued social engagement of valedictorians and graduating seniors, which utilizes their knowledge and skills for the betterment of their communities and the social, cultural, and economic advancement of the Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) and the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on H. Res. 1229 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1229, which recognizes the achievements of America's high school valedictorians of the graduating class of 2008. I am pleased to honor these outstanding individuals, as well as encourage the pursuit of high academic honors.

Today, as we recognize our valedictorians, we reaffirm our commitment to education and encourage our youth to discover the many learning opportunities they will encounter throughout their lives. I hope that by saluting these valedictorians we help make high achievement infectious and help every student appreciate the countless opportunities that await them beyond high school.

Valedictorians are not only the highest academically ranked students in their class; they are also peer role models who represent the ideals of their families and communities. They inspire fellow classmates to become involved in improving the community and motivate their peers to achieve academically.

Long after high school, the title of valedictorian is still upheld as a significant accomplishment. By recognizing the accomplishments of this year's high school valedictorians, I hope to support and promote inquiry and learning across our Nation. I know that this year's valedictorians, and all graduating seniors at our Nation's high schools, are our future leaders. We owe it to these students to give them the best education we can and celebrate high school graduation as an important step toward achieving their goals.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate this year's valedictorians and everyone in the graduating class of 2008. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1229, recognizing the achievements of America's high school valedictorians of the graduating class of 2008, promoting the importance of encouraging intellectual growth, and rewarding academic excellence of all American high school students.

Valedictorians are the highest academically ranked students in their high school's graduating class. These students have demonstrated consistency in their intellectual inquiry, academic discipline, and utilization of teacher mentoring throughout their high school careers.

□ 1700

They serve as peer role models to fellow high school students by succeeding academically and contributing to a culture of excellence in their schools.

Valedictorians are charged with the duty of giving a graduation speech that reflects upon the intellectual development and community involvement of the graduating class and inspires all graduating students to further their academic studies and social engagement. These students enjoy the support of family members, teachers, school administrators and community members who have nurtured their intellectual growth and rewarded their academic achievements. This class of seniors will become America's future civic, business and political leaders, maintaining our Nation's global leadership position and strengthening its economic competitiveness.

Today I want to especially honor and recognize the valedictorians and graduating seniors of the class of 2008. They have all worked very hard to accomplish the goals they reached on high school graduation day. I know this is not the first outstanding accomplishment for many of these young people, and I am equally certain it will not be the last.

I encourage all valedictorians and all graduating seniors to further their intellectual inquiry and academic studies in universities and post-secondary educational institutions across the Nation.

To all graduating seniors, I want to say congratulations on your many accomplishments, and enjoy your summer.

I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, as we reflect on the valedictorians of the class of 2008, I think it's important that we think about what the Democrats are doing now in the House of Representatives that are going to affect their fu-

ture. I think that we have to reflect on the fact that the Democrat majority's "just say no" energy policy certainly darkens America's energy future:

No production of American energy resources, which increases reliance on unstable foreign sources such as Venezuela, Iran and Saudi Arabia.

No new oil refineries built, which increases gas prices and reliance on imported fuel.

No new transmission lines, which hinders renewable electricity getting to consumers and reduces reliability.

No new coal power plants, which increases electricity prices and stifles the economy.

No new advanced zero-emission nuclear plants, which blocks one of the cleanest, most reliable energy sources available.

No new zero-emission hydroelectric plants, which blocks reliable clean energy.

No liquefied natural gas terminals, which increases prices and ships jobs overseas.

Democrats' prohibition on producing American energy resources have made the U.S. more reliant on imported oil and natural gas.

Democrats' roadblocks on the utilization of energy from our North American neighbors have made the U.S. more reliant on the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, OPEC.

Democrats' unfavorable tax rules have sent energy investment and production abroad.

Democrats' unnecessary red tape and bureaucracy have made it nearly impossible to move forward on new clean power generation.

Democrats' 1970s-era energy policies have cancelled dozens of power plants, reducing electricity supplies and increasing electricity costs to consumers.

Democrats' refusal to provide incentives for individuals and businesses has made it difficult to invest in efficient technologies.

But Republicans have solutions that will fix this problem. We then can look at meeting our energy needs with American-made energy in the future.

The comprehensive House Republican plan will fund research and development of technologies and innovations which advance the use of renewable and domestically available energy sources, increase energy efficiency, and ease the environmental impacts of energy use.

We will increase the production of American-made energy in an environmentally safe way.

We support actions that reduce America's dependence on energy from unstable foreign governments and dictatorships by increasing domestic production of oil and natural gas in an environmentally safe way.

And we promote unconventional fuels such as coal-to-liquid technology by recovering our vast oil shale reserves and increasing access for environmentally responsible development of conventional and unconventional domestic oil and natural gas production.

We want to provide coal-to-liquids financing and tax incentives. We want to advance the commercialization of the Nation's 2 trillion barrel shale oil resource, 80 percent of which occurs on government-owned land in the West. This is enough to supply all of America's needs for over two centuries.

We are promoting new, clean and reliable power generation. We encourage more production of environmentally safe energy to increase the use of our vast domestic supply, reduce emissions, and keep coal-dependent communities strong.

We want to expand emissions-free nuclear power, including long-term nuclear waste storage solutions and recycling spent fuel by providing production and investment tax credits for all new base-load electricity products such as advanced nuclear power and clean coal, and allowing immediate expensing for new renewable or zero-emission power.

We want to cut red tape and increase the supply of American-made fuel and energy by expediting permitting for enhanced oil recovery projects, including CO₂ delivery and injection, as well as permitting for new refining capacity.

We want to improve environmental review and permitting to encourage the deployment of technologies which increase the efficiency of existing power plants.

And we want to end ill-advised policies that have led to the proliferation of unique gasoline and diesel fuel formations known as "boutique fuels" which have fragmented our motor fuels distribution system, choked off supply, and exacerbated the already painful Pelosi Premium.

We are encouraging greater energy efficiency by offering conservation tax incentives. We support technologies to help increase energy efficiency in all sectors of the American economy, including removing bureaucratic regulatory barriers that prevent businesses from upgrading their facilities with newer, more efficient energy technologies.

We want to make home energy efficiency upgrades tax deductible, provide incentives for homebuilders and homeowners to make their homes more energy efficient, offer investment expensing for industrial and commercial building efficiency upgrades, extend the residential and business solar and fuel cell investment tax credits, with enhancements to the residential solar credit (\$2,000 per ½ kilowatt installed), extend the fiber-optic distributed sunlight investment tax credit, and increase energy efficiency of government-owned facilities.

With that, Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, for too long our Nation has been captive of the interests that are preserving dependence on fossil fuels.

What's so exciting about what is happening with the younger generation, among them these valedictorians that

we're saluting today, is they're really getting out on the cutting edge in terms of thinking about the green revolution, about new energy technologies. And they're the ones, I think, that are going to join with enlightened policy makers across the country to make sure that we liberate ourselves from that dependence on fossil fuels and we move forward and explore alternatives to that, which is really going to be the solution to our energy crisis over time.

So again, for all they're doing and for stepping up as they do every day and demonstrating incredible accomplishments, I want to salute the valedictorians of the class of 2008 and encourage my colleagues to support H. Res. 1229.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, today, we rightly honor the hard work and achievements of this year's valedictorians, salutatorians and graduates all across the Nation. I wish to recognize their dedication and the contributions to their community. By completing a high school diploma, the future for these students has become considerably brighter.

I also wish to take a moment to reflect on large group of valedictorians, salutatorians and graduates who, despite high school success and graduation, will be shut out of many of the opportunities for a prosperous future that we promise to our children for their hard work.

I am referring to the many valedictorians, salutatorians and graduates who have worked hard in the communities they have known their whole lives, played by the rules, excelled in school and, because of their undocumented status, will be systematically cut off from the opportunities that are afforded to successful students like them. Through no fault of their own, these bright, intelligent, model students will be caught in limbo—denied an opportunity to pursue success and, in so doing, to serve our country.

These students are confronted with a lesson that high schools do not teach—that because of a status that was not of their choosing, their achievements are worth less than the achievements of their friends and classmates. This is a cruel lesson indeed; the lesson that they have grown up in a social caste; that despite America's promise of prosperity for hard work, that no matter what their educational success—they will be branded "untouchables".

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1229, recognizing the achievements of America's high school valedictorians of the graduating class of 2008, promoting the importance of encouraging intellectual growth, and rewarding academic excellence of all American high school students, introduced by my distinguished colleague from New York, Representative GREGORY MEEKS, of which I am a proud cosponsor. This bill is an important step in continuing and promoting the excellent secondary education that our nation provides.

This legislation recognizes the fine accomplishments of the graduating class of 2008 and commends them for their intellectual pursuits as well as their academic achievements. This bill, furthermore, recognizes the family members, teachers, school administrators, and community members that have nurtured the intellectual growth and rewarded the academic achievements of this year's valedictorians and graduating seniors.

This year, valedictorians across America have succeeded in tremendous academic endeavors. Whether by inspiring their fellow classmates to study a little longer for a test, or by tutoring them to write an essay, valedictorians have acted as noteworthy role models to their peers. Furthermore, through their hard work and dedications, they have enriched their academic communities.

It is further important that we recognize that valedictorians often engage in extracurricular activities, enriching their local communities and the nation by furthering economic, cultural, and social accomplishments. By volunteering their time in soup kitchens, acting as captain of the soccer team or chess club, or simply taking an after-school job, valedictorians learn more than math and English, they learn to contribute significantly to our society.

As Chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, I recognize the importance of today's youth. Valedictorians as well as graduating seniors of 2008 will become the future businessmen, leaders, teachers, and scientists that lead this nation. They will use their extraordinary talents to make the world a better place. As thus, it is important for them to continue to cultivate their strengths by attending one of the many universities that this great nation has to offer. I support this legislation that encourages valedictorians and the graduating class of 2008 as a whole, to further their intellectual inquiry and academic studies beyond their secondary education.

With over 15,000 of our nation's schools recognizing this year's valedictorians as the highest academically-ranked students in their graduating class, the members of Congress, as representatives of our nation, must recognize these talented individuals for their hard work. By doing so, we demonstrate the importance of education and show our support for the continued hard work of students across the country. Without this official recognition, talented youth may not feel support which can push them to achieve high goals, such as past valedictorians and the valedictorians of the 2008 graduating class have achieved. I feel strongly that this bill is a step toward providing support for students.

This legislation is imperative to recognizing the achievement of the graduating class of 2008, supporting social engagements by graduating seniors to better our communities, and promoting continued intellectual pursuits by these men and women at colleges and universities. As the Chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, a Representative of the people of the United States, and a mother of two, I am proud to cosponsor this legislation and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, 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. SARBANES) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1229, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.