

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

□ 1700

DESIGNATION OF INDIVIDUAL AUTHORIZED TO MAKE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE DISBURSEMENTS IN EVENT OF DEATH OF CANDIDATE

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 406) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election for Federal office to designate an individual who will be authorized to disburse funds of the authorized campaign committees of the candidate in the event of the death of the candidate.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 406

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF INDIVIDUAL AUTHORIZED TO MAKE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE DISBURSEMENTS IN EVENT OF DEATH OF CANDIDATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 302 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 432) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(j)(1) Each candidate may, with respect to each authorized committee of the candidate, designate an individual who shall be responsible for disbursing funds in the accounts of the committee in the event of the death of the candidate, and may also designate another individual to carry out the responsibilities of the designated individual under this subsection in the event of the death or incapacity of the designated individual or the unwillingness of the designated individual to carry out the responsibilities.

“(2) In order to designate an individual under this subsection, the candidate shall file with the Commission a signed written statement (in a standardized form developed by the Commission) that contains the name and address of the individual and the name of the authorized committee for which the designation shall apply, and that may contain the candidate’s instructions regarding the disbursement of the funds involved by the individual. At any time after filing the statement, the candidate may revoke the designation of an individual by filing with the Commission a signed written statement of revocation (in a standardized form developed by the Commission).

“(3) Upon the death of a candidate who has designated an individual for purposes of paragraph (1), funds in the accounts of each authorized committee of the candidate may be disbursed only under the direction and in accordance with the instructions of such individual, subject to the terms and conditions applicable to the disbursement of such funds under this Act or any other applicable Federal or State law (other than any provision of State law which authorizes any person other than such individual to direct the disbursement of such funds).

“(4) Nothing in paragraph (3) may be construed to grant any authority to an individual who is designated pursuant to this subsection other than the authority to direct the disbursement of funds as provided in

such paragraph, or may be construed to affect the responsibility of the treasurer of an authorized committee for which funds are disbursed in accordance with such paragraph to file reports of the disbursements of such funds under section 304(a).”

(b) INCLUSION OF DESIGNATION IN STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEE.—Section 303(b) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 433(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (5), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (6), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(7) in the case of an authorized committee of a candidate who has designated an individual under section 302(j) (including a second individual designated to carry out the responsibilities of that individual under such section in the event of that individual’s death or incapacity or unwillingness to carry out the responsibilities) to disburse funds from the accounts of the committee in the event of the death of the candidate, a copy of the statement filed by the candidate with the Commission under such section (as well as a copy of any subsequent statement of revocation filed by the candidate with the Commission under such section).”

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act shall apply with respect to authorized campaign committees which are designated under section 302(e)(1) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on this bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation was introduced by our colleague, Congressman WALTER JONES. It simply amends the Federal Elections Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election for Federal office to designate an individual who would be authorized to disburse campaign funds in the event of the death of the candidate.

Every private citizen who decides to become a candidate for public office is driven by issues that inspire and motivate them to want to serve. Often those issues outlive the individuals who champion their ideals.

This bill will ensure that every Federal candidate will have the opportunity to appoint a trusted individual to distribute campaign funds in the event they die.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 406, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill to allow a candidate for Federal office to designate someone to disburse his or her unspent campaign funds in the event of the candidate’s death. Under this bill, a Federal candidate could designate another person by filing the appropriate form with the FEC and could revoke or change the designation at any time.

The bill allows the candidate to designate a second individual to carry out the duties and wishes of the candidate, within the limits of the law, should the first designee die or become unable to perform these duties. H.R. 406 further allows candidates to provide instructions for distribution of campaign funds as allowed by law.

H.R. 406 is designed to help campaign treasurers facing conflicting State laws in cases where Federal candidates die leaving unspent balances in their campaign treasuries, which happens from time to time. This measure offers a commonsense improvement to the Federal Election Campaign Act to deal with this situation.

The House has passed similar legislation before, and I urge our Members to support it again. I pledge to my friend, Mr. JONES from North Carolina, that I will do whatever I can in my power, and I know my chairman will, too, to make sure the Senate does take this up so we can pass it into law.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES), a distinguished member on the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Financial Services.

Mr. JONES. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member BRADY. I want to thank you all for bringing this bill back to the floor of the House.

This came to my attention—I would not have had any idea that if a candidate or an incumbent running as a candidate would die in office that their family would not decide how to disburse the money. It would go back to the treasurer of the campaign. And in cases, many times, that is probably what the family would want anyway.

But what I found out with my own father who served here 26 years, and he died in office, was that it does create a problem. If the family has the authority to make the recommendation as to how to disburse the proceeds, it just makes for a very satisfactory time in a very difficult time when a family member dies.

So to Mr. LUNGREN and Mr. BRADY, thank you very much for bringing this bill to the floor of the House again. All this is is a simple change so that the candidate for Federal office can determine that he would like to have or she would like to have a person other than the treasurer to disburse the funds.

If we pass this bill today, I want to ask my friend, Mr. BRADY, to help me

with the Senate, and I'll reach out to the Republicans and maybe he can reach out to the Democrats and get this bill through because it is the right thing to do for the family in that tragic situation that can happen to any of us.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make it very, very clear: this does not change the law that the campaign funds would have to be used for a charitable purpose or for a political purpose, that is, to a party or candidate. It doesn't change that at all. It just changes the person who would have the decision-making responsibility. And since this is a situation where a Member or someone running for office would die, those funds, in some cases, would probably—the candidate would have wished them to go to a particular charity or series of charities. And this would ensure that those people who know best the candidate and know what his or her desires would be would make that determination.

But it does not in any way change it so that it could be used for personal purposes by the family or anybody else designated. It would still have to go to those legitimate legal purposes for which campaign funds are limited. It would do nothing more than change the person who would make that determination, and we have a real-life experience of that occurring, and that is why I support this very strongly. It has been supported strongly in the House before; and if we can get the attention of our friends on the other side of the Capitol, we can make this happen, and I think it would be a good, good thing.

So with that, I would urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 406, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for Federal office to designate an individual to disburse the campaign funds of the candidate in the event of the candidate's death, authored by my colleague from North Carolina, WALTER JONES.

Unfortunately, he has personally experienced the situation that this legislation is attempting to remedy when his father—a 14 term member of this body—passed away and questions arose as to what to do with remaining campaign funds.

Current law authorizes the campaign treasurer to disperse campaign funds but does not give instruction on how those funds should be spent in the event of a candidate's death.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 406 is a common-sense solution to resolving this potentially complex issue. I was proud to support the legislation when it came before the Committee on House Administration, and I urge all of my colleagues to support it today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 406.

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.

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FUNDING TO ENSURE PRODUCTION OF AUTHORIZED NUMBER OF COPIES OF REVISED VERSION OF "HISPANIC AMERICANS IN CONGRESS"

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 132) providing funding to ensure the printing and production of the authorized number of copies of the revised and updated version of the House document entitled "Hispanic Americans in Congress," and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 132

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. FUNDING TO ENSURE PRODUCTION OF AUTHORIZED NUMBER OF COPIES OF REVISED VERSION OF "HISPANIC AMERICANS IN CONGRESS".

Notwithstanding section 2(b) of House Concurrent Resolution 90, One Hundred Seventh Congress (agreed to December 7, 2001), in printing the updated version of House Document 103-299, entitled "Hispanic Americans in Congress" (as revised by the Library of Congress), the Public Printer shall print the maximum number of copies of such Document for which the total printing and production costs do not exceed an amount equal to the amount provided for under such section, increased by \$700,000.

SEC. 2. ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF CERTAIN HOUSE DOCUMENTS.

(a) ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION.—Upon request of the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives, the Public Printer shall publish and disseminate an electronic version of each of the House documents referred to in subsection (b), under the direction of the Committee.

(b) DOCUMENTS DESCRIBED.—The House documents referred to in this subsection are as follows:

(1) The updated version of House Document 103-299, entitled "Hispanic Americans in Congress", as described in section 1.

(2) House Document 108-223, entitled "Women in Congress, 1917-2006".

(3) House Document 108-224, entitled "Black Americans in Congress, 1870-2007".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 132, providing funding to ensure the printing and production of the authorized number of copies of the revised and updated version of the House document entitled "Hispanic Americans in Congress."

The previous authorization from the 107th Congress did not authorize sufficient funds to make available to Members the same number of copies as the previous publications of "Black Americans in Congress" and "Women in Congress." Additionally, the resolution also authorizes the electronic publication of "Hispanic Americans in Congress," "Women in Congress," and "Black Americans in Congress," thereby bringing us up to what is becoming more and more the way of publication, that is, by electronic means.

This resolution will help to ensure that this valuable history will be available for future generations. I would urge my colleagues to support the resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the House to adopt this resolution which the chairman has accurately described. Members who served in the 107th Congress will recall that in 2001 we authorized new additions of three congressional publications: "Women in Congress," "Black Americans in Congress," and "Hispanic Americans in Congress."

□ 1710

The new editions of "Women in Congress" and "Black Americans in Congress" were distributed to Members, libraries, and others in 2007 pursuant to their respective authorizations. However, in the 11 years since we authorized the new edition of Hispanic Americans in Congress, circumstances have changed, including, I am delighted to say, the election of more Hispanics to serve in this House and the other body. This means the new edition will be larger than estimated, and the cost of printing the same number of copies of Hispanic Americans will likely be larger.

As I urge adoption of this resolution, I wish to thank the Clerk, who worked on this revised edition, and the dedicated men and women of the Government Printing Office, who procure the volumes for their fine work.

The new editions of "Women in Congress" and "Black Americans in Congress" are useful, high-quality reference volumes of great value to students, historians, and us. I am certain the new edition of "Hispanic Americans in Congress" will similarly be well received when published and distributed in the coming months.

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