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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 30, 2013.

I hereby appoint the Honorable KEVIN CRAMER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2013, 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, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes each, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

MILITARY BUDGET WOES

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

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, it is a sad day in America when Army Secretary John McHugh says that, in today's fiscal environment, the best case scenario for our military's budget is treacherous. Army Chief of Staff Ray Odierno said budget cuts hamper the military's ability to train its own troops.

While there is waste and overlap in every Federal agency—the Pentagon's budget not excluded—there is much to

be said for Congress' doing its primary job of governing: passing a budget. For the last 4 years, we have seen the constraints that continuing resolution after continuing resolution have placed on our military.

Earlier this year, we saw the rigid requirements that harmed the Department of Defense when President Obama's sequester took place. Before these cuts, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office said our defense program was already underfunded by 5 percent with modernization underfunded by 10 percent. Thankfully, Congress took quick action that allowed the DOD to operate under a budget in order to meet all of their fiscal requirements and have more flexibility as they absorbed the across-the-board sequester cuts.

General Odierno revealed this week that just two Army brigades are combat-ready and that training has come to a halt. This is a terrifying reality given that only 2 months ago President Obama addressed Congress and the public, asking for support for a military attack on Syria. We absolutely cannot send our troops who are not trained, not equipped, and not prepared into harm's way. Our military readiness should never, ever be threatened like this. As the world's superpower, our Armed Forces must be ready to deploy thousands of troops should the need arise.

As the military continues finding ways to operate under current spending levels, it is also downsizing in Afghanistan and is preparing for future programs with no certainty of any financial stability. Our Nation has serious financial problems. Our deficit is growing; our spending is increasing; and it seems that, in nearly every budget battle, our military is thrown in as a bargaining chip. This is not the American way, and it must become a thing of the past. Other government agencies have bloated budgets with wasteful, overlap-

ping programs, fraudulent spending, and blatant abuse of taxpayer dollars. All the while, our military budget is being stripped to its bare bones.

The last time I checked, Mr. Speaker, we were still a Nation at war. Now is not the time to gut essential programs for our warriors and their families. We owe it to our military to have them operate under regular order, pass and conference our appropriations bills so our fighters can continue to be the best and the most prepared in the world.

Texas' 25th District is home to Fort Hood, the Army's premier installation to train and deploy heavy forces, and it is one of the largest military installations in the world. Fort Hood ranks highest in terms of future capability and support, and it can sustain more than 50,000 soldiers and their families.

I urge my colleagues in Congress to honor our commitment to these troops and to put an end to the financial uncertainty in the military. Let's simply do just the right thing.

May God bless our troops. May God bless America.

And always in God we trust.

BUDGET CONFEREES

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, budget conferees are now meeting—or will be meeting shortly—to negotiate a budget for the remainder of this fiscal year, and they have a real opportunity to look beyond that mission and to lay the groundwork for a long-term solution to our deficits that is balanced and restores certainty to our economy.

What we do not need are more gimmicks and partisan games like we will have today, frankly. We are going to have a vote on the resolution which is disapproving of the raising of the debt limit. Everybody knows that is not a real vote, and almost everybody on this

□ 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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floor knows that, if we pursued that policy, it would be damaging to America, to the military, as was just brought up, and to our Nation. Every Republican leader has said that not increasing the debt limit is an alternative that ought to be pursued. Yet, we have this vote. That resolution has already been rejected by the Senate, and it stands no chance of surviving a Presidential veto. It is, frankly, simply political cover and a waste of our time.

The keys to any budget solution, Mr. Speaker, must be compromise and a seriousness of purpose. Americans want to see that seriousness, and they want to see much, much, much less of the political gamesmanship, some of which we will practice today, unfortunately.

Republicans and Democrats, I believe, in looking beyond a small fix and toward negotiating a long-term solution, will find that we actually agree on many things. We agree that gradual reforms are better than sudden ones. We agree that sequestration is not a sensible approach to achieving deficit savings.

Let me say as an aside: no matter how many times it is said on this floor that the sequester is President Obama's policy, it will not make it fact. It is dead, flat wrong.

The sequester is incorporated in the Republican budget that was passed in this House just some months ago. No Democrat voted for that budget, because they believed the sequester—as the previous speaker said, but he voted for the budget which implemented the sequester—is harming our national security and harming our domestic security and harming our economy and harming the growth of jobs.

In fact, sequestration—which I point out to people starts with “s,” which stands for “stupid”—is a terrible approach that was never meant to come into practice. Many of us all agree that, in replacing the sequester, we will need to find savings through revenue policies and reforms to mandatory spending that could pay dividends for the budget and the economy in the future.

The key to compromise, of course, is balance. Every American understands that. Every husband, every wife, every parent understands that compromise is essential within a family, within a business, within a community, and, yes, within a country. The key to compromise is balance, which is what both the Domenici-Rivlin and Bowles-Simpson bipartisan commissions embraced as a framework for agreement.

A balanced compromise is critical because Democrats and Republicans are going to have to work together to pass any agreement through both Chambers and have it signed into law. Democrats are ready to make the tough decisions necessary to set our fiscal house in order, but we have made it clear that we will not allow the most vulnerable Americans to carry the burden of deficit reduction, and it is not necessary that they do so.

Our goal remains a balanced approach to deficit reduction and an agreement that restores certainty to our economy. My Republican colleagues and friends said much about restoring certainty, particularly in the 2010 election. Unfortunately, for our economy, for our businesses, for our people, we have done anything but restore certainty. In fact, we have governed by crisis—30 days, 90 days, 180 days, a year. Arbitrary deadlines were put in place, which brought the country to the brink of default and to the brink of closing down government. In fact, of course, just recently, we did, in fact, shut down the government.

Now, my Republican colleagues say we wanted that to happen on our side of the aisle. Ironically, 198 Democrats voted to open the government. That is to say, every Democrat who was voting on this floor voted to open government. Of my colleagues who say they didn't want to shut down government, 144 of them voted to keep the government shut down, Mr. Speaker, and 87 of them voted to open up the government.

So the American public is not fooled as to who wanted to shut down government, but it was a bad policy, and it led to uncertainty in our economy. Reaching an agreement only for this fiscal year, in addition, will mean more left to do, more of sequester left to replace, and more confidence to instill.

I hope the conferees will take a broader view and will send us a budget worthy of this Nation, worthy of the Nation it will serve—one that reflects our priorities to grow our economy, creates jobs, gives opportunity to our people, ensures that our national security is protected and that our Nation's long-term competitiveness is enhanced.

Mr. Speaker, that is what we ought to do. That is what the American people expect us to do. That is what the American people hope we will do. Let's warrant the faith and confidence of the American people by keeping faith with them and with our country.

LOWER LEVEL OPERATIVES TO BLAME

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, is the administration aware of the actions that are taking place in the administration?

A little history:

Fast and Furious:

Everyone knows the President did not know about this tactic until he heard about it through the news media.

A quote from White House Press Secretary Jay Carney.

So lower level operatives blamed. No accountability.

Benghazi: 5 days after the attack, the administration still blamed it on a video. We learned later that the White House was told that this was a terrorist attack within 3 days of the attack.

So when did the President find out this was a terrorist attack?

In any event, no accountability. Video blamed. No one in the administration was held accountable, and the killers have not been brought to justice.

The Department of Justice's wiretapping of the Associated Press:

Other than press reports, we have no knowledge of any attempt by the Justice Department to seek phone records of the Associated Press.

Once again, this was from White House Press Secretary Jay Carney.

Lower level operatives blamed. No accountability.

The IRS scandal: The investigation was not a matter that should be conveyed to the President.

That was Jay Carney once again.

Lower level operatives blamed. No accountability.

ObamaCare Web site disaster: Secretary Sebelius claims the President was not aware of the Web site problems until the Web site was launched.

Once again, lower level operatives blamed. No accountability.

NSA spying on foreign leaders? U.S. officials claimed the President did not know about this. The President refuses to say whether he knew or not.

But anyway, lower level operatives officially blamed.

NSA spying on Americans: The President claims he did not know the extent of the spying on Americans.

Lower level operatives blamed. No accountability.

Mr. Speaker, exactly who is running the country—lower level operatives? Has the government gone wild? Is there a shadow government operating without the knowledge of the White House? Is the President out of tune with what is taking place in his own administration or is he aware of those actions?

If the President were unaware of all of this, the White House needs to hold people accountable, to hold these lower level operatives accountable for their actions—their improper actions, their bungling, their incompetence. The White House needs to fix this out-of-control government immediately.

The White House needs to take responsibility for the actions of his administration and quit blaming others and lower level operatives. That is the White House's responsibility. After all, to quote the constitutional law professor, “The buck stops with me.”

And that's just the way it is.

□ 1015

SPECIAL IMMIGRANT VISA PROGRAM

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, last night, I was at National Airport awaiting Delta Flight 3395, 9:52 p.m.

Shortly after 10 p.m., Janis Shenwari, his wife, and two small children emerged to be greeted by Captain

Matt Zeller. They had been kept under wraps as they made their way from Afghanistan to the United States. There was just one television camera there to record this happy ending as Captain Zeller wrapped Janis in a big bear hug.

It was a happy ending to a story with many ups and downs, all too familiar for those of us who had been working with the Special Immigrant Visa program to secure the flight to safety from Iraq and Afghanistan for those foreign nationals who worked with Americans as drivers, as interpreters, as guides. Janis was an interpreter who saved the life of Captain Matt Zeller in a firefight.

He, for 5 years, has been stuck in sort of a bureaucratic limbo as Captain Zeller dedicated his time and energy to secure the release of a man he referred to as his brother. It happened—despite the fact that there was a false start where Janis had been given the visa, sold his possessions, prepared his family, only to have it revoked at the last minute—we think because the Taliban learned of this and leaked false information that he was, in fact, a collaborator.

His arrival to safety in the United States was testimony to a little bipartisan cooperation—some people in the much maligned faceless bureaucracy who went the extra mile, who administered a couple of polygraph tests to him and, within 3 hours after the end of the government shutdown, reissued the visa and sent Janis and his family on their way to safety. They woke up this morning in their own little apartment in Arlington to a new life, but thousands who risked their lives for Americans are still held hostage, at risk themselves in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Earlier this month, in the midst of all the chaos surrounding the government shutdown and the harsh rhetoric on the floor, we were able to keep alive the visa program for Iraqis. We brought it back to life after it expired September 30. I would hope the same show of bipartisan support and bureaucratic activity, cooperation, and tenacity necessary to protect the visa program, and to make it work in the case of Janis, could be brought to bear to make sure that this program is extended for several years to allow escape to safety for other Iraqis in Afghanistan; that we can smooth the working of the agencies to expedite the granting of these visas from a trickle of a few dozen to a steady stream for the thousands whose lives are at risk because they helped Americans and they put their trust in us.

I think, as important as the lives of these people and their families are, and keeping our word, there is also a larger lesson, illustrating what can happen if we here in Congress are willing to work together. Yesterday, former House Minority Leader Bob Michel harkened back to an earlier era of extraordinary cooperation and civility that he enjoyed with Speaker Tom Foley.

Last night at the airport, I saw an example in this one family alive and

well and safe of that same civility and cooperation. Who knows where that example might lead us next if we are willing to follow it?

REMEMBERING OUR NATION'S VETERANS

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

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, Monday, November 11, will be Veterans Day. Veterans Day is very, very special to all Americans, but more so to me.

I am a veteran. Part of the reason I ran for Congress was I wanted to talk about veterans' issues. I was concerned about the VA. I was concerned about the claims that have gone so long. I was concerned about, particularly, the Vietnam veterans that have their claims in a stack that haven't been addressed and yet the clock is ticking. They are dying. In 5 years, some insurance person can probably tell you how many of those Vietnam veterans are going to be dead.

We have an obligation in this House as Americans to look after those that gave so much for our country, those that gave their lives, people in this House here that gave their limbs, they have been wounded, still carry shrapnel in their body, still have a cloth and have NyQuil and wake up with a nightmare dreaming about a firefight in a way, or the DMZ, or what have you. The memories never go away.

We have an obligation to all Americans because, quite frankly, we are going to have another war in the future—I hope it is not in my lifetime—but there is always going to be a conflict, and we are going to call upon the military to do their job, and they will do their job. It is our responsibility to make sure we take care of those men and women that have given so much for their country.

Many, many years ago, in a place far, far away, I was a platoon commander. I had a lot of marines, great troops. Many of them never came back. Lance Corporal Borey, Lance Corporal Doran—I can go on and on. I am not here to impress you with my memory because it is no great feat. It is something when you were there with those people and you saw what happened; you realize the significance of Veterans Day and how we can never forget those people that gave so much.

So other than that day that is coming up very, very shortly, if you see a veteran, if you see somebody in the military, just say to them, thank you, because you care and you also remember.

REMEMBERING SENATOR GEORGE MCGOVERN

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, a week ago Monday, October 21, was the

1-year anniversary of the death of my friend, Senator George McGovern of South Dakota.

We shared the same last name, but we weren't related. I interned for him when I was in college and he was in the United States Senate. I embraced his liberalism. I admired his service to our country in World War II, where he served as a bomber pilot, and I respected very much his politics, the way he did politics, understanding the importance of reaching across the aisle, of working to build coalitions to solve big problems. In particular, I admired the work that he did to end hunger, working with people like Senator Bob Dole, a Republican from Kansas. He even worked with President Richard Nixon, who defeated him in the 1972 election, winning 49 States over Senator McGovern.

President Nixon held the first and only White House conference on food and nutrition. That conference helped spur a whole bunch of legislative activity aimed at improving nutrition for everybody in this country and aimed at ending hunger, which was a problem. George McGovern and Bob Dole, and even Richard Nixon, believed that in the richest country in the history of the world nobody ought to go hungry. I think of Senator McGovern often, especially now when I see what is happening in this Congress.

On Friday, November 1, a couple of days from now, the moneys that were put into the SNAP program, formerly known as food stamps, to help provide additional resources for people to buy food in this country, those reinvestment moneys will come to an end. There will be a \$5 billion cut in the SNAP program on Friday. Every single beneficiary will see a reduction in their food benefit. That includes 22 million kids, 9 million elderly people and disabled, and it includes 900,000 veterans.

We say we want to support our veterans, but many of them have come back and found it difficult to find a job or found it difficult to find a job that pays a living wage, and they rely on the SNAP program so they can put food on the table for their families. Yet, on Friday, 900,000 veterans who are on the SNAP program will see a reduction in their benefit. A family of three will see a reduction of about \$30 per month in their benefit. That is about 16 meals a month for a family of three.

That is an awful thing that is about to happen, but what is more awful is what is coming down the road. This House of Representatives passed a farm bill that includes, on top of this \$5 billion cut, an additional \$40 billion in cuts in the SNAP program. That would mean 3.8 million people currently receiving the benefit will be thrown off the program.

Hundreds of thousands of children who rely on the free breakfast and lunch program will lose that benefit. I have been to many schools where I have seen kids staring off into space

because they haven't had anything to eat. You can't learn if you are hungry.

That \$40 billion cut that this House of Representatives voted for would throw 170,000 veterans off the program entirely.

Today, we are going to have the first meeting of the conference committee on the farm bill. I am privileged enough to be one of the conferees. I am going to tell my colleagues that I want very much for there to be a farm bill. I represent a lot of agriculture in Massachusetts. My farmers want a farm bill. Farmers all across the country want a farm bill. We need a farm bill for this country. I am willing to be flexible and I am willing to compromise and I am willing to accept things that maybe I don't like entirely because that is the way you compromise.

What I am not willing to do, and what every Member of this House should not be willing to do, is to support a farm bill that makes hunger worse in this country. As we speak, there are 50 million Americans who are hungry—50 million; 17 million are kids. We all should be ashamed.

Who is to blame for this? We all share the blame because hunger is a political condition. We can solve this. We know what to do. We just don't have the political will. We kind of turn a blind eye to the problem of hunger in America.

It is a problem, by the way, that not only costs dearly in terms of human suffering, but it costs us all in terms of kids who can't learn in school and avoidable health care costs.

We need a farm bill, Mr. Speaker, but let the price of that farm bill not be to increase hunger in America. Let's remember George McGovern, let's remember Bob Dole, let's remember people who understood the importance of combating hunger in America.

SUGAR VALLEY AIRPORT'S SPIRIT OF AVIATION

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, the poem "Impressions of a Pilot" opens with the line: "Flight is freedom in its purest form."

How perfectly that captures the allure of sky and space for so many who dreamed to conquer that frontier. Freedom and flight are inextricably linked.

This past Saturday, many young North Carolinians got to experience that freedom in a brand new way at Davie County Sugar Valley Airport. What a joy it was to be there.

A dedicated team of volunteers at the airport hosted "The Spirit of Aviation: The Next Generation" to introduce local students to the many career and recreational opportunities available to them through aviation.

Children and teens from local counties spent the day exploring aircraft,

trying their hand at flight simulators, listening to aviation innovators, and even taking flight themselves in "young eagle" flight expeditions.

□ 1030

Their faces were alight with excitement as they experimented with the physics of flight and felt the contagious enthusiasm of skilled aviators who, after years, still find freedom in the blue's high tide.

The Spirit of Aviation Day at Sugar Valley revealed to young people new career possibilities for their lives, and didn't just stoke the dream of aviation, but presented a step-by-step path students might take to see aviation dreams become a reality.

What stands out to me more than anything else is that this day of discovery and imagination was made possible by a community independently committed to encouraging the next generation of aerial pioneers—whether pilots, mechanics, or engineers.

Yes, the spirit of volunteerism and community service is alive and well in North Carolina. In fact, it is thriving; and every time I am home visiting nonprofits and meeting the people who make up their various support networks, I am proud of the Tar Heel State. The initiative and benevolent entrepreneurialism displayed by Carolinians contributes new chapters often to the collective record of American service.

The accomplishment of volunteers at the Sugar Valley Airport is just one example.

In 2010, a group of North Carolinians came together through Winston-Salem's nonprofit Human Service Alliance and bought the Sugar Valley Airport. Their hope was that the airport would facilitate the promotion of aviation, both as a sport and career field ripe with competitive jobs.

In 3 short years, with a dedicated team of volunteers supplying 100 percent of the vision, manpower, support, and direction, the airport has come to serve as a hub for flight enthusiasts and learning center for those considering the pursuit of pilot or mechanic work. In any given week, the airport may host Boy Scouts, civil air patrol cadets, experimental aviation enthusiasts, leading women pilots, and aviation ground school students.

North Carolinians take great pride in our "first in flight" distinction. It was on our Outer Banks that Wilbur and Orville Wright pushed the limits of gravity and completed history's first recorded controlled powered airplane flights.

With the commitment of the team at the Sugar Valley Airport, I can confidently say that our State, the home of Kitty Hawk, is intent on being the home of great aviators and pioneering aviation contributions for years to come.

Guidance and encouragement from Sugar Valley's seasoned pilots, mechanics, and generous volunteers will

continue to open a new world of opportunity to children in North Carolina.

In this world above the clouds, our children are free to dream, free to soar, and free to conquer the wild blue yonder and much, much more.

THANK YOU, EXPORT-IMPORT BANK

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

Mr. HECK of Washington. Mr. Speaker, last week the Export-Import Bank transferred to the United States Treasury more than \$1 billion. The Export-Import Bank does not draw on the U.S. Treasury; it contributes to it. The Export-Import Bank has never drawn on the U.S. Treasury.

Instead, the Export-Import Bank does the following: it creates jobs. By independent assessment, more than 255,000 jobs are created by the bank, jobs that otherwise would not exist. The Export-Import Bank helps small businesses. Indeed, 87 percent of all transactions of the bank directly benefit small businesses.

But I ask you not to take my word for it. I would invite each and every Member of the House to go to the Web site and check the data about the number of transactions in their State and in their congressional district, and how that has helped to grow the economy.

The fact of the matter is that every single developed or developing nation in the world has some form of export assistance, be it direct loan guarantee or direct loans. And theirs, by the way, are proportionally larger as a percent of GDP on average than ours. If we were to discontinue it, it would be the equivalent of unilaterally disarming in an increasingly competitive global economy.

So, one more time: last week, the Export-Import Bank reduced our Nation's deficit by more than \$1 billion. The Export-Import Bank creates jobs. It helps small businesses. The Export-Import Bank makes America stronger.

Thank you, Export-Import Bank.

STOP BUREAUCRACY FROM CRUSHING OUR OPPORTUNITIES

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

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, first, I appreciate being recognized for these 5 minutes, although it is always dangerous when a Member starts walking towards the microphone and they are doing it because something hit their desk and it annoyed them.

We have been working on something in our office to try to explain an intense frustration I have, and that is Washington and its embracing of delusional math. Look, I have only been here 3 years, and I have come to the conclusion that the single biggest problem I see is not the right-left continuum, but those who own calculators

and those who don't; those who live in a world where math actually has a value. And this will make sense, hopefully, in a moment.

I am right now holding a CBO report, the "2013 Long-Term Budget Outlook." Yet I have not heard someone else come to this microphone, but there is just the beginning of a paragraph that should terrify you:

Federal debt as a percentage of GDP in 2038 under the extended baseline is projected to be about twice as large as the amount estimated in last year's report.

Do you understand what this report is saying? That because of the policies from this administration, the policies coming out of our bureaucracies and the things we need to actually deal with in this House, the numbers are almost twice as bad as they were last year. That is the speed we are going to hit 100 percent of debt to GDP. And the thing you need to understand is that it is worse than in the long-term budget outlook forecast because there are delusions built into that, because we here as a body instruct the Congressional Budget Office saying, Follow current law; that's what you need to budget off of.

How many of us here come January when the SGR is up, and many of you will know it as "doc fix," are going to hold the numbers, hold the current law with the understanding at the end of about a dozen years, doctors who see Medicare patients are going to be paid 73 percent less. So we will walk onto the floor here probably in December or January and fix the SGR so doctors are compensated so they continue to see their Medicare patients, and we blow up the numbers in the long-term budget forecast, and we do that on lots of things. So when you actually do the adjustment for math reality, policy reality, the long-term budget numbers are much, much worse than we talk about around here.

And now to my point.

A year and a half ago, we actually did something bipartisan. We did something called the JOBS Act. In the scale of things, it was small; but there were some neat things in there. One of the things I fixated on was something called "crowdfunding," an opportunity to help the truly little entrepreneur. This was only up to \$1 million, and it was using this thing called the Internet to be able to raise money so if you are the cupcake shop or the mechanic shop, or you have some idea where you can begin getting some angel investment and get going, well the SEC took a year and a half to do what was supposed to be a simple rule set, so they are a year late.

And here is what they brought us: this is the law, these handful of pages, six, seven pages is the crowdfunding portion of the JOBS Act. Here is the 550-page proposed rule-set.

So if we are in a world where we have crushing debt screaming towards us, and some of that is coming now because we are being told that the new

normal is a 2 percent GDP growth, we need to be doing things that accelerate that economic growth, or we are in incredible trouble.

So as the House, bipartisan, we passed the JOBS Act, which is one of the little increments that is supposed to reach out and help grow the economy, and then the bureaucracy hands us crushing rules that make it almost impossible to use.

So for whoever is listening, watching, caring about things like the crowd-funding rules that are before the SEC, you have 90 days from now. Please go online, make comments, help them understand that this is supposed to be helping the next generation of small entrepreneurs in this country, and don't make it 550 pages of bureaucratic legalese. It can be simpler. We can handle this. We can do great things in this country, but we can't do it if the bureaucracy continues to crush our opportunities.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) for 5 minutes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we close out the month to recognize October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Even as Congress has struggled with the basic task of funding our Federal Government, we are mindful that we have pressing problems and important work to do to raise awareness and help women survive this deadly disease.

Over the last few decades, these public efforts have helped educate people and promote awareness about breast cancer, but we must remain vigilant in the fight because there is so much more to be done.

The statistics are sobering: one in eight women will get breast cancer in her lifetime. This disease strikes women—and some men—of all backgrounds, races, ethnicities, and ages. While all women are at risk, many still think it can't happen to them, especially young women. But I know all too well that it can. In 2007, when I was just 41 years old, I learned I had breast cancer.

While we have made significant advances on some fronts, recent studies show that more and more young women are being diagnosed with breast cancer, and metastasis rates are not going down.

I believe we have a responsibility as Members of Congress to take Breast Cancer Awareness Month one step further and turn awareness into action. We must take action to implement the Affordable Care Act and continue to ensure that every single person in this country has access to the information they need to make informed decisions about their health.

We must take action to ensure women get the preventative services

and screenings they need, while understanding their risks and treatment options.

With this in mind, in 2009 I sponsored the Education and Awareness Requires Learning Young Act, or the EARLY Act. The EARLY Act focus on equipping young women with the tools they need to take charge of their health.

Currently, the Centers for Disease Control is developing evidence-based interventions and working with advocacy organizations on programs that provide support services for young breast cancer survivors and their families, as well as a national education and awareness campaign to help young women understand their risk and take charge of their health.

Even with the CDC's work under the EARLY Act, we must do more to assist those women who survive breast cancer, and I am developing new legislative efforts on this front. I am working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

Young cancer survivors face very different life challenges than older survivors—from fertility preservation issues to the long-term health and neurocognitive effects of cancer treatments. With cancer care, one size does not fit all. The young face many more years as survivors and have unique challenges that arise that are not experienced by survivors who are diagnosed later in life.

There was good news from the Supreme Court earlier this year when they took some action to help improve our ability to detect, diagnose, and treat breast cancer. This past June, the Justices ruled unanimously that a company cannot patent naturally occurring genes. This decision paves the way for more companies to offer genetic tests for gene mutations that significantly increase the risk of developing diseases like breast or ovarian cancer. Thanks to this ruling, more women will have access to affordable testing and second-opinion testing about their risks and courses of treatment.

Like many others before me, when I was diagnosed with breast cancer and later identified as a BRAC2 gene mutation carrier, I had to make life-altering decisions without the benefit of a second opinion or even a second test. That will now be a thing of the past thanks to the Supreme Court decision.

Again, though, there is still so much more to be done. We must work to guarantee that insurers, including programs like Medicare, cover testing where appropriate and preventative surgery where necessary.

And there is still work left to be done to fully implement the Affordable Care Act. While implementation of any major change comes with great changes—and we have certainly had some of those—it also comes with great reward. For example, I am thrilled that this coming January, with the opening of the health insurance marketplaces, no woman will ever have to worry

again about being dropped from her health coverage when battling breast cancer.

□ 1045

Before the Affordable Care Act, too many Americans were just one diagnosis away from having to face cancer without affordable, quality coverage that could not be taken away.

A case in point is my friend Mary Ann Wasil of the Get in Touch Foundation. She wrote me a few weeks ago to say her life literally depends on the Affordable Care Act. Mary Ann is battling advanced breast cancer. She is currently on COBRA insurance. When that runs out, she would surely be uninsured without the Affordable Care Act. Mary Ann's chemotherapy treatment for the month of July alone was \$110,000. Simply put, without coverage she could not afford the treatment she needs. Her note to me said: "This is real for me. It is life or death for me."

This is why the Affordable Care Act is so important for breast cancer warriors like Mary Ann.

I have had so many women come up to me, Mr. Speaker, and confess that they haven't had a mammogram in years because before the Affordable Care Act, they could not afford the expensive copays and deductibles or feared the prohibitive costs of treatment. They were literally afraid to get a diagnosis because they were worried they couldn't afford treatment.

That worry is a thing of the past. Education and awareness is only half the battle. For breast cancer or any serious disease, access to affordable, quality health insurance is a necessity. It is not a privilege. It is a right for every American. Looking forward, we must work together to help women know their risks, discover cancer early, and access the best treatment possible.

As we continue to learn more and help more young women, let us commemorate Breast Cancer Awareness Month with a renewed dedication to support our mothers, sisters, daughters, and sister-friends. Together, let's eradicate breast cancer once and for all.

THE AMERICAN HELLENIC INSTITUTE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the American Hellenic Institute, known as AHI.

This year, AHI will be holding its 12th annual conference in my hometown of Miami. The conference provides an opportunity for the Greek American community to reflect on its role in American society and to advance and, indeed, strengthen U.S.-Greek relations.

This will also include an awards banquet in which two members of the Miami area will be recognized for their

service to the south Florida community and for promoting Hellenic ideals and values. This year's recipients of the Hellenic Heritage Public Service Award are Gus Andy and John Haralambides.

John, who passed away, sadly, earlier this year, was the embodiment of all that AHI stands for. His legacy will forever live on through his deeds and through the school that he founded, the Archimedean Academy. I have had the privilege of being at that school, and I can account for its academic curriculum, which is simply outstanding.

I congratulate the American Hellenic Institute, Gus Andy, and the family and friends of John for this important and meaningful recognition.

IN RECOGNITION OF TONY ARGIZ

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and congratulate my good friend, Tony Argiz, who has been selected by the American Jewish Committee in south Florida to receive its 2013 National Human Relations Award.

Tony has been an active member of our south Florida community for many years, so this honor is well deserved. He continues to play a vital role in enhancing and promoting the important relationship between the United States and Israel.

This Human Relations Award is presented to leaders whose work within the community reflects the mission of the AJC, building bridges of understanding, and promoting freedom and democracy throughout the world. As Tony Argiz understands, in this dangerous time, we must stand together with our ally, the Democratic Jewish State of Israel, and continue to work together to preserve this oasis of freedom in a desert of oppression.

Congratulations to Tony Argiz and to the American Jewish Committee in south Florida.

PROTECTING WOMEN AND GIRLS

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, involved citizens help our communities on important issues in order to raise awareness on human trafficking and help put an end to domestic violence.

Domestic violence and human trafficking are widespread human rights violations that continue to plague our world, cutting across racial lines, ethnic lines, geographic borders. As a wife, mother, grandmother, and a female Member of Congress, I realize the profound responsibility that I have to work together with my congressional colleagues to pass legislation in a bipartisan manner that would speak to the very heart of each and every woman.

As long as young girls and women across the globe continue to struggle to break through the shame and the silence that surrounds domestic violence and sexual trafficking, we must continue to put these issues on every national and global agenda. This year, Congress reauthorized the Trafficking Victims Protection Act and the Violence Against Women Act, two critical

pieces of legislation to address the needs of these vulnerable members of our global society.

I recently cosponsored two important resolutions to raise awareness on the need to protect women from the horrible attacks that they face. I will soon introduce legislation to amend current U.S. law that unintentionally facilitates domestic violence by forcing the return of a child in international child abduction cases despite a recognized risk to the child or the parent.

But the reality is, Mr. Speaker, that government alone cannot combat these horrendous crimes against girls and women. We need your help. As a community, we have the obligation to fight these crimes and protect girls and women from domestic violence and human trafficking. Awareness is key in stopping these human rights abuses. These crimes are on the rise, but together we can make a difference. We must make a difference.

Be the difference today in your community.

THE HOMEOWNER FLOOD INSURANCE AFFORDABILITY ACT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to discuss the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act, a bipartisan bill to delay further implementation of flood insurance rate increases that took effect on October 1, 2013, under the National Flood Insurance Program.

Congress last year, on a bipartisan basis, passed the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012. The measure included long overdue reforms to strengthen the financial solvency and administration efficiency of the National Flood Insurance Program. The rationale for the 2012 law was the need for the National Flood Insurance Program to more accurately reflect flood risk.

Historically, most low-risk States subsidize high-risk coastal States. Similarly, low-risk areas within States tended to subsidize those areas with higher risk, which were more prone to flooding.

The linchpin of the 2012 law was to use true actuarial rates in order to prevent very low-risk areas from subsidizing moderate- to high-risk areas.

The unintended consequence has been drastic premium increases for those plans that were traditionally subsidized by the National Flood Insurance Program. Under the 2012 law, Congress mandated that the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, complete an affordability study to further evaluate any unintended consequences as a result of the changes. This study was to be completed before the rate increases went into effect, which was crucial to understanding the full scope of the new risk model.

FEMA has failed to complete the affordability study that was required

under the law. Additionally, it remains a huge concern that FEMA does not have the data it needs to accurately determine risk under this new policy regime and is incapable of creating a new mapping system that truly reflects true actuarial rates.

While 80 percent of policyholders will not see increases as a result of the new policy, a small portion of properties are being hit with staggering increases. This is a serious concern for communities and individuals across the country, including many from the Fifth District of Pennsylvania, which I am proud to represent.

I joined yesterday with colleagues on both sides of the aisle as an original cosponsor of the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act, legislation to delay, for 2 years, the higher rates brought on by the 2012 law until there is an affordability study completed by FEMA. The bill also makes structural changes at FEMA to assure that there is an advocate for homeowners when flood maps are drawn or adjusted.

Mr. Speaker, improving the financial viability of the Nation's Flood Insurance Program while ensuring that the program protects those it was designed to support is something every Member of Congress should support. I encourage my colleagues to join in this common-sense effort to protect and improve our Nation's Flood Insurance Program by cosponsoring the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act.

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 54 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Eternal God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Once again, we come to ask wisdom, patience, peace, and understanding for the Members of this people's House.

On this day, we ask Your blessing on the men and women, citizens all, whose votes have populated this people's House. Each Member of this House has been given the sacred duty of representing them.

Today, we mourn the loss of former Congressman Ike Skelton, a true public servant and staunch supporter of our military. May he and his family find solace and peace at this time. Bring each of us, at last, to that place where our hearts will rest in You.

Bless us this day and every day, and may all that is done within the people's House this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LANKFORD 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

AMERICANS DESERVE BETTER

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, in 2009, President Obama made a promise his administration had no intention of keeping:

If you like your doctor, you will be able to keep your doctor, period. If you like your health plan, you will be able to keep your health care plan, period. No one will take it away, no matter what.

Today's Washington Post bestows upon this moment of rhetorical splendor, and others like it, four Pinocchios for the grievousness and frequency of their erring.

It turns out, by design, the Affordable Care Act is diminishing private health insurance plans, particularly in the individual market.

The Post concludes:

The President's promise apparently came with a very large caveat: "If you like your health care plan, you will be able to keep your health care plan—if we deem it to be adequate."

For millions, Washington has deemed their personal health care preferences deficient, and come January they won't have access to the plans they had before.

Americans deserve better.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

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

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

My first real job back in 1993 was at a domestic violence shelter. I was in college studying to become a social worker. During my time at the shelter, I helped women and children at our shelter escape the cycle of abuse. Some women came through our doors again and again before finally getting free.

That is why I worked hard to pass the Violence Against Women Act for these very families. Yet too often, women in our country escape their abusers for only a short time. Some abusers track down women and children in order to keep the cycle of abuse going.

VAWA helps these families stay safe from their abusers, like Jane, who lives in Phoenix with her three kids. Jane and her kids fled their home State and moved to Arizona to escape their abuser. He had been chasing Jane and the kids for years, following them from home to shelter to their next home. Jane couldn't get away from him. When she came to Arizona, Arizona's Address Confidentiality Program provided her with an alternative address to use legally instead of her real address. It prevented her abuser from finding her. Thanks to VAWA Jane is safe.

Mr. Speaker, I hope we will all double down to end domestic violence in this country.

HONORING RUTH HERRINK

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

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and the spirit of a true community leader, Ruth Herrink. Ruth served as the editor and publisher of the King George Journal in King George County, Virginia.

Ruth passed away on Saturday, October 12, at the age of 87 after decades of service to her community.

Ruth was "indomitable," in the words of her daughter, Jessica, and "always wanted to promote things that were positive for the community."

The communities in and around King George County and our great Commonwealth of Virginia have lost an eminent spirit that connected and energized those around her.

Ruth's daughter, Jessica, will assume her mother's duties at the King George Journal and no doubt has a difficult, yet wonderful, challenge ahead of her to continue in the spirit of Ruth's intentions for the community.

My condolences extend to Ruth's family and the entire community of King George County.

To truly honor Ruth, we can all learn from her example and her passion to truly improve her community and the lives of those around her.

**PROTECT THE ECONOMY AND
SUPPORT AMERICAN JOBS**

(Ms. KELLY of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, as we prepare for the district work period, I urge my colleagues to dial down the partisan rhetoric that shut down our government and take the time to listen to the folks you came to Washington to represent.

Americans have been saying they want us to do all we can to protect the economy and support American jobs, not threaten them.

This week, I introduced H.R. 3327, the Veterans Work Opportunity Act, and H.R. 3328, the American Work Opportunity Act, which aim to get more veterans and unemployed Americans back to work by offering tax credits to businesses who will hire them.

Next week, I will be meeting with small business owners, manufacturers, and constituents around my district as part of my Second Congressional District Economic Development Tour. Here we will discuss what Congress can do to support our communities and grow American jobs.

The family businesses I represent in Kankakee and the manufacturers I represent in Chicago both say the same thing: "Business as usual in Washington doesn't help business back home." I couldn't agree more.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 3327 and H.R. 3328 and work civilly to get our economy back on track.

OBAMACARE WEB SITE

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

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. Speaker, the ObamaCare Web site has been a nuisance. People spend hours of wasted time trying to get on it, trying to get information they cannot get information on.

This has moved far beyond just a nuisance of trying to get on a Web site. Now people are discovering the new cost increases that are happening, and over a million people have already received a cancellation notice for their insurance.

Let me just give you a couple of those from my district:

The Evans Law Firm has 17 people involved in their small law firm. That firm received a cancellation notice, not because their insurance was not up to the standards that the President has set, but because it grouped together with other policies, and now that is no longer going to be available to them, so they have to go out on the market. The cheapest they have found so far is a 25 percent increase to them.

Another business owner has notified me they are going to pay a 13.5 percent increase in their insurance next year because their current insurance doesn't

have pediatric care in it. None of the employees there have children, so of course they haven't had insurance for pediatric care. This would be the equivalent of having a car in your driveway and waking up the next morning and some government official has switched the car to a better car and you get the bill for the more expensive car because they didn't like your car.

This does not help the families at home.

OBAMACARE WEB SITE

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to have heard some of the testimony of Secretary Sebelius and to understand that we should be in this business, all of us, in serving the American public to fix problems and make, in essence, things work—put the wheels on.

We are going to ensure that this Web site is fixed by the end of November, the beginning of December—the same kind of problems that happened with Medicare part D.

In actuality, rather than using anecdotal stories, let me tell you that the President was, in fact, right that you can grandfather and keep your same insurance. But if your same medical insurance was similar to a subprime mortgage loan that had no value whatsoever, as most Americans know, and you are getting an improved medical coverage insurance, then you get new insurance.

As in California and other places where States have their own insurance exchange, we have seen a 29 percent decrease in insurance premiums.

The real issue is what we are doing in sequester and budgeting and the loss of the researchers at the NIH. It is a disgrace. We need to get to work on serious issues so that we can put this country back to work.

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS
MONTH**

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

Mr. JOYCE. Mr. Speaker, October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. As a former prosecutor, I believe we should do everything in our power to raise the awareness of domestic violence and to protect and empower the victims of these crimes.

In the seven counties I represent in northeast Ohio, over 1,500 people sought shelter last year to escape domestic violence. Sadly, some of them were children.

For these women and children, it is crucial that we in Congress pass laws to protect them. That is why I was one of the first supporters of the Violence Against Women Act earlier this year. It is a bill that provides critical serv-

ices for victims of violence and provides law enforcement officials the resources to better protect and assist them.

Together we must stand up against domestic violence and enforce a zero tolerance policy both here in Washington and at home in our communities.

I thank my colleagues for joining me in this bipartisan effort to raise the awareness of this important issue.

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS
MONTH**

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

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solemn recognition of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

While we have made great strides in fighting domestic violence, we still have a long way to go. Over one-third of women have experienced rape, violence, or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

As a former prosecutor, who has worked with hundreds of women victims of domestic violence, I know that holding their batterer responsible is important to them, but almost more important is making sure that we have the victim services necessary after the batterer is held responsible. That is more important for their pathway to healing.

I am proud to support the Violence Against Women Act reauthorization. Back home in the East Bay, we are fortunate to have places for women to go for those victim services. For example, Ruby's Place, in Hayward, California, is a shelter helping hundreds of domestic violence survivors. I visited Ruby's Place in April. I saw the care, compassion, and concern that the employees there showed to women and families who are desperately in need of assistance.

Shelters like Ruby's Place provide a lifeline to women across the country, and those places count on the Federal Government to help them.

Hopefully, recognizing October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month is one important step to helping places like Ruby's Place.

**OBAMACARE: AMERICANS
DESERVE BETTER**

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

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, today, the Secretary of Health and Human Services said to Americans that we deserve better than what we have gotten with ObamaCare. America sure does deserve better.

This is the first time in the history of our country that American citizens have been forced to purchase a product that they do not want and which they

cannot afford on a Web site that does not work. But let me say, it is not just the ObamaCare Web site that is broken.

President Obama has repeatedly told American families: If you like your current health insurance, you can keep your coverage. Just this week, it was revealed that President Obama and his staff have known for over 3 years that millions of Americans will lose their current health insurance because of ObamaCare.

Furthermore, families in my district and across the country are feeling the sticker shock from soaring premiums. They are seeing reduced benefits, and they are being forced to make difficult financial decisions. Mr. Speaker, my constituents and families across America do indeed deserve better.

□ 1215

FAKE VOTES PUT POLITICS AHEAD OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, later today the House of Representatives will vote on legislation that would reject the debt ceiling increase that was passed by Congress earlier this month. This vote makes no sense.

Make no mistake, voting to reject the debt ceiling increase is a vote to default, and these are the same Members who just a couple of weeks ago decried the notion of America defaulting on its obligations and voted earlier this year for a budget resolution that spends \$700 billion more than it takes in in revenue. The logical consequence of this action is to raise the debt ceiling.

Mr. Speaker, to achieve growth, the American economy needs stability and certainty, not fake votes that put politics ahead of the American people. Let's end this nonsense and get back to the work of creating jobs and nation-building right here in America.

OBAMACARE WEB SITE

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, folks back home are frustrated, confused and, quite frankly, scared about this disastrous health care law.

Last week, Stephen from Plano sent me an email sharing his firsthand experience with the marketplace exchange. In short, operators on the 1-800 line had no answers to his questions. They simply reiterated he should wait until later that evening or the next day to apply since the systems were having technical issues.

Unfortunately, the problems go far beyond an unworkable Web site. Even

with 3 years of preparation and spending more than 1 billion taxpayer dollars, ObamaCare has failed to give the American people what they were promised.

Mr. Speaker, the American people were promised affordable health care, not for a select few, but for all. Now more than ever, we must work together to delay this law. Americans want, need, and deserve better.

STOP THE OBSTRUCTION AND BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, the healthcare.gov Web site glitches are truly unacceptable, and they must be fixed as quickly as possible.

However, the majority party is not talking about fixing the Web site. They are fixated on criticizing the Affordable Care Act instead of helping the American public understand the act and receive the benefits of true affordable care.

Countless hours in committees, over 40 votes to repeal and delay, and millions of taxpayer dollars have been spent on delaying, defunding and undermining this law. Throwing sticks into the spokes of the law will not help to make it better. I urge my colleagues to stop the obstruction and to be part of the solution.

STANDING AGAINST RELIGIOUS FREEDOM VIOLATIONS

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

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, last week Egyptian gunmen attacked a wedding at the Coptic Christian Church of the Virgin Mary, killing four and wounding many others. Among those killed were two young girls, a 12-year-old and an 8-year-old. As a father of six, I can't imagine the horror and pain of those families having to bury their two young children.

We have to ask: What was their offense? What was their crime, this 12-year-old and this 8-year-old? Their crime was, their offense was that they were practicing their faith, that they were Christians.

Mr. Speaker, in the coming weeks, Secretary John Kerry is going to be visiting Egypt. I call on Secretary Kerry to highlight during his visit the religious freedom abuses that have been occurring throughout Egypt. The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom has already named Egypt as a country of particular concern for religious freedom violations.

I call on every Member of this House to stand up against those who are attacking Christians around the world. It is our duty to stand with those who have been abused for practicing their faith.

CONGRATULATING MINNESOTA LYNX WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

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

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the Minnesota Lynx basketball team. We are so proud that they, for the second time in 3 years, won the 2013 Women's National Basketball Association championship.

They swept the playoffs, winning every game decisively. And I was glad that ESPN broadcast the finals so everyone could see Olympian Maya Moore sink some beautiful three-point shots. She was joined in outstanding play by two other gold medal-winning Olympians, Seimone Augustus and Lindsay Whalen.

Former Gopher Janel McCarville's no-look behind-the-back pass and between the legs backwards-bounce-pass assist were two of the most exciting plays of the season.

I am proud of the Minnesota Lynx, but I am even more proud of Title IX. In 1973, this country made sure of equality for women in education, and that includes sports. The result is women in athletics that are amazing and entertaining.

I congratulate the Minnesota Lynx.

HONORING MAYOR JAMES R. BUCK

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

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say thank you to a friend of mine, Mayor James R. Buck, who has dedicated 45 years of service to the city of Grandville in the Second District; and the last 29 he served as mayor.

Mayor Buck has been recognized countless times for his leadership and commitment to west Michigan. Most recently, he received the Michigan Municipal League's Michael A. Guido Leadership and Public Service Award.

In addition to his role as mayor, Jim serves as the chairman of the Grand Valley Metro Council, which plays a leading role in fostering public and private cooperation to enhance quality of life in west Michigan.

Under the steady leadership of Mayor Buck, Grandville has grown and thrived. Grandville would not be the city it is today without Jim, and his impact will be felt forever and be recognized by all.

I want to personally thank my friend, Jim Buck, for his dedication and service to our community. Your long days and hard hours have helped put Grandville on the map as a destination to do business, visit and, most importantly, live. Mayor Buck, thank you for what you have done, not only for Grandville, not only for west Michigan, but for all of Michigan and our country. Enjoy the time off. Thanks, Jim.

SUPPORTING THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. In the past, no group has been more negatively impacted by rising health care costs than seniors.

Because of the Affordable Care Act, some of the financial burdens have been alleviated. The Affordable Care Act has already helped to close the Medicare part D doughnut hole by saving 6.6 million seniors more than \$7 billion on prescription drugs. It also provides a free annual wellness visit and coverage for key preventive services that many seniors avoid because of high cost.

As for waste and fraud in Medicare, the Affordable Care Act strengthens the system and gives more effective tools to identify and remove the unnecessary costs.

The Affordable Care Act not only provides essential quality care; it does so while lowering costs for our aging population. I am proud to stand with my colleagues and the President to support the Affordable Care Act.

TRAIN WRECK OF PRESIDENT'S HEALTH CARE PLAN CONTINUES

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

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, the train wreck of the President's health care plan continues. The President promised that "if you like your plan, you can keep it," period. But millions of Americans are getting cancellation letters this month.

Mia from Taneytown in Carroll County wrote my office saying:

I recently became aware that my insurance will terminate the plan I currently participate in. I was told to find another insurance plan that fits my budget and needs. The problem is none of the insurance carriers can compare to the quality and cost of my current insurance. However, I am being told that I am being forced by law to pick a new plan, or else I will be penalized by the U.S. Government. I have never been more disgusted with my government than I am now. My husband and I work very hard for the money we have. We have a daughter who is 8 months old, but my premium costs to cover myself and her will almost triple. How is this affordable? It is hard enough to pay a mortgage, gas, and day-to-day living.

Mr. Speaker, the President misled the American people. Mia lost her plan, and her insurance costs tripled. Americans deserve better.

RECOGNIZING VALIANT SERVICE OF WORLD WAR II MERCHANT MARINERS

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the passage of H.R. 2189, a bipartisan bill that will finally recognize the valiant service of Merchant Mariners that operated domestically during World War II.

It has been my honor for the past three Congresses to introduce legislation that would recognize these brave Americans and correct an injustice that has remained for over 70 years.

I would like to congratulate a wonderful North Carolinian, Mr. Don Horton, who has been the driving force behind my legislative effort for the past three Congresses. Tragically, Don's commitment to this legislation was due to the loss of his brother, William Lee Horton, Jr., on 31 March 1942 as a result of a German U-boat attack on his tugboat off the coast of Virginia.

Many of the Horton family served on these tugboats and barges during World War II in support of the war. Don Horton has become the foremost expert on this forgotten segment of World War II and has worked tirelessly to see mariners like his brother gain the recognition as veterans that they rightly deserve and earned through service to their country.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, after 70 long years, these mariners have a chance to receive the recognition they deserve for their service to our country. I implore my colleagues in the Senate to consider this legislation as quickly as possible and support its passage.

LET'S WORK TOGETHER

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

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, the American people are looking for results from Washington, D.C. Even though we have a divided government, I still believe we can and must work together to solve the many challenges facing our great Nation.

More than anything, we must work together in the coming months to help put more Americans back to work and kick-start our sluggish economy. We can work together to reform our Tax Code and make it simpler and easier to understand and comply with. We can work together to build a national energy policy that safely utilizes all of America's resources, putting people to work and keeping energy costs down.

We can work together to support education, research, infrastructure, immigration reform. Yes, and even pass a farm bill.

We can work together to reform important programs like Medicare and Social Security so we can preserve and protect them for the future generations while balancing our budget and controlling spending.

Today, our economy may be stagnant, but our optimism and determination have never been greater. Let's work together to renew the prosperity and opportunity for all Americans in our great Nation.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Unconscionably, domestic violence has reached pandemic proportions, affecting one out of every three women in the United States.

As an emergency medicine doctor, I have witnessed firsthand the devastating effects of domestic violence. I have treated the beaten and bruised bodies of countless women who were victims of domestic violence, and I have been inspired by their unbroken spirits.

I am proud of the work that many are doing to prevent domestic violence and keep women safe throughout my district and our country, like Shelter from the Storm in the Coachella Valley.

Domestic violence is a leading threat for women. On average, four women are murdered by their intimate partner every day in the United States. A woman is battered in the U.S. every 15 seconds. That equals 240 domestic violence episodes in one hour.

No woman should ever suffer domestic violence, and those who are victimized should know that they have access to the care and services they need to seek justice. We must continue to work together to take steps to prevent domestic violence, stand up for those who are victims, and hold perpetrators accountable to the full extent of the law.

To my patients in my district and women victims across the country, please, never give up.

□ 1245

KEEPING OUR COMMITMENT TO OUR VETERANS

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

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today having come from a hearing in which we heard about some of the issues with Veterans Affairs, such as \$762,000 spent on a conference while our veterans had to wait for their disability claims to be processed.

In my home State of North Carolina, the delay is unacceptable, Mr. Speaker. We are having families that are having to wait almost 2 years to have their claims processed. This is unacceptable. If it were just an extravagant conference, we could overlook it, yet a senior official in an email says, "Well, bottom line, you don't have to worry about a thing."

Mr. Speaker, it has come to the time where we can tell our veterans they don't have to worry about a single thing, where their claims are processed, and where we truly keep our commitment to our veterans.

VETERANS EDUCATION COUNSELING ACT

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

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, more than 2.5 million Americans have served our country in Iraq and Afghanistan. They placed themselves in harm's way so we could live safely at home.

The benefits veterans receive for their service hardly repays them for the sacrifices that they have made. Nonetheless, they need the help. This is why we must ensure veterans can access every benefit they have earned, benefits like educational counseling.

While the VA does a great job providing vocational rehab, many veterans aren't aware of the educational counseling they are entitled to as part of their GI benefits. That is why I am introducing the Veterans Education Counseling Act. It directs the VA to differentiate between these two benefits and makes the application process available online. This helps every veteran make the right choice for their lives and their future.

I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in passing this bill.

OBAMACARE

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

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, much attention has been focused recently on the flawed rollout of ObamaCare. Sadly, a potential bigger problem has now emerged.

Once consumers battle their way through the glitchy Web site, much of the highly sensitive personal information sent to the insurers is wrong. According to The Washington Post and Wall Street Journal, the ObamaCare Web site is sending garbled data to insurers, claiming, for example, that some enrollees have three spouses or that someone has signed up for three separate insurance plans or has enrolled and then unenrolled and then reenrolled multiple times in one day. In short, you could fight your way through the Web site, fill out all the forms correctly, and end up with the wrong insurance, the wrong subsidy, and the wrong coverage.

Now is the time to end this madness. The individual mandate must be delayed by a year, and President Obama and Senator REID must be willing to sit down with Republicans and discuss real reforms to what is quickly becoming a national disaster.

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT ENROLLMENT

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

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I stand here first to salute those who advocate

against domestic violence and those who advocate for more stroke awareness—health care issues.

I also stand here not only as a Member of Congress, but as a person who has navigated the online health care insurance marketplace system, so let me note some facts.

Yes, there have been problems. Unfortunately, the Web site was not prepared to handle the huge volume of interest, but President Obama has made it clear that the delays on the Web site are unacceptable and they will be fixed.

Since the marketplace has opened, healthcare.gov has had over 20 million unique visitors. And while the site is being improved, consumers should keep in mind what we haven't heard from my colleagues, that there are four ways they can apply for coverage: by phone, online, by mail with a paper application, or with the help of an in-person assistant.

I say to you, let us not forget the point that millions of Americans are now able to choose an insurance plan that will make the most sense for them and for their family.

POLICE SHOOTINGS IN NEW MEXICO

(Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and thank the brave men and women in law enforcement who risk their lives every day to keep us safe.

In the past week alone, seven law enforcement officials in New Mexico have been shot and wounded. It is a pattern of senseless violence that has become all too familiar in this Nation.

On Saturday, in Albuquerque, a man armed with an assault rifle and a bulletproof vest ambushed officers, stole a police cruiser, and led them on a dangerous chase. Three Albuquerque police officers and a Bernalillo County sheriff's deputy were shot. Thankfully, they are all expected to make a full recovery.

But from that terrifying situation, stories of immense heroism and courage emerged. Officers sprang into action to resolve the situation quickly, prevent more harm, and help their brothers and sisters who had been shot; firefighters from a nearby station ran into danger to help the injured; and New Mexicans have stepped up to donate thousands of dollars to help the officers and their families during this difficult time.

To the first responders in New Mexico and all over the Nation, from the bottom of our hearts, thank you.

LET'S GET TOGETHER

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

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, we have a couple of things going on today.

Number one, the House will be discharged at the end of the day to go back to a district work period, and we know what we are going to hear at home. What we are going to hear is: Why can't you people do your jobs? Why can't you get together and come together and come up with a budget so that American businesspeople can plan, so that Americans can decide what to do with their futures, instead of doing what has been happening for years on end, these continuing resolutions and things like the sequester? The sequester alone is going to cost 1 million jobs next year in this country if we don't replace it.

The other thing that is going on today is the opening of the work of the conference committee on the budget. Twenty-nine Senators and Representatives from this House are getting together and trying to do just that—come up with a budget, come up with something sensible, and forge the compromises that Americans expect us to reach.

I say, let us speed them on their work. Good luck to them. Let's hope they come up with something Americans can appreciate.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT ACT

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

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to strongly urge my colleagues' support for the Early Childhood Education Professional Improvement Act, H.R. 3357, which I introduced earlier this week with Congressman JARED POLIS. Our bill would establish a framework of incentives and standards for the much-needed education and development of pre-K teachers.

Equality of opportunity cannot be achieved without ensuring that all American children have access to high-quality pre-K. By the age of 2, affluent children already know 30 percent more words than low-income children. These disparities are then exacerbated when affluent children attend high-quality pre-Ks and poorer ones don't even attend pre-K at all.

Senior military leaders, budget wonks, economists, and education advocates all agree that pre-K reform is essential and necessary for a strong and prosperous America. Furthermore, it is the most cost-effective investment in education we can make.

Let's do this now, and let's do this right. Let's work together for high-quality pre-K for our children.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO HOUSE DEMOCRACY PARTNERSHIP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 4(b) of

House Resolution 5, One Hundred Thirtieth Congress, and the order of the House on January 3, 2013, of the following Members to the House Democracy Partnership:

Mr. ROSKAM, Illinois, Chairman
 Mr. FORTENBERRY, Nebraska
 Mr. BOUSTANY, Louisiana
 Mr. CONAWAY, Texas
 Mr. BUCHANAN, Florida
 Mr. CRENSHAW, Florida
 Mr. WILSON, South Carolina
 Mrs. BROOKS, Indiana
 Mr. LATHAM, Iowa
 Mrs. BLACK, Tennessee
 Mr. RIBBLE, Wisconsin

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3003, and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe:

Mr. PITTS, Pennsylvania
 Mr. ADERHOLT, Alabama
 Mr. GINGREY, Georgia
 Mr. BURGESS, Texas

SWAPS REGULATORY IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 391, I call up the bill (H.R. 992) to amend provisions in section 716 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act relating to Federal assistance for swaps entities, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 391, the bill is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 992

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 "Swaps Regulatory Improvement Act".

SEC. 2. REFORM OF PROHIBITION ON SWAP ACTIVITY ASSISTANCE.

Section 716 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 8305) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking "insured depository institution" and inserting "covered depository institution"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(3) COVERED DEPOSITORY INSTITUTION.—The term 'covered depository institution' means—

"(A) an insured depository institution, as that term is defined in section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813); and

"(B) a United States uninsured branch or agency of a foreign bank.";

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the heading for such subsection, by striking "INSURED" and inserting "COVERED";

(B) by striking "an insured" and inserting "a covered";

(C) by striking "such insured" and inserting "such covered"; and

(D) by striking "or savings and loan holding company" and inserting "savings and loan holding company, or foreign banking organization (as such term is defined under Regulation K of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (12 C.F.R. 211.21(o))";

(3) by amending subsection (d) to read as follows:

"(d) ONLY BONA FIDE HEDGING AND TRADITIONAL BANK ACTIVITIES PERMITTED.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The prohibition in subsection (a) shall not apply to any covered depository institution that limits its swap and security-based swap activities to the following:

"(A) HEDGING AND OTHER SIMILAR RISK MITIGATION ACTIVITIES.—Hedging and other similar risk mitigating activities directly related to the covered depository institution's activities.

"(B) NON-STRUCTURED FINANCE SWAP ACTIVITIES.—Acting as a swaps entity for swaps or security-based swaps other than a structured finance swap.

"(C) CERTAIN STRUCTURED FINANCE SWAP ACTIVITIES.—Acting as a swaps entity for swaps or security-based swaps that are structured finance swaps, if—

"(i) such structured finance swaps are undertaken for hedging or risk management purposes; or

"(ii) each asset-backed security underlying such structured finance swaps is of a credit quality and of a type or category with respect to which the prudential regulators have jointly adopted rules authorizing swap or security-based swap activity by covered depository institutions.

"(2) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection:

"(A) STRUCTURED FINANCE SWAP.—The term 'structured finance swap' means a swap or security-based swap based on an asset-backed security (or group or index primarily comprised of asset-backed securities).

"(B) ASSET-BACKED SECURITY.—The term 'asset-backed security' has the meaning given such term under section 3(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78c(a)).";

(4) in subsection (e), by striking "an insured" and inserting "a covered"; and

(5) in subsection (f)—

(A) by striking "an insured depository" and inserting "a covered depository"; and

(B) by striking "the insured depository" each place such term appears and inserting "the covered depository".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Agriculture and the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services.

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY), the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT), the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING), and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) each will control 15 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD on H.R. 992, currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 4 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, America's economy remains stuck in the slowest, weakest, nonrecovery recovery of modern times. Millions of our fellow countrymen remain unemployed, underemployed. Many because of ObamaCare just had their hours cut, and millions lie awake at night wondering how they will make ends meet.

Regrettably, those who create jobs in America for our constituents are drowning in a sea of red tape which is preventing them from hiring new workers. I still vividly remember the day when one of my constituents in east Texas came to me as he shut down his small business due to red tape and he said, Congressman, it got to the point where I just thought my government didn't want me to succeed.

Mr. Speaker, today we have an opportunity to ensure that businesses succeed in America, succeed in hiring new workers. Today, just like yesterday, Mr. Speaker, Republicans and Democrats can again pass bipartisan legislation that will help grow our economy. This legislation is H.R. 992, and I commend the bipartisan group of members who introduced the bill: Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HUDSON, and Mr. MALONEY.

As chairman of the Financial Services Committee, I also want to thank the members of the committee who joined together and approved this bill on an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote of 53-6. Mr. Speaker, the vote was 53-6. This bipartisan bill will relieve manufacturers, farmers, ranchers, and Main Street businesses of unintended consequences of one section of the Dodd-Frank Act.

Many Americans may not realize it, but farmers, ranchers, manufacturers, and other employees use a financial product called a derivative to manage risk and protect themselves from extreme fluctuations in the price of things like fuel, fertilizer, and commodities.

For example, a company like John Deere will do an interest rate swap as they finance a tractor for a farmer in east Texas in my district, and that derivative is directly linked to the cost of that tractor for my constituent.

Companies like Southwest Airlines who operate in my hometown of Dallas, Texas, they will use derivatives to lock in cheaper fuel prices when the price of crude oil is on the rise. This keeps the cost of flying more affordable for customers, like the grandmother in Mesquite, Texas, who travels to visit her grandchildren in Kansas City.

Perhaps a farmers co-op in Nebraska will use derivatives to finance fixed-price diesel for truckers who haul cattle. Perhaps a hospital in Los Angeles may use derivatives to hedge against

the rising interest rates when financing a big investment like more beds or new lifesaving technology.

Although not one single patient, not one single farmer, not one single grandmother, not one single trucker caused the financial crisis, they were all swept into section 716 of Dodd-Frank.

Section 716 requires financial institutions to push out almost all of their derivatives business into separate entities. This not only increases transaction costs, which are ultimately paid by the consumers, it also makes our financial system less secure by forcing swap trading out of regulated institutions.

□ 1245

In fact, Mr. Speaker, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said section 716 “would make the U.S. financial system less resilient, weaken our financial stability, and make our economy more susceptible to systemic risk.”

To those who are loath to ever amend Dodd-Frank, no less of an authority than Barney Frank himself, former chairman of the committee, said: “It addresses the valid criticisms of section 716 without weakening the financial reform laws, important derivative safeguards or prohibitions on bank proprietary trading.”

So again, Mr. Speaker, no law is perfect. We would be derelict in our duty if we didn't put the American people back to work and pass this law.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PETERSON), the ranking member of the Committee on Agriculture.

Mr. PETERSON. I thank the gentleman.

I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 992, commonly known as the swap push-out bill. This bill would effectively gut important financial reforms and put taxpayers potentially on the hook for big banks' risky behavior.

In 2008, I voted against the TARP because I didn't think the Federal Government should be bailing out the mess both regular banks and so-called investment banks like Goldman Sachs got themselves into with derivatives trading.

Section 716 of the Dodd-Frank law ensures that, hopefully, we won't find ourselves in that situation again. The provision is a modest measure designed to prevent the Federal Government from bailing out or subsidizing bank activity that is not related to the business of banking.

Originally, section 716, a Senate provision, would have forced banks to spin all of their swap activity into a separate affiliate. The House version of Dodd-Frank had no such requirement.

In a compromise, the final version of section 716 allows the banks to hold on to swaps for hedging purposes and swaps related to the business of banking, primarily, interest rate swaps and foreign exchange swaps.

Under Dodd-Frank, banks are required to move commodity swaps, including energy and agriculture swaps, non-cleared, non-investment grade credit default swaps, credit default swaps on asset-backed securities, and equity swaps to a separate affiliate. This represents barely 10 percent of the world of the swap market. So banks can keep 90 percent in the bank.

Apparently this isn't good enough for some of these big banks, which is why we are here today with H.R. 992, trying to gut the Dodd-Frank provisions and keep playing in 99 percent of the swap market, which is pretty much the status quo.

H.R. 992 also makes it easier for banks to hide commodity manipulation from regulators. In recent months, we have seen JPMorgan charged with settling cases of alleged energy market manipulation and the start of an investigation of Goldman Sachs for aluminum manipulation.

The Federal Reserve is even reconsidering its decision letting banks get involved with owning commodities. Until the big banks are held accountable for the activities in the commodity swaps market, I am reluctant to repeal limits Congress already has put in place.

Since the passage of Dodd-Frank, it is clear that Wall Street has not learned its lesson. The loss experienced by JPMorgan through derivatives trading in the “London Whale” incident is proof of that. At some point, another bank is going to find itself in similar trouble and run to the government with its hands out for assistance.

Frankly, I think the American people are sick and tired of the banks asking for taxpayer help when they get in trouble from risky trading activities.

In the past, I have joined our Democratic Agriculture Committee members in support of legislation to change Dodd-Frank, and I have supported those efforts because those bills reaffirmed what Congress intended with the original law, like protecting derivatives end-users.

Well, these end-users also share my concerns. The Commodity Markets Oversight Coalition, representing commodity-dependent industries, businesses and end-users that rely on functional, transparent and competitive commodity derivative markets as a hedging and price discovery tool, they also oppose H.R. 992.

H.R. 992 repeals a key, if modest, reform component of Dodd-Frank. My colleagues are certainly free to vote as they wish, but I urge them to be careful because people will remember this vote.

I urge my colleagues, if they are smart, to oppose H.R. 992 so we don't put our taxpayer dollars at risk for bank swap activities that are not related to their banking business.

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased now to yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HULTGREN), the chief Republican sponsor of the Swaps Regulatory Improve-

ment Act which, again, passed our committee on a strong bipartisan basis of 53-6.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today with tremendous pride, not because the bill we are debating is my own, but because we have the chance to help Main Street businesses and roll back one of the unintended consequences of Dodd-Frank.

From its first addition, the Lincoln amendment, also called the swaps push-out or spin-off provision, has been hotly debated. Section 716 of Dodd-Frank initially prohibited all swaps activities. However, the conference process yielded some measure of compromise by exempting foreign exchange and interest rate swaps back in.

By doing this, the conferees acknowledged that swaps are not inherently disruptive. In fact, swaps are a prudent and necessary activity for many businesses.

When oil prices spike or corn prices plummet, farmers and manufacturers rely on financial products like swaps to weather the uncertainty. Many of these businesses use banks as counterparties, where they have longstanding relationships with trusted institutions. Limiting banks' ability to serve their customers will cost these customers more as they are forced to find new, less stable partners.

Section 716, as it stands now, would force certain swaps out of Federal, prudential regulators' supervision and push them into affiliated entities that are not subject to the same oversight and regulation. This is why some of the loudest critics of the push-out provision have been Federal regulators, like the Federal Reserve Chairman Bernanke and Paul Volcker.

I know Ranking Member WATERS and many members of the House from both sides of the aisle share these concerns. Moving swaps out of banks, while intended to reduce risk, may actually increase it.

This is one of the reasons I introduced H.R. 992. The Swaps Regulatory Improvement Act leaves the most opaque swaps spun-off to affiliates, the kind of swaps that exacerbated the 2008 crisis. Those are still forced out.

However, banks will be allowed to provide other types of swap contracts to their customers, such as equity, credit, and commodity swaps, which are very important to my home State, Illinois.

All of these activities are subject to the new swaps regime created by title VII, including reporting and registration requirements, clearing, margin, and business conduct standards. These activities would also be subject to a finalized Volcker Rule, meaning they would generally be for legitimate hedging purposes or client facing, not proprietary.

In the committee report from the last Congress, former Chairman Barney Frank, Ranking Member WATERS, and other minority members of the committee noted that this bill “addresses

the valid criticisms of section 716 without weakening the financial reform law's important derivative safeguards or prohibitions on bank proprietary trading."

This is every bit as true of the bill we are considering today as it was in the last Congress. H.R. 992 addresses the valid criticisms of section 716, "concerns . . . about whether pushing . . . swaps out of banks is the best way to mitigate against future system failure," to quote Ranking Member WATERS.

This bill strengthens regulatory oversight of these products. H.R. 992 does not weaken title VII's derivatives safeguards or the prohibition of bank proprietary trading.

H.R. 992 will keep costs lower for Main Street businesses that use swaps to hedge risks. H.R. 992 will help prevent derivatives market displacement and help promote U.S. competitiveness.

This bill addresses nonpartisan concerns with a bipartisan solution. I thank my Democratic colleagues for being willing to consider targeted fixes to Dodd-Frank. We can find common ground on financial regulation. We can work together for the American people, and we can fix Dodd-Frank without dismantling its important accomplishments.

So I ask my colleagues to support this bill. Talk to your hospitals, bankers, and farmers. They will tell you that swaps are an important, common business tool. Forcing higher costs on these transactions will only stifle job creation and economic growth.

H.R. 992 is a sound bill and strikes, in the words of Ranking Member WATERS, the "right balance."

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

The financial crisis of 2008 wreaked untold havoc on the U.S. economy. This disaster, which was intensified by the use of derivatives, set back hard-working Americans for generations. At the same time, it bailed out many of the Nation's largest banks.

The Dodd-Frank Act sought to put our financial markets back together by, for example, creating comprehensive oversight and reforms for derivatives markets, as well as prohibitions on banks betting with taxpayers' resources.

H.R. 992 would undo some of these reforms before our regulators, Wall Street's cops, have a chance to finish them, especially the Volcker Rule. Congress passed the Volcker Rule to stop banks from using customer deposits, backed by the taxpayer, for trades intended to only benefit the bank and not its customers. The rule, when finalized, will define legitimate bank activities like hedging and market making, but prevent other behavior that would leave the taxpayer and the economy hurting.

In the same vein, Congress passed the Lincoln amendment, the provision that H.R. 992 would gut, to insulate the taxpayer by "pushing out" certain deriva-

tives from the insured bank, while also making broad exceptions for swaps that bank customers overwhelmingly use.

The Bipartisan Policy Center also recognized a connection between the Volcker Rule and the Lincoln amendment, noting that a "well-executed Volcker Rule would simultaneously accomplish the intended goal of the Lincoln amendment."

In case America forget, JPMorgan reminded all of us of the importance of setting limits on bank activity. In 2012, 4 years after the crisis, JPMorgan Chase's "London Whale" caused the bank to lose more than \$6 billion in a few months. What were purportedly hedges using complicated derivatives transactions were later transformed by the bank's focus on profit into what would likely be banned under Volcker.

The sense of urgency to separating the taxpayer-supported bank from the investment bank is shared across the aisle. Let me just tell you, in March of this year, Representative JEB HENSARLING said that, "Certainly, we have to do a better job ring-fencing, fire-walling, whatever metaphor you want to use, between an insured depository institution and a noninsured investment bank."

Yet, 3 years after the passage of Dodd-Frank, and 5 years after the financial crisis, we still do not have a ban on the very behavior that hurt our economy.

Instead, H.R. 992 eliminates one taxpayer protection, the Lincoln amendment, by now allowing banks to engage in 99 percent of the swaps market without the taxpayer knowing how robust the monitoring and oversight of such activities will be.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 992 is a step backward in repairing our economy. This view is shared by the Commodity Markets Oversight Coalition, a nonpartisan alliance of American industries, businesses, consumers, and derivatives users.

Similarly, the White House, the AFL-CIO, CalPERS, the Teamsters, Public Citizen, and Americans for Financial Reform all strongly oppose H.R. 992.

Former Republican chairman of the FDIC, Sheila Bair, who strongly defended taxpayers during the crisis, noted immediately after the Financial Services Committee passed H.R. 992, "Repeal of section 716 moves in the wrong direction. In an area as complex as this, I wish, I just wish Congress would at least wait for the regulators."

I do too. Vote "no" on H.R. 992.

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

□ 1300

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, at this time I am happy to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW).

Mr. CRENSHAW. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, let me just simply say, as chairman of the Appropriations Sub-

committee on Financial Services and General Government, my subcommittee has oversight over the SEC and is charged with funding the SEC; and their budget has increased about 200 percent over the last 10 years. That is more than most agencies. That is a lot of money, and a lot of that is caused by all of the rules and regulations that they are asked to pass over and over again. Dodd-Frank is part of that problem.

I think this bill seeks to alleviate that problem by saying, look, we can protect investors. We can have orderly and fair capital markets; but we don't need to go overboard on regulation. Certainly derivatives are complicated financial instruments. They need regulation. But that is what this bill provides. And I would say that the great overwhelming majority are not responsible for the financial crisis.

If we pass this legislation, we can help save those people that use these instruments. We can also help the SEC not have to draft so many unnecessary rules and regulations, and that will save taxpayers as well.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts, Representative LYNCH, the ranking member of the subcommittee on the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Mr. LYNCH. I thank the gentlelady for yielding, and I want to associate myself with her earlier remarks on this bill, as well as the remarks of Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 992, the misleadingly named Swaps Regulatory Improvement Act. If you need to know one thing about this bill, it is that a vote for this bill is a vote to provide taxpayer funding and backing for the kind of reckless derivative trading that brought our economy to the brink of catastrophic collapse. It is as simple as that.

The bill before us today would repeal the provision in the Dodd-Frank reform law that requires too-big-to-fail banks to push their risky derivative dealings out of banks that receive taxpayer support and into separately capitalized subsidiaries.

This bill is not a regulatory improvement. It is a giveaway to Wall Street, and it is an abdication of the duty of this body to protect taxpayers from Wall Street speculators.

I want to point out a couple of things that have been, I think, misleading here. Dodd-Frank already allows banks to keep derivatives that they use for bona fide hedging purposes or for traditional banking activities within the insured bank. Interest rate and foreign exchange swaps, which make up 90 percent of swaps volume, are the most likely to be used by end-users to manage their risk; and those are already exempt from the push-out under section 716. So end-users can already benefit from 90 percent of the swaps that are out there.

Moving risky derivatives activity outside of the insured banks will ensure that the risks to the banks—those that are traditional and measurable—and the speculative derivative risks, which are totally unmeasured and unexpected, those are not commingled, which make bank risks easy to understand for regulators and actually leads to better regulation.

Finally, I want to call my colleagues' attention to an article about this very bill that appeared yesterday in *The New York Times* on the front page of the Business section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. WATERS. I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman.

Mr. LYNCH. I appreciate that.

Go read yesterday's *New York Times*. It says on the front page of the Business section, To Wall Street, Washington, D.C., "might seem like enemy territory. But even as Federal regulators and prosecutors extract multi-billion-dollar penalties from the Nation's biggest banks, Wall Street can rely on at least one ally here" in Washington. And that ally is the House of Representatives.

We ought to change our position, stand with the taxpayers, stand with the investors, stand with the people that we were elected here to represent and tell Wall Street where to go on this. They get enough breaks as it is. We ought to stand up for the American people and protect them for a change.

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I am now pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT), the chairman of the Financial Services Subcommittee on Capital Markets and GSEs.

Mr. GARRETT. I thank the chairman.

I think the compromise language we are considering today strikes the right balance, and I urge my colleagues to support that approach, and I thank the Members for working together to help us to get to this point.

Mr. Speaker, those are not my words. Those are the words of the ranking member last year when similar language and similar legislation was coming down and she supported this legislation. So I want to associate myself with her support of this legislation.

And why did she do so? Well, because she also said, The provision that we are talking about was something in the bill with section 716 that said "the House Members were able to consider less carefully than other sections of Dodd-Frank, since the provision didn't come through under regular order in our Chamber."

In other words, she recognized the fact that this provision in the bill was added late in the dead of night and had never come through committee for consideration.

She also realized, and I quote again, that "legitimate concerns have been raised about whether pushing a significant portion of swaps out of banks is the best way to mitigate against future systemic risk."

So, again, I wish to associate myself with those words of the ranking member who, in the past, has supported the very same legislation that we have here before us today.

And why do she and I both support this legislation? Because it is good for Main Street. It is good for farmers. It is good for small ranchers. It is good for small businesses. She recognized then, as I do now, that what we need to do is to try to spur on our economy, make sure that there are not impediments, that we don't overly complicate things in the banking sector, in the financial sector and what have you—that would do what? That would put our country at a competitive disadvantage with other countries around the world and, by so doing, make it harder—yes, harder—for our farmers, ranchers, Main Street businesses, and the like to be able to get the credit they need and to pay their bills and what have you.

So I concur with her that we need to pass this legislation today.

Ms. WATERS. I yield myself 30 seconds.

Mr. Speaker and Members, the gentleman talked about being in step with me and what I supposedly said when we first dealt with this issue in the Financial Services Committee. And he is correct.

But when do you learn? After JPMorgan, am I to understand that nobody has learned a lesson? When do they learn that Volcker is still not in place yet? So all I will say is that I have an opinion that must be recognized.

I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. ELLISON), who happens to be the cochair of the Progressive Caucus of Congress, is the deputy whip, and also serves on the Financial Services Committee.

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, we are a day in front of Halloween, and here we are handing out treats to the likes of JPMorgan Chase, Citi, and Bank of America.

You know, it is fitting on this day that we should be doing the people's business. Yet here we are handing out treats and goodies to huge banks so that they can be allowed—large financial institutions that never were held accountable—so that these institutions can be allowed to use cheap, federally supported, guaranteed, bank-backed deposits to invest in derivatives, very similar to what got our economy in this mess in the first place.

Wasn't the Great Recession scary enough? Weren't we in enough trouble? Didn't we learn anything from the "London Whale" fiasco?

This bill, the swaps push-out bill, undermines key sections of the Wall Street Reform bill, the so-called Dodd-Frank bill, under section 716.

Now, this bill, which is supposed to protect investors and consumers—in fact, right now, it seems like the ink is barely dry on it, and here they are trying to weaken it already. Congress

passed and the President signed this law to ensure that investment banks use their own money, not the people's money, to buy derivatives, invest in hedge funds, or other risky activities.

Why did we make that requirement? Well, it wasn't to punish anyone. It was to safeguard the public trust. We made this change because we wanted to protect Americans from what I would call a zombie market, given the Halloween theme here, from destructive economic rampages like the global financial crisis which lost us 12 million jobs and over \$16 trillion in wealth. We are still experiencing anemic economic growth following the Great Recession, and we do not need more trouble like this swaps bill.

Vote "no."

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 15 seconds to help my colleagues, who apparently haven't found time to read the underlying section 716, subsection (i), which reads in part:

No taxpayer funds shall be used to prevent the receivership of any swap entity resulting from swap or security-based swap activity of the swaps entity.

I would encourage my colleagues to actually read the bill.

Now I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from the volunteer State of Tennessee (Mr. FINCHER).

Mr. FINCHER. I thank the chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 992, the Swaps Regulatory Improvement Act. Simply put, we do not want to make the consumer pay more. That is what will happen if we force banks to push out certain swaps into separate nonbank affiliates.

Chairman Bernanke was right about section 716: it increases costs. Section 716 will also drive businesses overseas where foreign regulators have not passed similar rules for derivatives, taking with them American jobs and revenue.

We must weigh the costs and benefits of every rule or regulation and ensure we do not destabilize markets or place American consumers, end-users, and financial institutions at a competitive disadvantage.

With that, I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 992.

Ms. WATERS. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I am now very pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. MULVANEY).

Mr. MULVANEY. Mr. Speaker, I am going to do something I don't ordinarily do. I am going to read something:

I just want to reassure people, passing this bill—particularly as amended—will not in any way, shape, or form reduce sensible regulation of derivatives. It will not increase any exposure to the financial system from derivatives. It was an unnecessary and, I think, somewhat unwise amendment. The bill before us, particularly as amended, will restore this to what I think is the appropriate balance.

Not my words. Not the words of the gentleman from Texas. Not even the

words of Mr. Bernanke, Mr. Volcker, or one of my colleagues' favorite economists, Mark Zandi. Those are the words of the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Frank), the guy whose name is on the bill, who supported this exact same initiative in the last Congress.

There is plenty for us to disagree about, Mr. Speaker. Why we continue to fight about things that pass out of committee 53-6, that will pass here today on the floor by an overwhelming margin, I have no idea. But there should be some things that we could come together and agree on. And this, H.R. 992, is certainly one of them, and I encourage full support of the bill.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to read a statement from Ms. Sheila Bair who formerly chaired the FDIC. She said:

Derivatives have many legitimate functions, but they can be high risk and poorly understood because of their complexity by bank managers and even regulators, as we saw with the "London Whale" debacle. So keeping them outside of insured banks and making the market fund them is the way to go. This will increase market discipline and protect the FDIC.

She said:

I'm concerned that Members of Congress act on these issues without full understanding of the ramifications. If we are going to revisit derivatives regulation, I'd go in the direction of more market discipline and disclosure, rather than letting big derivatives dealers use insured deposits to support their high-risk operations.

The Executive Office of the President sent over a statement that includes these words:

Wall Street Reform represents the most comprehensive set of reforms to the financial system since the Great Depression, and its derivatives provisions constitute an important part of the reforms being put in place to strengthen the Nation's financial system by improving transparency and reducing risks for market participants.

Again, let me refer you to Representative HENSARLING who said:

Certainly, we have to do a better job ring-fencing, fire-walling—whatever metaphor you want to use—between an insured depository institution and a noninsured investment bank.

I ask for a "no" vote on this bill.

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, again, I continue to be amazed at those who wish to decry the possibility of a Federal bailout in debating this bill. I wonder where their voices were yesterday when all of them, seemingly—the voices we hear today—defended the Federal Housing Administration from actually receiving a taxpayer bailout, the first in history.

□ 1315

So when taxpayers actually have to pay, we hear choruses of "Que Sera, Sera." But when a private institution loses their money that the taxpayers didn't have to pay for, all of a sudden the sky is falling.

I understand that the ranking member, obviously, has the opportunity to change her mind; but clearly she was for it before she was against it.

When I hear many of my colleagues decry the lack of bipartisan legislation, I don't understand why Members would try to oppose it now. It passed overwhelmingly, 53-6.

For those who say this is somehow gutting Dodd-Frank, apparently they didn't consult with the former chairman of this committee, Barney Frank, who is on record saying that this addresses the valid criticisms of section 716 without weakening the financial reform law's important derivatives safeguards.

It is time, Mr. Speaker, to get America back to work. It is time to make commonsense, bipartisan reforms. I respect every right of every Member to change their mind, but I hope something that passed 53-6 to put America back to work, that soon this full House will pass this legislation; and I urge its adoption.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, the Swaps Regulatory Improvement Act, H.R. 922, is a commonsense, bipartisan bill that changes the application of Dodd-Frank, but does not undermine the systemic protections the law was intended to create. H.R. 992 amends section 716 of the Dodd-Frank Act to correct an unintended consequence of a poorly vetted provision that was dropped into the Senate version of the bill late in the process, with no notice and no debate.

Section 716 prevents banks that write certain types of swaps from utilizing any type of Federal banking assistance, including accessing the Federal Reserve's discount window and obtaining FDIC insurance. It would have the practical effect of requiring banks to push important swap activity into special-purpose, separately capitalized entities.

While in theory section 716 may seem like a reasonable response to the 2008 financial collapse, in practice, these entities are less well capitalized, less well regulated, and unable to officially reduce risks by netting the effects of multiple hedging transactions.

Across our Nation, farmers, ranchers, and other businesses rely on the risk-mitigating tools of the financial industry. Commodity price exposure, interest rate risks, and other business uncertainties are routinely managed through swaps and other derivatives products. Requiring banks to separate some of these swaps into special-purpose, affiliate institutions will wind up costing the end-users who rely on these tools more for no actual reduction in system-wide risk.

Moreover, the swap push-out requirements adopted in section 716 of the Dodd-Frank Act have not been considered in any other foreign jurisdiction, putting our banks and end-users who rely on them at a competitive advantage throughout the global economy.

H.R. 992 restores an appropriate balance to risk-mitigation services allowed by banks. It continues to pro-

hibit structured finance swaps—like those that were made famous by AIG—from the books of banks, but it ends the need for banks to push commodity and other swaps with significantly lower risk profiles into separate legal entities.

As I said earlier, H.R. 992 has broad bipartisan support. I would like to thank two members of my subcommittee and coauthors of this bill, Congressman RICHARD HUDSON and Congressman SEAN PATRICK MALONEY, for their good work in finding a bipartisan solution to this significant problem. I wish that all of Congress was as hardworking, deliberative, and cordial as the members of the Ag Committee.

As I close, I would like to do so with the words of one of our former colleagues and a man who is widely regarded as knowing a thing or two about Dodd-Frank, former Financial Services Committee Chairman Barney Frank.

In remarks made about an earlier version of this legislation, he said:

I want to reassure people passing this bill, particularly as amended, will not in any way, shape, or form reduce sensible regulation in derivatives; it will not increase any exposure to the financial system from derivatives.

If this legislation made good sense to the coauthor of Dodd-Frank, it ought to be a no-brainer for this House to pass. I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation. It is a bipartisan piece of legislation that will put an end to the needless uncertainty that section 716 is causing our farmers, ranchers, and small businessmen across this Nation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY), the ranking Democratic member of the Subcommittee on Capital Markets and also the former chairman of the Financial Institutions Subcommittee on the Financial Services Committee.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. I thank the gentleman for yielding and for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 992. This bill passed overwhelmingly out of the Financial Services Committee earlier this year with broad bipartisan support with a vote of 53-6.

The whole point of the Dodd-Frank reforms was to improve the safety and soundness of our financial system; and H.R. 992, the bill before us, will help us do just that.

This bill does not expose the taxpayer to any additional risk. In fact, it includes a ban on taxpayer bailout of any swaps or any use of taxpayer money. Under H.R. 992, truly risky swaps will still be pushed out of commercial banks while at the same time bank regulators can see all of the bank's swaps activities.

As well intended as section 716 is, it turns out it would actually hinder the oversight of regulators of the derivatives market. That is why Barney

Frank, the former chairman of the Financial Services Committee and, of course, the Frank in Dodd-Frank, said during the debate in the last Congress of this same bill that is before us now, H.R. 922:

It will not in any way, shape, or form reduce sensible regulation of derivatives; it will not increase any exposure to the financial system from derivatives.

The economist of Moody's, Mark Zandi, also supports this bill and has said that section 716, as written, actually increases systemic risk and creates major inefficiency in the markets.

Even Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke opposed section 716, as written, stating that the way it forces these activities out of insured depository institutions "would weaken both the financial stability and strong regulation of derivative activities."

So Ben Bernanke has said that our bill before us will protect safety and soundness. Barney Frank agrees. Mark Zandi of Moody's agrees. I agree. And I urge my colleagues to agree with us and support safety and soundness of our financial institutions by supporting H.R. 992.

MINORITY VIEWS
112TH CONGRESS

The Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act requires, for the first time, the regulation of over-the-counter derivatives, previously opaque transactions that helped bring our financial system to the brink of disaster. The vast majority of derivatives must now be centrally cleared and publicly reported, and be backed by margin and capital to ensure that swap dealers and major swap users can honor their commitments. In addition, the reform law also prohibits banks from placing bets with federally insured deposits through the "Volcker Rule". Both measures serve as important safeguards as we rebuild trust in our financial system. As amended, H.R. 1838 would repeal portions of Section 716 of the financial reform law, also known as the "push-out provision." Section 716 prohibits banks from engaging in several types of derivatives. Questions have been raised about this provision by economists and regulators including FDIC's Sheila Bair, who are concerned that it might interfere with a bank's ability to use derivatives to diminish risk. Section 716 was not part of the original House-passed version of the financial reform law. During the Full Committee markup, Democrats worked with the Majority to amend H.R. 1838 to continue the prohibition of complex swaps employed by AIG with devastating effect. H.R. 1838, as amended, addresses the valid criticisms of Section 716 without weakening the financial reform law's important derivative safeguards or prohibitions on bank proprietary trading.

Barney Frank, Wm. Lacy Clay, Gwen Moore, James A. Himes, Rubén Hinojosa, André Carson, Gary L. Ackerman, Al Green, Stephen F. Lynch, David Scott, Maxine Waters, Carolyn B. Maloney, Melvin L. Watt, Luis V. Gutierrez, Gary C. Peters, Ed Perlmutter, Michael E. Capuano, and Gregory W. Meeks.

NOVEMBER 14, 2011.

Hon. SPENCER BACHUS,
Chairman, House Financial Services Committee,
Rayburn House Office Building, Wash-
ington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BACHUS, As the Committee considers legislation proposing changes to

the financial reform law, I wanted to bring your attention to a specific concern in Title VII and share my views on the related legislation. As I noted at the time of its passage, and have stated since, I believe the Dodd-Frank reforms were important measures taken to strengthen elements of our financial system and bring more confidence into the markets and institutions. While some of the reforms are currently in place, many still need to be finalized in the rule-making process. With any measure as far-reaching and robust as this law is, refinements to it can prove necessary over time, especially given the broad array of complex issues addressed.

The Title VII provisions in Dodd-Frank are among the most meaningful reforms but with far-reaching implications to the economy. Greater transparency in derivatives transactions and clearing requirements are notable improvements that will be realized as they become operational. How financial institutions interact with their counterparties to provide access to capital and manage risk is a critical feature of our system for all market participants.

As the legislation was being considered, one provision that was among the more notable was—Section 716, or the Lincoln swaps push-out proposal. This part of the law effectively requires that financial firms conduct certain derivatives transactions outside of the bank institution and in some other entity within the company. I have significant concerns with this part of the law because of its potential to increase systemic risk, create major inefficiencies in markets, and likely have a major impact on U.S. competitiveness.

One of the primary objectives of the financial reforms enacted after the 2008 failures was to provide for a way to resolve large financial firms should a similar crisis develop in the future. The resolution authority section of the law was crafted to do so, but Section 716 works against that goal. It does so because it causes firms to segment the derivatives with individual counterparties and requires that another entity be created to engage in the pushed-out transactions. Creating new operations, and expending additional capital to make them robust enough, is in contrast to the resolution planning objectives of eliminating entities and simplifying structure. During the winding down of either the financial institution or of the counterparty, the breaking up of the derivatives activities creates additional risks because separate entities will not be able to net their exposures as they can if they are facing one entity only. As noted by some of the prudential regulators in letters objecting to this provision, Section 716 would create significant complications and counter the efforts to resolve such firms in an orderly manner.

For those who argue the Lincoln provision is needed to guard against any future taxpayer bailout based on derivatives, it is important to note that this goal is accomplished by the resolution authority section of the law, thus making Section 716 unnecessary. Indeed, many provisions in the law limit derivatives risk without the need for the push-out provision. The entirety of Title VII is intended to create central counterparties to remove bilateral risk, to create extensive margin requirements on uncleared swaps where bilateral risk may still exist, and to fully enhance risk management of derivatives. Additionally, there are prohibitions on the Federal Reserve creating any assistance program that does not have broad-based applicability—so the regulators cannot subjectively choose one entity anymore for any sort of capital infusion.

With respect to competitiveness, no other foreign jurisdiction has indicated it will

likely consider a measure like Section 716. As such, U.S. financial firms will most certainly be at a competitive disadvantage relative to their foreign competitors because Section 716 does not apply to those foreign firms. U.S. firms transacting with counterparties in this country and abroad provide critical risk management tools through derivatives transactions that are much needed and will not disappear. It is wise for firms with greater regulatory supervision to play a role in this system. However, the ability to net such transactions off each other will be lost because the counterparties will have to interact with a different entity once these derivatives are pushed out. Counterparties will face higher costs and greater operational inefficiencies that will tie up capital. The likely result will be a substantial loss of market share for U.S. firms as these transactions would be shifted to foreign banks.

As the Committee examines legislation related to the derivatives reforms, I strongly urge consideration and support legislation that would repeal Section 716 as a way to address these concerns. I appreciate your attention to this matter and would welcome any further discussion on the topic if you would find that helpful.

Sincerely,

MARK ZANDI.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, it is now my pleasure to yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HUDSON), my colleague on the Agriculture Committee and coauthor of the bill.

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, given the bicameral and bipartisan support for our bill and the overwhelming consensus about the systemic risk created by the section we are working to reform today, I am genuinely surprised we are even here debating this today.

Nevertheless, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 992, the Swaps Regulatory Improvement Act, which my Democrat friend from New York, SEAN PATRICK MALONEY, and I have worked together on in the House Agriculture Committee.

As my colleagues are aware, our bipartisan bill amends a provision in the Dodd-Frank Act which was included at the 11th hour to "get 60 votes in the Senate" as former House Financial Services Chairman Barney Frank indicated during a markup of the bill back in February, 2012.

This section we reform with our bill was mischaracterized as an effort to prevent "risky" swaps activities in the bank. While we believe this provision was proposed in good faith, it simply does not prevent the risk that its authors intended. Moreover, this provision of the bill will cause many American financial institutions to operate at a significant disadvantage to their foreign competitors.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and former Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker have both publicly raised concerns about section 716.

In the 112th Congress, the House Financial Services Democrats, including Chairman Frank and current Ranking Member MAXINE WATERS, endorsed H.R. 1838, agreeing that this measure addressed the valid criticisms of section 716 without "weakening the financial reform law's important derivative

safeguards or prohibitions on bank proprietary trading.’’

The bill before us today is virtually identical to H.R. 1838 from the last Congress.

Mr. Speaker, to echo what Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said at a hearing on February 27:

Section 716, as drafted, will not reduce risk and will likely increase costs of people who use the derivatives and make it more difficult for the bank to compete with foreign competitors who can provide a more complete set of services.

It is crystal clear: this section needs to be reformed.

I ask my colleagues to support this bill and look forward to my Senate colleague, KAY HAGAN, passing her companion bill in the Senate so we can get this commonsense reform completed.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE
FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM,
Washington, DC, May 12, 2010.

Hon. CHRISTOPHER J. DODD,
Chairman, Committee on Banking, Housing,
and Urban Affairs, U.S. Senate, Wash-
ington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: You have asked for my views on section 716 of S. 3217. This section would prevent many insured depository institutions from engaging in swaps-related activities to hedge their own financial risks or to meet the hedging needs of their customers, and would prohibit nonbank swaps entities, including swap dealers, clearing agencies and derivative clearing organizations, from receiving any type of Federal assistance.

The Federal Reserve has been a strong proponent of changes to strengthen the regulatory framework and infrastructure for over-the-counter (OTC) derivative markets to reduce systemic risks, promote transparency, and enhance the safety and soundness of banking organizations and other financial institutions. Title VII and Title VIII of S. 3217 include important provisions designed to achieve these goals. For example, Title VII would require most derivative contracts to be cleared through central clearinghouses and traded on exchanges or open trading facilities, require information concerning all other derivatives contracts to be reported to trade repositories or regulators, and provide the regulatory agencies significant new authorities to ensure that all swaps dealers and major swap participants are subject to strong capital, margin, and collateral requirements with respect to their swap activities. Title VIII also includes provisions designed to help ensure that centralized market utilities for clearing and settling payments, securities, and derivatives transactions (financial market utilities), which are critical choke points in the financial system, are subject to robust and consistent risk management standards—including collateral, margin, and robust private-sector liquidity arrangements—and do not pose a systemic risk to the financial system.

I have also frequently made clear that we must end the notion that some firms are “too-big-to-fail.” For that reason, the Federal Reserve has advocated the development of enhanced and rigorous prudential standards for all large, interconnected financial firms, and the enactment of a new resolution regime that would allow systemically important financial firms to be resolved in an orderly manner, with losses imposed on the Federal Reserve to provide emergency, secured credit to nondepository institutions only through broad-based liquidity facilities designed to address serious strains in the fi-

ancial markets, and not to bail out any specific firm.

S. 3217 makes important contributions to the goals of reducing systemic risk, eliminating the too-big-to-fail problem, and strengthening prudential supervision. I am concerned, however, that section 716 is counter-productive to achieving these goals.

In particular, section 716 would essentially prohibit all insured depository institutions from acting as a swap dealer or a major swap participant—even when the institution acts in these capacities to serve the commercial and hedging needs of its customers or to hedge the institution’s own financial risks. Forcing these activities out of insured depository institutions would weaken both financial stability and strong prudential regulation of derivative activities.

Prohibiting depository institutions from engaging in significant swaps activities will weaken the risk mitigation efforts of banks and their customers. Depository institutions use derivatives to help mitigate the risks of their normal banking activities. For example, depository institutions use derivatives to hedge the interest rate, currency, and credit risks that arise from their loan, securities, and deposit portfolios. Use of derivatives by depository institutions to mitigate risks in the banking business also provides important protection to the deposit insurance fund and taxpayers as well as to the financial system more broadly. In addition, banks acquire substantial expertise in assessing and managing interest rate, currency, and credit risk in their ordinary commercial banking business. Thus, banks are well situated to be efficient and prudent providers of these risk management tools to customers.

Importantly, banks conduct their derivatives activities in an environment that is subject to strong prudential Federal supervision and regulation, including capital regulations that specifically take account of a bank’s exposures to derivative transactions. The Basel Committee on Banking Supervision has recently proposed tough new capital and liquidity requirements for derivatives that will further strengthen the prudential standards that apply to bank derivative activities. Titles I, III, VI, VII and VIII of S.3217 all add provisions further strengthening the authority of the Federal banking agencies and other supervisory agencies to address the risks of derivatives. Section 716 would force derivatives activities out of banks and potentially into less regulated entities or into foreign firms that operate outside the boundaries of our Federal regulatory system. The movement of derivatives to entities outside the reach of the Federal supervisory agencies would increase, rather than reduce the risk to the financial system. In addition, foreign jurisdictions are highly unlikely to push derivatives business out of their banks. Accordingly, foreign banks will have a competitive advantage over U.S. banking firms in the global derivatives marketplace, and derivatives transactions could migrate outside the United States.

More broadly, section 716 would prohibit the Federal Reserve from lending to any swaps dealer or major swap participant—regardless of whether it is affiliated with a bank—even under a broad-based 13(3) liquidity facility in a financial crisis. Experience over the past two years demonstrates that such broad-based facilities can play a critical role in stemming financial panics and addressing severe strains in the financial markets that threaten financial stability, the flow of credit to households and businesses, and economic growth. These facilities will be less effective if participants must choose between continuing (or unwinding) derivatives positions and participating in the market-liquefying facility.

I am concerned that section 716 in its present form would make the U.S. financial system less resilient and more susceptible to systemic risk and, thus, is inconsistent with the important goals of financial reform legislation. We look forward to continuing to work with the Congress as you work to enact strong regulatory reform legislation that both addresses the weaknesses in the financial regulatory system that became painfully evident during the crisis, and positions the regulatory system to meet the inevitable challenges that lie ahead in the 21st century.

Sincerely,

BEN BERNANKE.

New York, NY, May 6, 2010.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: A number of people, including some members of your Committee, have asked me about the proposed restrictions on bank trading in derivatives set out in Senator Lincoln’s proposed amendment to Section 716 of S. 3217. I thought it best to write you directly about my reaction.

I well understand the concerns that have motivated Senator Lincoln in terms of the risks and potential conflicts posed by proprietary trading in derivatives concentrated in a limited number of commercial banking organizations. As you know, the proposed restrictions appear to go well beyond the prescriptions on proprietary trading by banks that are incorporated in Section 619 of the reform legislation that you have proposed. My understanding is that the prohibitions already provided for in Section 619, specifically including the Merkley-Levin amended language clarifying the extent of the prohibition on proprietary trading by commercial banks, satisfy my concerns and those of many others with respect to bank trading in derivatives.

In that connection, I am also aware of, and share, the concerns about the extensive reach of Senator Lincoln’s proposed amendment. The provision of derivatives by commercial banks to their customers in the usual course of a banking relationship should not be prohibited.

In sum, my sense is that the understandable concerns about commercial bank trading in derivatives are reasonably dealt with in Section 619 of your reform bill as presently drafted. Both your Bill and the Lincoln amendment reflect the important concern that, to the extent feasible, derivative transactions be centrally cleared or traded on a regulated exchange. These are needed elements of reform.

I am sending copies of this letter to Secretary Geithner and to Senators, Shelby, Merkley, Levin and Lincoln.

Sincerely,

PAUL VOLCKER.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas, (Mr. Al Green), who is also the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation on the Financial Services Committee.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, not everyone supports this legislation. Ranking Member WATERS was mentioned. But she spoke eloquently today as to why she opposes H.R. 992. Mr. Frank is not here to speak for himself. So we cannot say that he, today, would support H.R. 992.

It may be that we have the AFL-CIO opposing H.R. 992, as well Public Citizen, and the Commodity Markets Oversight Coalition. It may be that we have them opposing it because we understand, as do many others, that this

weekend marks the 84th anniversary of the stock market crash of 1929. It was that stock market crash that gave us Glass-Steagall in 1933.

Glass-Steagall provided the firewall between commercial banking and investment banking. It didn't let you use tax dollars in the sense that they are insured by FDIC to engage in investment banking.

Well, it seems ironic that it took us 66 years to repeal Glass-Steagall, 66 years to repeal that firewall that separated commercial banking from investment banking, and has taken us now little more than 3 years to repeal, by way of evisceration, section 716 of Dodd-Frank.

Section 716 provides a firewall. It is the firewall to protect investors—taxpayers, if you will—from those investors who engage in derivatives. This derivatives market that we are talking about is \$600 trillion to approximately \$1.2 quadrillion. No one really knows. Only God knows how big it is.

But what we are doing is exposing tax dollars to this derivatives market, and it is my hope that we will not pass this legislation because it will set us back.

Let's give section 716 an opportunity to function. Glass-Steagall functioned for 66 years. Let's not repeal section 716 in a little more than 3 years.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlelady from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER), also a member of the committee.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Swaps Regulatory Improvement Act.

As a lifelong farmer and small business owner, I understand the need for farm cooperatives and manufacturing companies to manage their risks. H.R. 992 reforms section 716 of Dodd-Frank to ensure businesses can manage their long-term commodity and equity risks.

Missouri is the Show Me State, and I ask the opposition to show me how section 716 benefits my constituents and decreases overall risk in the U.S. financial markets.

Since the beginning, Federal Reserve Chairman Bernanke and Treasury Secretary Geithner have opposed section 716 of Dodd-Frank. Show me how section 716 decreases overall risk to the financial markets when Chairman Bernanke clearly stated:

It's not evident why section 716 makes the company as a whole safer. And what we do see is that it will likely increase the costs of people who use the derivatives.

□ 1330

Since Dodd-Frank became law, no equivalent provisions have been adopted in any other foreign jurisdictions that are working through their own derivatives reforms.

Show me how placing U.S. firms at a competitive disadvantage with international banks will ultimately benefit manufacturers in my district managing their interest rate risks.

H.R. 992, however, would prevent financial institutions from forcing much

of the derivatives business outside the bank.

Show me why banks, which are a more heavily regulated and a more highly capitalized entity than a stand-alone affiliate, are not a better platform for regulators to monitor swap activity and to protect U.S. financial markets.

Farmers in Missouri must contend with a multitude of weather and financial risks. They use swaps to manage their long-term price risks on everything from the crops they grow to the fuel that runs their equipment.

Show me why we should allow section 716 to increase the costs to my farmers, who merely want to manage their long-term price risks through commodity swaps so they can focus on their real job—feeding America.

H.R. 992 is a much-needed change that improves the U.S. financial system for small businesses, farmers, and job creators. Again, I support H.R. 992, and I urge my colleagues to vote for this legislation. Together, let's show the American people we are for smart reforms in order to allow manufacturers, businesses, and farmers to manage their risks in a commonsense way.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Connecticut, Representative JIM HIMES, a leader on the Financial Services Committee and the chief Democratic cosponsor of this bill.

Mr. HIMES. I want to thank Mr. SCOTT for yielding the time.

Mr. Speaker, derivatives are complicated things. They are probably one of the more complicated things that we deal with in this Chamber, so it is worth describing in simple terms what H.R. 992 does.

It abides by principles that I think we can all agree make some sense, which are those things which contributed to the meltdown of 2008—the terrible mortgages, the derivatives that were based on those mortgages, the proprietary trading. Those things that contributed to the meltdown of 2008 should be either made unlawful or should be much more closely regulated than they were in the past; but those things that were not related in any way, shape, or form and that did not contribute to the meltdown of 2008 we should take a little lighter hand on.

H.R. 992 says that those derivatives—the currency derivatives, the commodity derivatives, the equity swaps, all of these complicated things that weren't anywhere close to the meltdown of Bear Stearns and Lehman Brothers and the challenges at Citibank and at JPMorgan Chase—will not be subject to a very aggressive measure saying that banks cannot trade in those derivatives.

Now, banks trade in derivatives because they support their clients and trade. I emphasize "trade" because one of their clients will borrow \$100 million to build in Japan. That exposes him to yen risk. Maybe I don't want to take yen risk, and maybe the same guy who

lent me the money can help me offload that risk. That is the idea.

H.R. 992 in no way allows for the risky derivatives—the collateralized bond obligations, all of those real estate derivatives—to come back into the banking environment, and it in no way permits, as the chairman has said a number of times, a bailout of banks because of derivatives.

Even though we have spent a lot of time on this today, it makes sense to spend a second on the history of this bill:

Section 716 requires the full push-out of derivatives. Regulators recognize that this is dangerous, and they are very vocal about it. Then-Ranking Member Barney Frank takes a suggestion from then-Representative Nan Hayworth to repeal section 716. The then-ranking member says, Let's not repeal it. Let's allow for the plain vanilla, common derivatives to remain in the banks and push out the dangerous ones. The Democratic staff helps draft this amendment, and I am personally asked to offer this amendment to Nan Hayworth's bill. She accepts it. A voice vote is passed, and the bill is passed in the last Congress. The minority views supported it. We all supported it. This year, exactly the same bill comes before us, and we have ginned up the press, and we have ginned up the bloggers. This has become a gift to Wall Street.

What is different? What is different from what passed happily and in a bipartisan fashion in the last Congress relative to this Congress—the London Whale? JPMorgan claims that they were hedging. Hedging is permitted whether we pass this or not. The London Whale has nothing to do with this.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, what has changed is that we no longer do the hard work of finding finely balanced regulation like we do in water or in air. In financial services—in Dodd-Frank today—we have a morality play: either you repeal Dodd-Frank in its entirety because it is awful or you may not touch a word in the law.

Folks, we are about finding that balance. In as much as we go in front of each other and say that this is a give-away to Wall Street, that doesn't help explain whether we should allow commodity swaps or not. What that does is impugn our motives as individuals, and it does not inform the debate. This is well-balanced regulation that passed overwhelmingly bipartisanly. Let's get away from this morality play and do our jobs by finding finely balanced regulation.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS), a member of the committee.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Thank you to my colleagues for standing here on this floor today to talk

about this very important piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 992. It has been introduced by my friends RICHARD HUDSON from North Carolina and RANDY HULTGREN from the great State of Illinois.

I cannot respond to my colleagues who ask about what happened here in the last term, because I wasn't here; but I can tell you from my seat here in the U.S. House that this bill is a good bill and needs to be passed. It seeks to fix yet another unintended consequence of Dodd-Frank while still protecting against risky derivatives activities. This bill amends section 716, also known as the Dodd-Frank push-out provision.

If implemented, section 716 would actually force banks to push out certain derivatives like ag-based swaps and equity swaps, which are very important to my agricultural-based district, and it would effectively drive up transaction costs. According to Ben Bernanke, this would actually make the U.S. financial system riskier.

This bipartisan legislation passed the Ag Committee 31-14 and the Financial Services Committee 53-6. Let me repeat that. This bipartisan legislation passed 31-14 out of the House Ag Committee, and it passed 53-6 out of Financial Services. This is commonsense legislation that will help all Americans.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois, Representative BRAD SCHNEIDER. He is a member of the Small Business Committee, and he certainly understands the value of this legislation to Main Street businesses.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Thank you for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 992 resolves a widely recognized, unintended consequence in section 716 of Dodd-Frank. I join in asking my colleagues to support this bill in an effort to strengthen Dodd-Frank and to actually improve transparency and oversight in our financial system.

The overall goal of Dodd-Frank is to provide a sound, robust financial system following the upheaval of our financial markets in 2008. I support Dodd-Frank, and I am fully committed to realizing its goals, but no piece of legislation is perfect. This body has recognized that and has passed measures to correct adverse, unintended consequences that were identified after Dodd-Frank was signed into law, and that is what we are doing again here today.

This bill does not undermine the intent or overall implementation of Dodd-Frank. However, section 716, as it is currently written, could impede those very efforts. By indiscriminantly pushing out routine swap trades from heavily regulated banks to separate, less regulated firms, section 716 actually inserts more risk into our system. It could also make the use of certain risk-mitigating derivatives so expen-

sive that businesses will stop using them to hedge uncertainty, resulting in higher costs for consumers and more financial instability.

Former FDIC Chairwoman Sheila Bair, former Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker, and, most recently, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke have all stated that this provision, as written, is problematic. If our foremost experts have concerns with it, why must we maintain this unduly risky provision?

This bill provides the soundness Dodd-Frank intended for our banking system while still prudently limiting the risks and costs. It also ensures manufacturers and our farmers still have the ability to hedge against price fluctuations—a practice that is integral to their operations and also benefits consumers.

I thank the gentlemen for their work on this issue, and I urge my colleagues to support the passage of this legislation.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is left on both sides.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 4½ minutes remaining, and the gentleman from Georgia has 4¾ minutes remaining.

Mr. CONAWAY. I now yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. CRAWFORD).

Mr. CRAWFORD. I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, contrary to the intent of section 716 to reduce risk in the financial system, it does exactly the opposite. It creates more risk, and it places an undue burden on financial institutions for conducting legitimate hedging activities. This legislation would take an important step to ensure that Dodd-Frank is living up to its goal to reduce systemic risk, a goal on which both parties agree.

Even former Financial Services Committee Chairman Barney Frank—the namesake of the bill in question—endorsed this bill last Congress, saying that it will not in any way, shape, or form reduce sensible regulation in derivatives. I rarely agreed with Congressman Frank, but I certainly share the goal of regulating the financial system in a sensible way, and I think that is the key.

H.R. 992 would prevent financial institutions from forcing their derivatives business outside the banking structure to an entity that is far less regulated than the bank. So, while some may believe that section 716 provides more regulation, they are mistaken. Again, it is the other way around. All we are asking is to allow financial institutions to mitigate their risks so we can have a stronger banking system.

A stronger financial system makes America more competitive economically; it creates jobs; and it provides stability for the consumer. I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. I am ready to close, and I ask my colleague, Mr. CONAWAY, if he has any more speakers.

Mr. CONAWAY. I have no further requests for time. I will be the final speaker.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in closing, we have before us perhaps the most single important bill facing the viability, the financial security, and the stability of the financial system within the United States and throughout the world. We are dealing here with a \$712 trillion piece of the world economy.

Now, my friends who are in opposition to this certainly have some legitimate points. There is no question about that. We had a meltdown. Banks and members on Wall Street did wrongdoing, but this isn't the bill with which to punish them for doing that wrongdoing. We punish them for wrongdoing by working with the regulators and by putting, in fact, in motion not just civil penalties and not just financial penalties but criminal action, but we do that in another place, at another time. We have already approached that with the CFTC—to use criminal actions if any of these kinds of shenanigans happen again.

We are here to make sure that our banking system and that our economy, which have to work on the world stage, have not a disadvantage. If you push out these commodity swaps or the security swaps, we are doing a great disservice not just to the banks but to our end users.

Take commodities. When you look at them, Mr. Speaker, commodities are things like aluminum. They are agribusiness products. In 40 out of our 50 States, the largest part of their economies is agribusiness. Let us take something like Coca-Cola. The Coca-Cola Company has to deal with aluminum for cans—or Pepsi Cola or any of those in our beverage industry. They have to mitigate their risks. If you push them out of where they have to do their business in the same banks with interest rate swaps—by the way, the interest rate swaps are the critical pivot swap to mitigate that risk.

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You are going to push commodities out. You are going to push the farmers out. You are going to push all the manufacturers, the automobile industry. All of these people that use commodities will not be able to do business in that same bank where the interest rates are, where the currency fluctuation rates are.

When you have that, you are putting us at a great disadvantage. This is why Chairman Bernanke said that this is a problem. This adds to the systemic risk when you push out these individual commodities into another area. It creates uncertainty.

The other thing that it does: it puts our banking system at a huge disadvantage competitively because these

foreign banks, they are not pushing their swaps out, and that means that the United States banking system could see a migration of swap activities out in the world. We are the leader of the world. We have got to act like that.

That is what H.R. 992 will do. It will be that force that will help our banking system be the true leader in this world and not at a disadvantage.

With great respect to those in opposition to this, it is written into law in section 716 that no taxpayer money can be used for bailouts.

You talk about the FDIC. You cannot use that because that is the bank's money that they put up to ensure deposits. None of that goes into swaps. Certainly we can't use proprietary trading. The Volcker Rule settles that where they cannot make any kind of money or make profit on the deposits of ordinary citizens. Nowhere is there any taxpayer liability.

This is a good bill. I urge everybody in this House of Representatives to realize our economic security is at stake and let's pass H.R. 992.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank my good friend, DAVID SCOTT, who is ranking member on the committee that he and I lead, for the good work on this bill, supporting it today, as well as the other work that we have done with respect to our committee. I also want to thank RICHARD HUDSON and SEAN MALONEY for their work on bringing this together.

A couple of points, and then I will close.

One, the "London Whale" has been mentioned more than one time as a reason why we should not go forward with H.R. 992. That shows a fundamental misunderstanding of the trades associated with the "London Whale." Those trades are on cleared exchanges and occur within the bank and would have been unaffected by section 716 had it, in fact, been implemented.

One of the telling points is the prudential regulators on this particular section of the law have put off the actual implementation of this law until at least July of 2015. So if time is of the essence, if the disaster is around the corner, then I think the prudential regulators would have recognized that and would have moved a little more hastily than to put it off for 2 years.

There is no bogeyman here, Mr. Speaker. This is good sense, bipartisan—we hope it will be bicameral—legislation that corrects a really unintended consequence—poorly drafting a bill in 2010, when Dodd-Frank was passed. It didn't intend to have these kind of consequences, and this simply addresses that.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on the bill. Let's pass this on and get it done over in the Senate.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, another day, another attempt to weaken the Dodd-Frank Act. Just 5 years ago, the financial industry required a \$700 billion taxpayer bailout and nearly destroyed our economy. We learned in the aftermath that risky derivative products, like swaps, were a major factor contributing to the crisis. As a result, Congress passed common sense reforms to prevent American taxpayers from once again being on the hook for trading losses by the country's largest banks. One of these new reforms was embodied in section 716, known as the "swaps push out rule." Banks can no longer use federally-insured deposits to recklessly gamble in the most exotic types of derivatives.

Unfortunately, H.R. 992 would roll back these reforms and simply restore the status quo for Wall Street. This is ill advised and wrong for American taxpayers. If we need proof that swaps push out is necessary, look no further than last year's "London Whale" incident which cost JP Morgan \$6 billion and could have been much worse.

I ask my colleagues to oppose H.R. 992.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 992, the Swaps Regulatory Improvement Act.

Part of the problem that led to the 2008 financial meltdown was that banks were taking huge risks by exposing themselves to risky swaps and derivatives. We passed the Dodd-Frank Act in part to address this problem by forcing depository institutions to spin off their swaps and derivatives activities to separately capitalized affiliates. H.R. 992, if passed, would nullify that part of Dodd-Frank and again allow banks to engage in the type of reckless behavior that caused the gravest economic calamity since the Great Depression.

Voting in favor of H.R. 992 is tantamount to unlearning the lessons of the recent past. I find it absolutely appalling that five years on, we're considering legislation to permit the very type of bad behavior that necessitated the Dodd-Frank Act in the first place. I urge my colleagues to vote down H.R. 992, if only out of good common sense.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, while I recognize the many legitimate uses of derivatives in today's financial marketplace, I also believe it is critically important that derivatives be properly regulated so that end-users and consumers can reap their benefits without putting the larger economy at risk. For that reason, I think we need to tread carefully before making material modifications to the regulatory regime for derivatives established in the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Act—and this note of caution is equally applicable to what might be described as piecemeal changes to Title VII of Dodd-Frank, given the inherently complex and interrelated nature of these sophisticated financial instruments.

In that regard, the Swaps Regulatory Improvement Act would substantially revise Section 716 of the Dodd-Frank Act to permit a broader array of derivatives transactions—including those involving commodity swaps, equity swaps and certain credit default swaps—to occur inside federally backed financial institutions, rather than in separately capitalized subsidiaries as required under current law. Impacted institutions argue that this existing "push out" requirement for these categories of derivatives places them at a disadvantage relative to their foreign competition by increasing the cost of those transactions and by effec-

tively preventing the netting of positions between themselves and their customers. Additionally, proponents of H.R. 992 argue that Section 716 confers no meaningful additional protection to taxpayers in light of the stronger capital, margin and clearing requirements created by Dodd-Frank, and that it might even work at cross purposes with the Orderly Liquidation Authority created in Title II of the legislation.

I am not opposed to making commonsense adjustments to improve the real world workability of the Dodd-Frank law. I want our financial institutions to be able to compete effectively for customers everywhere they operate. And I am not in favor of regulation that is either unnecessary or not accomplishing its intended objective in a cost-effective way.

It is possible that Section 716 will prove to be that kind of regulation, but right now it is too soon to tell. Of particular importance when evaluating the ultimate value of Section 716 is the final scope of the forthcoming Volcker rule. If the final Volcker rule provides a strict definition of what activities constitute bona fide "hedging" and "market making", then proponents' arguments for this legislation will be strengthened. If, on the other hand, the final Volcker rule includes an overly broad definition of these activities, then the protections intended by Section 716 could become more important.

Accordingly, I will be voting "no" on today's legislation, but remain open to revisiting this issue once the Volcker rule and other relevant rulemakings are finalized and in place.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 391, the previous question is ordered on the bill.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentlewoman opposed to the bill?

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. I am opposed.

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

The Clerk read as follows:

Ms. Brownley of California moves to recommit the bill, H.R. 992, to the Committee on Financial Services with instructions to report the same to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

Page 4, after line 15, insert the following:

SEC. 3. PREVENTING OIL AND BIOFUEL PRICE MANIPULATION.

Nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this Act shall limit the authority of the bank regulatory agencies and other regulators to examine a covered depository institution's compliance with laws prohibiting the manipulation of commodity markets, particularly the excessive speculation and manipulation of oil and biofuel prices, and to limit the activities of covered depository institutions in such markets.

Ms. BROWNLEY of California (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

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

Mr. CONAWAY. I object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Objection is heard.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk continued to read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes in support of her motion.

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, this is the final amendment to H.R. 992, which will not kill the bill or send it back to committee. If adopted, the bill will immediately proceed to final passage, as amended.

My amendment is a simple, straightforward improvement that I believe both sides can agree is absolutely necessary and that I believe is also supported by the majority of the American people.

If my amendment passes, it will ensure that the American people, consumers, families, and businesses are protected from reckless speculation that is driving up the price of gas at the pump.

Specifically, my amendment ensures that nothing in this act would limit the ability of regulators to go after excessive speculation and manipulation of oil and biofuels. It simply clarifies that bank regulators have the authority to stop manipulation in the commodity markets.

This amendment also protects the wallets and pocketbooks of all Americans by ensuring that banks will not be given a free pass to destabilize commodity markets and drive up energy prices for all Americans at the pump.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, speculation in the energy sector is a very real, a very present, and a very serious problem. Volatility in oil markets since 2008, and more recently in biofuels, leads to dramatic price swings, causing pain for every American who depends on gasoline at the pump.

In September, The New York Times reported that prices for biofuel credits had recently surged 20-fold in just 6 months.

Because of these problems, many Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle have called for investigations in both oil and biofuel price manipulation.

In fact, just last week, on October 22, 15 of our colleagues, Democrats and Republicans, asked the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission to look into whether fraud and manipulation was playing a role in the biofuel credit price swings.

The concerns of many Americans extend far beyond biofuels.

Earlier this year, both the E.U. and U.S. authorities began looking at oil price manipulation, which not only affects the price at the pump but also artificially increases prices on everything from food to manufactured goods.

According to the Energy Information Agency, 71 percent of the price of a gal-

lon of gas and 63 percent of the price of diesel is directly related to the price of crude oil. Thus, there is no doubt that speculators who drive up the price of crude oil are impacting the price at the pump.

Every time there is a gas hike, it hurts working families struggling to make ends meet. It hurts commuters driving to work and to school, including most of my constituents in Ventura County. It hurts small, mid-size, and large businesses, driving up the price of doing business and impacting their ability to invest in new equipment and hire new workers. It hurts our military, including those at Naval Base Ventura County, costing more to move troops and supplies. It hurts seniors, many of whom live on fixed incomes and cannot afford an increase in retail grocery prices. It hurts the specialty crop growers in my district, including the strawberry, avocado, citrus, and lettuce growers, whose bottom line is so closely tied to the price of energy. It also hurts our overall national economy and threatens to slow job creation.

That is why it is so important that regulators retain the authority to prevent bad actors from taking excessive, or even manipulative positions, using swaps.

I believe that many Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle are honestly concerned about speculation in our energy markets. Let's do something today to stop it.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on the motion to recommit.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I don't really understand the motion to recommit because regulators already have the power that is described here. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I find the matter to be irrelevant and not a particularly good use of the House's time. For those reasons alone, it ought to be opposed.

It is getting in the way of one of the strongest, most bipartisan pieces of legislation that has come to the House. It passed the Financial Services Committee by an overwhelming vote of 53-6. It will help grow the economy. It will put people back to work. It will reduce systemic risk.

I want to thank all of the sponsors, especially the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. HULTGREN, for his leadership on this very valuable piece of legislation.

It is time to oppose the motion to recommit and it is time to pass the Swaps Regulatory Improvement Act.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 and clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the motion to recommit will be followed by 5-minute votes on passage of the bill, if ordered, and passage of House Joint Resolution 99.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 190, nays 223, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 568]

YEAS—190

Andrews	Green, Al	Nolan
Barber	Green, Gene	O'Rourke
Barrow (GA)	Grijalva	Owens
Bass	Gutiérrez	Pallone
Beatty	Hahn	Pascarell
Becerra	Hanabusa	Pastor (AZ)
Bera (CA)	Hastings (FL)	Payne
Bishop (GA)	Heck (WA)	Perlmutter
Bishop (NY)	Higgins	Peters (CA)
Blumenauer	Himes	Peters (MI)
Bonamici	Hinojosa	Peterson
Brady (PA)	Holt	Pingree (ME)
Braley (IA)	Honda	Pocan
Brown (FL)	Horsford	Polis
Brownley (CA)	Hoyer	Price (NC)
Bustos	Huffman	Quigley
Butterfield	Jackson Lee	Rahall
Capps	Jeffries	Rangel
Capuano	Johnson (GA)	Richmond
Carney	Johnson, E. B.	Roybal-Allard
Carson (IN)	Jones	Ruiz
Cartwright	Kaptur	Ruppersberger
Castor (FL)	Kelly (IL)	Ryan (OH)
Castro (TX)	Kennedy	Sánchez, Linda
Chu	Kildee	T.
Clarke	Kilmer	Sanchez, Loretta
Clay	Kind	Sarbanes
Cleaver	Kirkpatrick	Schakowsky
Clyburn	Kuster	Schiff
Cohen	Langevin	Schneider
Connolly	Larsen (WA)	Schrader
Conyers	Larson (CT)	Schwartz
Costa	Lee (CA)	Scott (VA)
Courtney	Levin	Scott, David
Crowley	Lewis	Serrano
Cuellar	Lipinski	Sewell (AL)
Cummings	Loeb sack	Shea-Porter
Davis (CA)	Lofgren	Sherman
Davis, Danny	Lowenthal	Sinema
DeFazio	Lowe y	Sires
DeGette	Luján, Ben Ray	Slaughter
Delaney	(NM)	Smith (WA)
DeLauro	Lynch	Speier
DelBene	Maffei	Swalwell (CA)
Deutch	Maloney,	Takano
Dingell	Carolyn	Thompson (CA)
Doggett	Maloney, Sean	Thompson (MS)
Doyle	Matheson	Titus
Duckworth	Matsui	Tonko
Edwards	McCollum	Tsongas
Ellison	McDermott	Van Hollen
Engel	McGovern	Vargas
Enyart	McIntyre	Veasey
Eshoo	McNerney	Vela
Esty	Meeks	Velázquez
Farr	Meng	Vislosky
Fattah	Michaud	Walz
Foster	Miller, George	Wasserman
Frankel (FL)	Moore	Schultz
Fudge	Moran	Waters
Gabbard	Murphy (FL)	Watt
Gallego	Nadler	Welch
Garamendi	Napolitano	Wilson (FL)
Garcia	Neal	Yarmuth
Grayson	Negrete McLeod	

NAYS—223

Amash	Benishek	Brady (TX)
Amodei	Bentivolio	Bridenstine
Bachmann	Bilirakis	Brooks (AL)
Bachus	Bishop (UT)	Brooks (IN)
Barletta	Black	Brown (GA)
Barr	Blackburn	Buchanan
Barton	Boustany	Buchson

Burgess
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Cook
Cotton
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Daines
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxo
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hall
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Hensarling
Holding
Hudson
Huelskamp

Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Marchant
Marino
Massie
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris
Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Radel
Reed

Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sanford
Scalise
Schock
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—17

Aderholt
Campbell
Cárdenas
Cicilline
Cooper
Davis, Rodney
Goodlatte

Hanna
Herrera Beutler
Israel
Keating
Lujan Grisham (NM)
McCarthy (NY)

Pelosi
Rush
Tierney
Waxman

□ 1419

Messrs. RENACCI, BILIRAKIS, COFFMAN, and SMITH of Texas changed their vote from “aye” to “no.” Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mrs. CAPPS changed their vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 568 I was unavoidably detained and would have voted “no” on Motion to Recommit.

Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 568 I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 568 I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HOLDING). The question is on the passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 292, noes 122, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 569]

AYES—292

Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barr
Barrow (GA)
Barton
Beatty
Benishak
Bentivolio
Bera (CA)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (GA)
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Capito
Carney
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Clarke
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cotton
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Daines
Davis, Rodney
Delaney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis

DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duckworth
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Ellmers
Engel
Esty
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxy
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallego
Garcia
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Hall
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Himes
Hinojosa
Holding
Horsford
Hoyer
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jeffries

Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Kilmer
Kind
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Kuster
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Latta
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Long
Lowe
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Maffei
Maloney,
Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Matheson
McCaul
McCarthy (CA)
Hall
McClintock
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris
Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moore
Moran
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (FL)

Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quigley
Radel
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)

Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sanchez, Loretta
Sanford
Scalise
Schneider
Schock
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Wolf
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart

Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Wasserman
Schultz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOES—122

Andrews
Bass
Becerra
Bishop (NY)
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Capps
Capuano
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Clay
Clever
Cohen
Conyers
Costa
Courtney
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Enyart
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Frankel (FL)
Gabbard

Garamendi
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hahn
Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Holt
Honda
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Langevin
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Loeb sack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Massie
Matsui
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Michaud
Miller, George
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod

Nolan
O'Rourke
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Price (NC)
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ryan (OH)
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Shea-Porter
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Speier
Swailwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Waters
Waxman
Welch
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—16

Aderholt
Campbell
Cárdenas
Cicilline
Cooper
Hanna

Herrera Beutler
Israel
Keating
King (IA)
McCarthy (NY)
Pelosi

Rush
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Tierney
Watt

□ 1427

So 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. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 569, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

DISAPPROVAL RESOLUTION RELATING TO DEBT LIMIT INCREASE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on passage of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 99) relating to the disapproval of the President’s exercise of authority to suspend the debt limit, as submitted under section 1002(b) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014 on October 17, 2013, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the joint resolution.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 222, nays 191, answered “present” 2, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 570]
YEAS—222

Amash	Foxx	McCaul
Amodei	Franks (AZ)	McClintock
Bachmann	Frelinghuysen	McHenry
Bachus	Gardner	McIntyre
Barletta	Garrett	McKeon
Barr	Gerlach	McKinley
Barrow (GA)	Gibbs	McMorris
Barton	Gibson	Rodgers
Benishkek	Gingrey (GA)	Meadows
Bentivolio	Gohmert	Meehan
Bilirakis	Goodlatte	Messer
Bishop (UT)	Gosar	Mica
Blackburn	Gowdy	Miller (FL)
Boustany	Granger	Miller (MI)
Brady (TX)	Graves (GA)	Miller, Gary
Bridenstine	Graves (MO)	Mullin
Brooks (AL)	Griffin (AR)	Mulvaney
Brooks (IN)	Griffith (VA)	Murphy (PA)
Broun (GA)	Grimm	Neugebauer
Buchanan	Guthrie	Noem
Bucshon	Hall	Nugent
Burgess	Harper	Nunes
Calvert	Harris	Nunnelee
Camp	Hartzler	Olson
Cantor	Hastings (WA)	Palazzo
Capito	Hensarling	Paulsen
Carter	Holding	Pearce
Cassidy	Hudson	Perry
Chabot	Huelskamp	Petri
Chaffetz	Huizenga (MI)	Pittenger
Coble	Hultgren	Pitts
Coffman	Hunter	Poe (TX)
Cole	Hurt	Pompeo
Collins (GA)	Jenkins	Posey
Collins (NY)	Johnson (OH)	Price (GA)
Conaway	Johnson, Sam	Radel
Cook	Jones	Reed
Cotton	Jordan	Reichert
Cramer	Joyce	Renacci
Crawford	Kelly (PA)	Rice (SC)
Crenshaw	King (IA)	Rigell
Culberson	Kingston	Roby
Daines	Kinzinger (IL)	Roe (TN)
Davis, Rodney	Kline	Rogers (AL)
Denham	Labrador	Rogers (KY)
DeSantis	LaMalfa	Rogers (MI)
DesJarlais	Lamborn	Rohrabacher
Diaz-Balart	Lance	Rokita
Duffy	Lankford	Rooney
Duncan (SC)	Latham	Ros-Lehtinen
Duncan (TN)	Latta	Roskam
Ellmers	LoBiondo	Ross
Farenthold	Long	Rothfus
Fincher	Lucas	Royce
Fitzpatrick	Luetkemeyer	Runyan
Fleischmann	Lummis	Ryan (WI)
Fleming	Marchant	Salmon
Flores	Marino	Sanford
Forbes	Matheson	Scalise
Fortenberry	McCarthy (CA)	Schock

Schweikert	Stutzman
Scott, Austin	Terry
Sensenbrenner	Thompson (PA)
Sessions	Thornberry
Shimkus	Tiberi
Shuster	Tipton
Simpson	Turner
Smith (MO)	Upton
Smith (NE)	Valadao
Smith (NJ)	Wagner
Smith (TX)	Walberg
Southerland	Walden
Stewart	Walorski
Stivers	Weber (TX)
Stockman	Webster (FL)

NAYS—191

Andrews	Grijalva	O’Rourke
Barber	Gutiérrez	Owens
Beatty	Hahn	Pallone
Becerra	Hanabusa	Pascrell
Bera (CA)	Hastings (FL)	Pastor (AZ)
Bishop (GA)	Heck (NV)	Payne
Bishop (NY)	Heck (WA)	Perlmutter
Blumenauer	Higgins	Peters (CA)
Bonamici	Himes	Peters (MI)
Brady (PA)	Hinojosa	Peterson
Bralley (IA)	Holt	Pingree (ME)
Brown (FL)	Honda	Pocan
Brownley (CA)	Horsford	Polis
Bustos	Hoyer	Price (NC)
Butterfield	Huffman	Quigley
Capps	Issa	Rahall
Capuano	Jackson Lee	Rangel
Cárdenas	Jeffries	Richmond
Carney	Johnson (GA)	Roybal-Allard
Carson (IN)	Johnson, E. B.	Ruiz
Cartwright	Kaptur	Ruppersberger
Castor (FL)	Kelly (IL)	Ryan (OH)
Castro (TX)	Kennedy	Sánchez, Linda T.
Chu	Kilmer	Sánchez, Loretta
Clarke	Kind	Scarbanes
Clay	King (NY)	Schakowsky
Cleaver	Kirkpatrick	Schiff
Clyburn	Cohen	Schneider
Cohen	Connolly	Schrader
Conyers	Conyers	Schwartz
Costa	Costa	Scott (VA)
Courtney	Crowley	Scott, David
Crowley	Cuellar	Serrano
Cummings	Cummings	Sewell (AL)
Davis (CA)	Davis (CA)	Shea-Porter
Davis, Danny	DeFazio	Sherman
DeFazio	DeGette	Sinema
Delaney	Delaney	Sires
DeLauro	DeLauro	Slaughter
DeBene	Guthrie	Smith (WA)
Dent	Noem	Speier
Deutch	Nugent	Swalwell (CA)
Dingell	Nunes	Takano
Doggett	Nunnelee	Maffei
Doyle	Olson	Maloney, Carolyn
Duckworth	Palazzo	Maloney, Sean
Edwards	Paulsen	Matsui
Ellison	Pearce	McCollum
Engel	Perry	McDermott
Enyart	Petri	McGovern
Eshoo	Pittenger	McNerney
Esty	Pitts	Meeks
Farr	Poe (TX)	Meng
Fattah	Pompeo	Michaud
Foster	Posey	Miller, George
Frankel (FL)	Price (GA)	Moore
Fudge	Radel	Moran
Gabbard	Reed	Murphy (FL)
Gallego	Reichert	Nadler
Garamendi	Renacci	Napolitano
Garcia	Rice (SC)	Neal
Grayson	Rigell	Negrete McLeod
Green, Al	Roby	Nolan

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—2

Massie	Ribble
Aderholt	Cooper
Bass	Green, Gene
Black	Hanna
Campbell	Herrera Beutler
Cicilline	Israel

NOT VOTING—15

□ 1436

Mr. SMITH of Texas changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”
So the joint resolution was passed.

Stated against:
Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 570, had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

PROVIDING FOR AN ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a privileged concurrent resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 62

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

That when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Wednesday, October 30, 2013, Thursday, October 31, 2013, or Friday, November 1, 2013, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, November 12, 2013, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

Sec. 2. (a) The Speaker or his designee, after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify the Members of the House to reassemble at such place and time as he may designate if, in his opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

(b) After reassembling pursuant to subsection (a), when the House adjourns on a motion offered pursuant to this subsection by its Majority Leader or his designee, the House shall again stand adjourned pursuant to the first section of this concurrent resolution.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN HONOR OF THE LATE ISAAC NEWTON SKELTON

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

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, 2 days ago, what one newspaper called perhaps one of the gentlemen of Congress, Ike Skelton, died here in Washington. For those of us here in the Missouri delegation, as well as those who were involved with Congressman Skelton on the Armed Services Committee, we are here to convey to the body that our colleague, our friend, has, indeed, died, and we who had the opportunity to know and serve with him are, of course, very saddened by his unexpected death.

Ike Skelton was 81 years old. He served here for 34 years and served all of that time on the Armed Services Committee and, of course, becoming the chair of Armed Services. He was a man of great humility, a man of great distinction, and was to be honored in 2 weeks at the Truman Library in Kansas City.

We think that he has been such a significant player in Washington that we, indeed, had to stand up and express our pain over his passing.

Senator CLAIRE MCCASKILL is here from the other side, and we are asking, at this time, for the Members to stand in silence in memory of Isaac Newton Skelton.

A MOMENT OF TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE ISAAC SKELTON

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, we have just observed a moment of silence for Isaac Skelton. My good friend, EMANUEL CLEAVER, Ike's good friend, Senator MCCASKILL, LACY CLAY, and others who are here from the Missouri delegation, I want to rise with them, not in a moment of silence, but in a moment of tribute. We will perhaps have an opportunity to speak a longer time.

Yesterday, many of us had the opportunity to participate in a memorial service for Tom Foley. Tom Foley was the Speaker of this House.

A gentleman spoke who is, I think, one of the most revered members that has served in this body, Robert Michel. Bob Michel was Tom Foley's friend. Bob Michel was the leader of the Republican side of the aisle. They were friends, colleagues, and cooperated with one another to the benefit of this institution and its Members, and the Dean of the House adds, correctly, to the benefit of our country and all its citizens.

Bob Michel observed the civility that each one of them displayed and the willingness to reach out across the aisle and to make things happen positively for our country and for our citizens.

We lost another individual within the last weeks, Bill Young, who was a similar personality, and added luster to this Congress by his service and his civility.

Major Owens was another whom we lost. Four people who made this institution a better place.

Ike Skelton was my brother. He and I were Sigma Chi's. His son was a Sigma Chi. His father was a Sigma Chi. So we had a very special bond to start out with.

In addition, his first wife, Susan, who died too early, as mine did, came out and knocked on doors for me, Mr. Speaker, in Bowie, Maryland, just down the road here a piece. So I had a special bond with Ike, but also an extraordinary great respect for the way he conducted himself as a representative of the people of his district in Missouri, and the respect that he gave to each of us and the respect that he received in return.

How sad it is that these giants, Tom Foley, Bill Young, Ike Skelton, and, yes, Major Owens, passed from this body, passed from this life, but how joyful it is the extraordinary contributions each of them made to this House, which we should revere and love, the people's House.

Ike Skelton was of the people, for the people, and certainly by the people.

Mr. WOLF. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOYER. I would be glad to yield to my friend.

Mr. WOLF. I want to just thank the gentleman for speaking. Ike lived in northern Virginia when he was here, and I would see him many times on the weekend. The second when it crossed the screen that he had died, I felt very, very badly.

To second what the gentleman said, many nights as I was driving home, I would see a car, Ike Skelton and Bill Emerson. They carpooled together. Bill Emerson, a Republican Member from our side, Ike from your side. They carpooled together. They were the best of friends. Ike was one of the finest people that I have served with since I have been in this House.

I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for his comments.

□ 1445

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MONTH

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the most important person in my life, my grandmother, always told me that you never hurt somebody you claim you love. This simple, but powerful, statement is one to reflect on this month, October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

When I came to Congress, I met a remarkable woman named Yvette Cade from Maryland who was the victim of horrible domestic abuse. After being denied a protective order by a judge, Yvette's estranged husband came into her place of employment, poured gasoline on her, and set her on fire. This incident changed her life forever but does not hold her back, and now she advocates for other domestic abuse victims.

Domestic violence affects all races, religions, and economic groups. I am working along with my friend from California, JIM COSTA of the Victims' Rights Caucus, to make sure that Congress deals with this issue not just in October but every month of the year. Domestic violence is never the fault of the victim. It is the fault of the perpetrator.

Mr. Speaker, you never hurt somebody you claim you love.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING THE LIFE OF TADEUSZ MAZOWIECKI, PREMIER OF POLAND

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, it is with gratitude but heavy heart that I, on behalf of the people of the United States,

the Polish Caucus of this House, and our region of Ohio, in particular, extend deepest sympathy to the people of Poland on the passing of ex-Premier of Poland Tadeusz Mazowiecki.

During his exceptional and transformative life, Premier Mazowiecki played a leading role in ushering in the first era of liberty that Poland had been afforded in modern history. Poland has assumed a pivotal and leading role in the European Union. History is still recording its rich, elegiac, and poignant history in the struggle to defeat tyranny and give rebirth to freedom.

As The New York Times reported this week, Premier Mazowiecki became the first non-Communist to head an Eastern Bloc nation since the late 1940s. Solidarity in Poland grew with his engagement as Poland led the anti-Communist movement in occupied Europe. Premier Mazowiecki's leadership of Poland at a time of critical change toward a democratic state has secured for him a permanent place in the history of a free Poland in Europe. He lived to see Poland's admission to NATO and Poland's growing cooperation within the world of nations.

An accomplished literary figure, intellectual, and Roman Catholic thinker and writer, Premier Mazowiecki embodied the meaning of a renaissance man. His imprisonment by the Communist Party for his progressive beliefs never dampened his spirit. He was a freedom fighter in word and deed.

Mr. Speaker, may his legacy inspire future generations to live with the courage and intellectual rigor he demonstrated in each decade of his life; and may white eagles fly over his memory and Poland's historic accomplishments as she walks with free nations in liberty's march.

[From the New York Times, Oct. 28, 2013]

TADEUSZ MAZOWIECKI, EX-PREMIER OF POLAND, DIES AT 86
(By Douglas Martin)

Tadeusz Mazowiecki, who went from editing small Roman Catholic intellectual publications to becoming prime minister of Poland—and the first non-Communist to head an Eastern bloc nation since the late 1940s—died on Monday in Warsaw. He was 86.

The Polish government announced the death. President Bronislaw Komorowski, ordered flags on government buildings to be flown at half-staff.

Mr. Mazowiecki, a journalist by profession, worked quietly for years to ease restrictions on individual rights and helped form the Solidarity trade union movement, which gained the leadership of Poland's national legislature in August 1989. By the end of that year, the Berlin Wall had fallen, Communist governments in Moscow's other satellite states had collapsed and the Cold War division of Europe was over.

In a message of condolences, Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany, who grew up in Communist East Germany, said that Mr. Mazowiecki made "an unforgettable contribution to overcoming authoritarian injustice and to the unity of Europe."

In the summer of 1980, a chain of labor disturbances rocked Poland. The focus was the Gdansk shipyard, where Lech Walesa led a strike to demand higher pay and the restitution of a fired worker. Mr. Mazowiecki (his

full name is pronounced tah-DAY-oosh mah-zoh-VYET-skee) helped broaden it into an antibureaucratic social movement that became known as Solidarity.

He and his friend Bronislaw Geremek, a historian, persuaded 64 leading intellectuals, scholars, scientists and cultural figures to sign a petition that read in part: "In this struggle the place of the entire progressive intelligentsia is at their side. That is the Polish tradition, and that is the imperative of the hour."

Mr. Walesa thanked Mr. Mazowiecki and told him that he had a continued need for help from intellectuals in addressing government officials. Mr. Mazowiecki helped write the historic Aug. 31 agreement that ended the strike and established Solidarity by guaranteeing workers' rights to form independent trade unions with the right to strike.

The Communist government nonetheless felt threatened by Solidarity's mounting influence, and declared martial law on Dec. 13, 1981, making Solidarity and other pro-democracy groups illegal. As tanks rolled through Warsaw, Mr. Mazowiecki was arrested and imprisoned for more than a year. After his release, he was again one of Mr. Walesa's closest advisers.

The Polish economy worsened, and in 1988 Mr. Walesa and Mr. Mazowiecki coordinated a strike at the Gdansk shipyard. That strike brought no concessions. But a second, bigger strike brought the Communists to the negotiating table.

The Polish primate, Cardinal Jozef Glemp, appointed Mr. Mazowiecki a mediator, and he arranged the series of talks between the Communists and Solidarity that led to plans for quasi-free parliamentary elections in which a newly legal Solidarity would be allowed to participate.

In the June 1989 vote, Solidarity won overwhelmingly in the districts it was allowed to contest and, after parliamentary maneuvering with minor parties, was able to form a government. Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, head of the Communist government, asked Mr. Walesa for three candidates, of which he would select one as a Solidarity prime minister. He chose Mr. Mazowiecki. Many believed the Vatican influenced his choice, given Mr. Mazowiecki's role as an influential editor of Catholic weeklies and monthlies that promoted the social gospel underlying Solidarity's ideology.

Mr. Mazowiecki's V-for-victory sign to the chamber on appointment became the symbol of Poland's triumph over Communism.

The Communists retained control of the armed services, the police and the secret service, and Mr. Mazowiecki had to pledge to keep Poland in the Warsaw Pact, Moscow's military alliance. Still, he said in 2004, "I had this very strong conviction that we will make it, that we will be able to build the foundations for a democratic state."

He promised no "witch hunts" against the old government, saying it was "right and wise" to offer democracy to all Poles. When asked if he would be a Catholic prime minister or a prime minister of Solidarity, he replied: "Is there any contradiction between the two? I would like to reconcile the two."

At first, Mr. Mazowiecki told an interviewer, he was "terrified." With Poland facing staggering foreign debt, hyperinflation and a bankrupt treasury, he had reason to be. He had no choice but to accept harsh, unpopular conditions—including a wage freeze and an end to consumer subsidies—to secure a \$700 million loan from the International Monetary Fund.

With no economic experience and little charisma, he was defeated when he ran for president in 1990. Mr. Walesa was elected.

Tadeusz Mazowiecki was born on April 18, 1927, in the city of Plock, in central Poland.

His brother died in a Nazi concentration camp in World War II.

Mr. Mazowiecki studied law at the University of Warsaw but did not graduate. In 1953 he began editing a Catholic weekly, but was eventually fired because of his opposition to the Communist government. He started an organization of Catholic intellectuals and a new Catholic monthly.

In 1961 he was elected to the Polish Parliament, where he led the opposition to the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968 and unsuccessfully pushed for an investigation of the police massacre of striking Gdansk shipyard workers in 1971. As a result, he was barred from running for re-election in 1972. He then devoted himself to building alliances between the intelligentsia of the left and the fledgling Polish labor movement.

Mr. Mazowiecki, a tall, gaunt man with large, sad eyes, went on to hold various official and unofficial posts in Poland's government. In 1992 he was appointed envoy of the United Nations to war-torn Bosnia. He resigned in 1995 over what he regarded as the international community's insufficient response to atrocities there.

He was married twice; both wives died. He had three sons, Wojciech, Adam and Michal.

NEW HEALTH CARE REFORM PRODUCTS

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

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, over the past few months, I have come to the House floor to sound the alarm regarding the emptiness of the promises the President made when he sold his health care law, promises such as: if you like your health care plan, you can keep it, and that premiums would drop by \$2,500. Those promises, Mr. Speaker, are now on the ash heap of history.

Here is what I am hearing from my district: a woman from Allegheny County recently showed me the letter she got from her insurance company. The letter begins, "This is to inform you that we will discontinue your health care plan on December 31, 2013."

A father in the north hills of Pittsburgh tells me his family's coverage is also being terminated next year.

Another woman from the north hills wrote to tell me that she gets insurance through her employer, a small business, but that her share of the premiums are tripling.

When a product comes with a promise that is broken, you take it back and look for a new product. The Empowering Patients First Act and the American Health Care Reform Act are just some examples of possible new health care reform products that we can look at. There are solutions that empower consumers and not Washington elites, and they are a good place to start.

CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I, too, want to join my colleagues in offering

condolences on the passing of the gentleman from Missouri, Ike Skelton. He was a wonderful Member, a mentor, and a dear friend. And let me say how much he will sadly be missed. He is in our thoughts and prayers, as is his family, in this difficult time.

Mr. Speaker, as cochair of the Congressional Cybersecurity Caucus, today I rise to commend the efforts of the Department of Homeland Security, the National Cybersecurity Alliance, the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center, and other organizations working to improve cybersecurity in the United States on the 10th anniversary of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month.

Throughout October, these organizations and public and private sector partners have worked tirelessly to create events and initiatives across the country to educate Americans about cybersecurity and increase the resiliency of our Nation's cyber-infrastructure.

Cyberspace today is inextricably linked to every aspect of our daily lives; and efforts such as these are crucial to creating a safe, secure, and resilient cyber-environment. I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating all who have made Cybersecurity Awareness Month a success.

CONGRATULATING MARY PATRICIA HECTOR

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an everyday hero, a young constituent of mine who has set an example we would all do well to follow.

Mary Patricia Hector, a 15-year-old from Lithonia, Georgia, refused to sit idly by while children across the Nation died in playgrounds, while funerals outnumbered graduation ceremonies, and where violence beget more violence.

Mary Pat channeled her outrage into a campaign to combat youth gun violence aptly named Think Twice. Her campaign encourages youths to think twice before picking up a gun. Mary Pat's work earned her the Peace First Prize, a prestigious peace-making award. I am proud of her achievements, and I am glad to have the privilege of representing her.

Like those before me, I also pray that my good friend from Missouri, former Chairman Ike Skelton, rest in peace.

CLIMATE CHANGE

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition and the Safe Climate Caucus, I rise to call for

urgent congressional action on climate change.

We must follow the examples of my home State of California, Washington, Oregon, and British Columbia. These leaders came together Monday and signed the Pacific Coast Action Plan on Climate and Energy. The action plan will help them to collectively reduce carbon pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, which will not only help the environment and public health but will also strengthen our economy.

This is a small, but significant step to act on climate change. These leaders are taking these important steps because they know the consequences of inaction. They recognize that the effects of climate change cross borders freely. Republicans and Democrats should follow this good example of action, and our leadership should move forward to combat climate change.

I, too, want to give my sympathy and my prayers with the loss of a great leader, Chairman Ike Skelton. And I know on behalf of my predecessor, my former boss, my colleague Congressman Skelton was a personal friend, and I know that he would want me to say today that he misses him.

May his soul rest in peace.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Brian Pate, one of his secretaries.

BENGHAZI

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WILLIAMS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, last week, a new national poll was released by a respected pollster, Patrick Caddell, a Democrat, and John McLaughlin, a Republican, making clear that the American people still don't feel they know the truth about what happened in Benghazi nearly 14 months ago.

According to the poll commissioned by Secure America Now, 63 percent of Americans "think the Obama administration is covering up the facts about Benghazi"; and only 29 percent of registered voters say the Obama administration has been honest about Benghazi. Think about that for a moment. A supermajority of Americans believe they have been misled by their government about what happened in Benghazi. This is remarkable.

The American people know how significant it is that Ambassador Stevens, the President's personal envoy to Libya, was the first Ambassador killed in the line of duty in four decades on September 11, 11 years to the day that nearly 3,000 people were killed by al Qaeda terrorists.

The American people intuitively understand that a plot of this scale was

not spontaneously inspired, as claimed by the administration's now infamous talking points. The American people also know that it is remarkable that no effort was made by Washington to rescue the Americans in Benghazi or dispatch a hostage rescue team after the Ambassador went missing that night.

I think the American people also wonder just what the CIA was doing in Benghazi. Was it involved in the collection and transfer of weapons to foreign countries? Possibly to support the Syrian rebels? And could some of those weapons have fallen into the wrong hands, like the Syrian jihadists?

It is too easy to say that this is "classified information" and expect the American people to look away. Four Americans were killed that night, several were wounded, and no one came to help them.

□ 1500

Was it because the CIA was conducting a covert operation and if something went wrong, that was just the price of doing business? Were the CIA activities in Benghazi part of the reason the consulate and annex were targeted?

These are legitimate questions the American people are asking that deserve clear answers.

The McLaughlin-Caddell poll also found that 62 percent of the American people support creating a "special bipartisan committee with broad powers to get to the truth about the attacks in Benghazi."

Eighty percent of Republicans and 58 percent of independents support the idea. Notably, nearly half of Democrats said it was important to create a bipartisan committee to learn the truth.

The bottom line is Americans from across the political spectrum recognize that not only are they not being told the truth, but they feel Congress needs to change its approach to the investigation by creating a special committee.

Why is it that, despite more than a year of investigations in five separate committees, the American people feel they still don't know the truth about what happened?

Perhaps it is because, despite more than a year of investigations by five committees, most of the questions raised about that night remain unanswered.

Perhaps it is because, despite more than a year of investigations by five committees, hardly any of the key witnesses responsible for the government's response that night—or lack thereof—have publicly testified.

Perhaps it is because, despite more than a year of investigations, none of the survivors that could help answer key questions have publicly testified before Congress.

Perhaps it is because, despite more than a year of investigations, so few committee hearings have been held publicly.

Or perhaps it is because, despite more than a year of investigations, what little the American people have learned has come from news reports from CNN, CBS, FOX, and other news organizations and not from congressional hearings or testimony.

I think all these factors have contributed to the sense among the American people that Congress has failed in its oversight responsibility.

The American people know they haven't been told the full story about what happened that night, and they believe they have been intentionally misled by the administration.

I have come to the floor today to once again call on my leadership to create a House select committee on Benghazi.

I am often asked what is holding up the creation of this select committee. The simple answer is because the Speaker has not agreed to it. I like the Speaker. He has a tough job, and he may have good reasons for not wanting to establish a select committee, but I don't know what it is. And more importantly, I don't think the American people know what it is.

Let me be clear: my criticism is not with the chairmen of committees that are looking into this. They are all good men. They have worked very hard. Their hands are tied. They are required, though, to stay within their jurisdictional lanes, examining only what they are allowed to investigate according to their committee charter.

What happened in Benghazi is interrelated. The "lanes" crisscross. The White House, the State Department, the CIA, and the Defense Department were all involved, resulting in overlapping, but uncoordinated, investigations.

Benghazi was a terrorist attack. We need a team effort to find out what happened, why it happened, and how we are going to bring the perpetrators to justice. Any of these chairmen would be capable of leading the select committee, and other members of their committees would be very good to serve as well. They would do a good job. I have confidence in them.

And let me be clear: I have no intention of chairing or serving on the select committee. I will not serve on the select committee. I just want to learn the truth, just like the American people.

There is a history in Congress that when things overlap between committees and transcend jurisdictions, select committees were established. Two well-known examples are Watergate and Iran Contra. And I will submit a list of the past select committees over the past 50 years at the end of my statement.

A select committee would take members from each committee with their individual expertise—and many of the members from these various committees have tremendous expertise—and have them work on this investigation

day in and day out, with no other distractions. It would also prevent the administration from saying one thing to one committee of jurisdiction and something else to another.

I am reminded of the poem "Blind Men and the Elephant," which is said to originate in India. In the poem, six blind men touch a part of an elephant and each has a different description of what the elephant must look like. They argue at great length among themselves. The poem ends by saying that while each is partly right, they are all wrong.

The moral of the poem is that, independently, people may think their understanding of the situation is correct; yet they don't know the truth until the full picture comes into focus.

Each of the five committees may not be seeing the entire picture of what happened that night. Regular order has limited the committees from going beyond their jurisdictions. One group ought to have the responsibility to get to the bottom of all parts of this tragedy. One group needs to lay out a roadmap to obtaining and reporting that information to the American people so we can restore confidence that Congress has a serious oversight plan on Benghazi.

Remember, the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. We need to see the whole of this tragedy.

My bill to create a select committee, H. Res. 36, now has 178 cosponsors—more than three-quarters of the Republican Conference and more than a supermajority of the majority.

Nearly three-quarters of the Republican members who serve on the committees already investigating Benghazi now support a select committee. That means a plurality of the members who have been directly involved in committee investigations believe a select committee would be a more effective approach.

The bill has been endorsed by the American Legion, representing so many vets who have sacrificed and given their time and effort to serve this country; the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, which represents the diplomatic security agents that were present in Benghazi—the people who represent them and who were present in Benghazi support the select committee; groups representing the highly respected Special Ops community, who serve this Nation so well; and the editorial page of *The Wall Street Journal*.

Perhaps, most important, it is being endorsed by some of the family members of the Benghazi victims, like Sean Smith's mother and Ty Woods' father, who want to know the truth about what happened to the children that night and why their country fell short in its response.

Nothing will bring their children back, but we can at least provide them with the clear answers and assign accountability for those responsible for intelligence failures and the inept response that night.

The best way to do this is to break down the stovepipes between the five committees, hold public hearings, and issue subpoenas to all the survivors from Benghazi, those who were in Tripoli, and those who were in Washington responding that night.

We need a public hearing with the principals involved in the decision-making process in Washington on September 11, 2012, including former Secretary Panetta, former Secretary of State Clinton, former CIA Director Petraeus, former White House adviser and current CIA Director John Brennan, and former AFRICOM Commander General Ham, as well as the White House.

We also need a similar hearing with each of their deputies and others who were witness to the calls for help and the decisions surrounding the response not to help.

Unless we hear from these people publicly, the American people will never learn the truth about whether there were warnings prior to the attack, what calls for help were made that night, whether the CIA security team was in fact delayed in leaving to respond to the initial attack at the consulate, and what the response was from Washington, among many other questions.

Also, the American people should know of the bravery of the men who were there in Benghazi.

Until these key individuals are sitting side by side at the witness table answering questions under oath in public, we will never get a clear picture of who made the decisions that night and why.

Again, the hearings must be in public. The American people can handle the truth. Failure to get these answers means there will never be any accountability, which further erodes public confidence in government.

Absent a select committee, the Congress will fail to learn the truth about what happened that night because the administration will continue to use the jurisdictional barriers between each committee to continue to slow-walk or deny information.

There are a number of new developments in recent weeks that make a select committee more timely than ever.

First, our colleague, MIKE ROGERS, chairman of the Intelligence Committee, confirmed earlier reports, telling Fox News that the plot against the consulate and the CIA annex in Benghazi appears to have been weeks, if not months, in the making and that at least two of the plot's leaders had close connections to senior al Qaeda leadership.

Nearly a year ago, I circulated a memo to all members prepared by respected terrorist analyst Thomas Joscelyn detailing the apparent connections and likely coordination between al Qaeda affiliates in Libya, Egypt, Tunisia, and Yemen that resulted in threats and attacks on U.S. diplomatic facilities in those countries

the week of September 11, 2012. Unfortunately, the committees have not held public hearings looking at the connection between these threats.

Last week, Fox News' Catherine Herridge first reported that:

At least two of the key suspects in the Benghazi terror attacks were at one point working with al Qaeda senior leadership, the sources familiar with the investigation tell Fox News. The sources said one of the suspects was believed to be a courier for the al Qaeda network and the other a bodyguard in Afghanistan prior to the 2001 terror attacks.

Catherine Herridge went on and said:

The direct ties to the al Qaeda senior leadership undercut earlier characterizations by the Obama administration that the attackers in Benghazi were isolated extremists—not al Qaeda terrorists—with no organizational structure or affiliation.

And then, on Sunday, CBS' "60 Minutes" aired a segment by Lara Logan, further explaining what happened that night and the increasingly clear connection to al Qaeda. And I am very grateful for "60 Minutes" covering this story.

Logan reported:

Just a few weeks ago, Abu Anas al-Libi was captured for his role in the Africa bombings and the U.S. is still investigating what part he may have played in Benghazi. We've learned that this man, Sufian bin Qumu, a former Guantanamo Bay detainee and a longtime al Qaeda operative, was one of the lead planners, along with Furaj al-Chalabi, whose ties to Osama bin Laden go back more than 15 years. He is believed to have carried documents from the compound to the head of al Qaeda in Pakistan.

It is particularly notable how al-Chalabi reportedly delivered documents from U.S. facilities in Benghazi to the head of the al Qaeda in Pakistan, establishing a direct link between the Benghazi attacks and the most senior leadership of al Qaeda.

Among the other revelations in the "60 Minutes" segment was that al Qaeda stated its intent to attack Americans in Benghazi, along with the Red Cross and the British mission, well in advance of September 11.

Lieutenant Colonel Andy Wood, the top American security official in Libya in the months leading up to the attack, told CBS that both the State Department and the Defense Department were well aware of the threat and the attacks on the Red Cross and British missions. He said it was obvious to the Americans in Libya that it was only a matter of time until an attack on the U.S. facilities.

□ 1515

When the terrorists stormed the consulate property they said, "We're here to kill Americans, not Libyans," and they spared the lives of Libyan guards.

Confirmation of that information I detailed on the House floor in July, noting:

A quick reaction force from the CIA annex ignored orders to wait, and raced to the compound, at times running and shooting their way through the streets just to get there.

The Americans faced a "professional enemy" as they encountered waves of

intense fighting on the CIA annex in Benghazi during the early morning of September 12. Mortars fired during the final wave of the assault hit the roof of the annex three times in the dark. Lieutenant Colonel Wood described hitting a target like that as “getting the basketball through the hoop over your shoulder” and that it took “coordination, planning, training, and experienced personnel” to pull off such a “well-executed attack.”

Two Delta Force operators who fought at the CIA annex, apparently as part of the impromptu team that flew in from Tripoli with Glen Doherty during the attack without permission from Washington, have “been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and the Navy Cross—two of the military’s highest honors.” We owe them a debt of gratitude.

The U.S. already knew that senior al Qaeda leader Abu Anas al Libi was in Libya and was “tasked by the head of al Qaeda to establish a clandestine terrorist network inside the country; al Libi was already wanted for his role in bombing two U.S. Embassies in Africa” where constituents from my congressional district were killed. Notably, the administration made no mention of his connection to the Benghazi attacks in its announcement of his capture last month.

Some of the key questions that remain unanswered are why the CIA security team was ordered not to respond to the attack at the consulate and “why no larger military response ever crossed the border into Libya—something U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission Greg Hicks realized wasn’t going to happen just an hour into the attack.”

It is particularly noteworthy that Logan addressed the pressure on witnesses she encountered during her investigation, saying:

An extraordinary amount of pressure on the people involved not to talk and an extraordinary amount of pressure on anyone in the government—the military side, the political side—not to say anything out of official channels.

This is consistent with the concerns I have repeatedly raised on the House floor about efforts by this administration to silence survivors and witnesses to the Benghazi attacks and response.

What are they afraid of these witnesses sharing with the American people, and how can the Congress stand by and allow this to happen knowing full well it is taking place?

CNN in July reported:

Since January, some CIA operatives involved in the Agency’s mission in Libya have been subjected to frequent—even monthly—polygraph examinations, according to a source with deep inside knowledge of the Agency’s workings. The goal of the questioning, according to sources, is to find out if anyone has been talking to the media or to Congress.

That was reported by CNN in July.

In a separate piece in July, FOX News reported:

At least five CIA employees were forced to sign additional nondisclosure agreements

this past spring in the wake of the Benghazi attack.

That is what FOX News said in July of this year.

As someone who represents thousands of Federal employees and contractors, including many who work for the CIA, the FBI, the State Department, and the Defense Department, I know from years of firsthand experience how agencies can sometimes use various forms of pressure and intimidation to keep employees from sharing information of concern with Congress.

I know the Benghazi survivors and other witnesses that night from those agencies need the protection of a “friendly subpoena” to compel their testimony before Congress, particularly on matters as sensitive as this, in order to protect them. So far, the committees have failed to provide this protection to allow survivors and other witnesses to share their stories publicly so the American people can hear them.

Based on disclosures in recent news reports, I now believe that the Benghazi plot represents a significant intelligence failure by the United States at several levels. Understanding these failures, as well as the government’s inexplicable response during and after the attack, is critical to preventing future attacks.

I want to outline a number of the apparent intelligence failures leading up to the attack, which I believe a select committee investigation would confirm:

First: The State Department and CIA failed in their assessments of the militia groups working for the Americans in Benghazi, including the February 17 Martyrs Brigade, responsible for guarding the consulate property which abandoned the Americans and may have even facilitated access to the compound for the terrorists;

According to a May 21 article by Eli Lake at the Daily Beast:

CIA officers were responsible for vetting the February 17 Martyrs Brigade, the militia that was supposed to be the first responders on the night of the attack, but melted away when the diplomatic mission was attacked;

Second: The State Department, the Defense Department, and the CIA apparently failed to adjust their security postures to support the Americans in Benghazi based on the growing number of attacks on Western targets in Benghazi during the summer of 2012;

To date, no one has explained or been held accountable for why the U.S. submission was so poorly secured despite pleas for assistance by the Embassy staff in Tripoli to Washington;

No one has adequately explained why the Defense Department’s emergency response team was on a routine training mission in Croatia during the week of September 11 when it should have been on alert to respond, especially given the threats to the U.S. Embassies in Cairo and Egypt earlier in the day before the Benghazi attack. So the emergency response team was on a

training mission in Croatia at the very time and on the very date that everyone knows, September 11. Given the threats to the Embassy, it is shocking that this is the case;

Third: The intelligence community apparently failed to understand the size and scope of the attack brewing in Benghazi in the months leading up to September 11;

As Chairman ROGERS acknowledged to FOX News’ Catherine Herridge last week, this was a well-coordinated attack that was many weeks, if not months, in the making;

Earlier this year, CNN reported on the number of foreign fighters who arrived in Benghazi to participate in the attack in the days leading up to September 11. A witness in the “60 Minutes” report noted how black al Qaeda flags were openly flying in the months before the attack, and he also noted the announced threat against U.S., British, and Red Cross facilities;

How did the government miss these warnings or were they just simply ignored?

Fourth: The intelligence community seems to have more broadly failed to understand and anticipate how al Qaeda was metastasizing in North Africa;

This administration has been quick to take credit for the raid that killed Osama bin Laden in May 2011, and declared throughout the 2012 Presidential campaign that as a result of its efforts that “core al Qaeda” has been decimated. However, the facts don’t support the administration’s narrative;

In a CNN report on Monday:

Terrorist attacks hit a record high in 2012, and “more than 8,500 terrorist attacks killed more than 15,500 people last year as violence tore through Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.” Increasingly, this includes North African countries likely Libya;

CNN also said:

“Despite the death of Osama bin Laden and the capture of other key al Qaeda leaders, the group has exported its brand of terrorism to other militant Muslims.” These groups include affiliates like Ansar al Sharia in Libya;

Additionally, following a report on Benghazi, CBS’ Lara Logan noted earlier this week:

It became evident to us during the course of our research—this is what she said—that very little is known publicly about the true nature of al Qaeda’s network in Libya, and that has consequences beyond Benghazi and beyond Libya. It has consequences that speak to the national security interests of the United States of America;

Most of these affiliate terrorist groups have sworn an allegiance to al Qaeda and appear to closely coordinate their activities and plots with the core al Qaeda leadership, including Ayman al-Zawahiri, bin Laden’s successor.

To dismiss or minimize the relationship with al Qaeda’s senior leadership is misguided and, I believe, dangerous as we have seen over the last several years. I fear that this administration’s insistence in treating core al Qaeda in Afghanistan and Pakistan differently

than groups like Ansar al Sharia in Libya has led to a dangerous mischaracterization of the threat and that it has apparently resulted in the failure to anticipate attacks like the one that was carried out in Benghazi;

Fifth: It appears that documents were taken from the consulate and CIA annex in Benghazi in the wake of the attacks;

As I said earlier, "60 Minutes" reported that terrorist Faraj al Chalabi, whose ties to bin Laden go back nearly two decades, is "believed to have carried documents from the compound to the head of al Qaeda in Pakistan."

What was taken from the consulate and annex and given to al Qaeda's leadership? We don't know;

Additionally, as Lara Logan noted following the report:

We did not expect that we would find the U.S. compound in the state that we found it. There was still debris and ammunition boxes and a whiteboard that had the day's assignments for the security personnel at the compound as of September 11, 2012;

Clearly, in the chaos of the fighting and evacuation that night, information was left behind at the facilities that may have consequences for Americans operating in the region.

I also believe the administration's response to the Benghazi attack over the last year has been nothing short of shameful and that it also merits a full investigation by a select committee.

From the first hours of the attack, when it became apparent that no help was coming to assist those under attack—either from U.S. forces or from our allies in the region—to the failure of the FBI to gain access to key suspects in Tunisia and Egypt over the last year, this administration has sent a signal to terrorists that the U.S. will not strongly respond to an attack on Americans abroad.

The failure to either arrest or kill any of the scores of terrorists responsible for the attacks more than a year later is inexcusable and reflects an unwillingness by this administration to bring diplomatic pressure to bear on countries harboring these terrorists.

I am increasingly convinced that this administration is more comfortable in using the ongoing FBI investigation as an excuse not to answer questions than it is in bringing these terrorists to justice.

As I said on the House floor in July of last year, Tunisia detained the first suspect in the Benghazi terrorist attacks, Ali Harzi, after he was deported from Turkey in the weeks following the attacks.

Tunisia, despite being a beneficiary of more than \$300 million of U.S. foreign aid—American taxpayer money of over \$300 million goes to Tunisia—refused to allow the FBI access to this suspect for nearly 5 weeks.

□ 1530

It was only after congressional threats to cut off the aid that the government of Tunisia reconsidered its position.

Ultimately, the FBI interrogation team returned to Tunisia and was allowed just 3 hours to interview Harzi with his lawyer and a Tunisian judge present.

Not long after the FBI interview, Harzi was inexplicably released by Tunisian authorities, and his release was celebrated by Ansar al Sharia terrorists.

Last month, it was confirmed that Harzi has been involved in at least one assassination of a Tunisian political leader.

In another equally concerning case in Egypt, the FBI has been denied access to Muhammed Jamal, an al Qaeda-connected terrorist who ran training camps in Egypt and eastern Libya prior to the Benghazi attack.

Several of Jamal's associates are believed to have participated in the Benghazi plot, and terrorism analysts believe that Jamal may have communicated directly with Zawahiri and al Qaeda leadership about this and other terrorist attacks.

Although Jamal has been in Egyptian custody for more than a year on other terrorism-related charges, the U.S. has never been provided access to him under both the Morsi government and now the current military government.

I personally delivered a letter to former Ambassador Patterson in Cairo asking then-President Morsi to provide the FBI access to Jamal and his documents. I don't believe the Ambassador ever delivered the letter, and if she did, she never told me. That in itself is very, very troubling.

Jamal's connection to the Benghazi attack is particularly noteworthy given that both the U.S. and the United Nations formally, both the U.S. and the United Nations, formally designated him as a terrorist earlier this month.

However, in another example of this administration's aversion to discussing terrorist connections to the Benghazi attack, the U.N. designation clearly notes Jamal's connection to the Benghazi attack, whereas the State Department designation omits it. So the U.N. designation clearly notes Jamal's connection to the Benghazi attack; the State Department omits it. The UN says, and our State Department omits it?

I believe there has been pressure from the administration to omit this type of information from U.S. intelligence products, sending conflicting signals to both our allies and to countries that may have Benghazi suspects of interest to the FBI. I have a lot of confidence in the FBI if they are just allowed to do their job.

But if we are unwilling to identify their involvement in the attacks, it further erodes U.S. credibility in asking for access to these individuals. This willful blindness is disingenuous and, I believe, ultimately dangerous.

In early January, when I offered an amendment to create a select com-

mittee to the House rules package for the 113th Congress, Speaker BOEHNER told the Republican Conference that he didn't believe that we had "reached the threshold" for a select committee. He suggested that we might get to the threshold, but the committees of jurisdiction just needed more time.

That may have been the case in January, but nearly 11 months later, I think the broad support that has built up over the last year makes it clear we have more than passed the threshold for a select committee now.

I believe, and I believe the American people believe, that the threshold has clearly been reached in terms of co-sponsors, endorsements, and new revelations from the press reports, and a deep concern the American people have for this issue.

I was particularly struck by the comments made by Ambassador Stevens' deputy, Greg Hicks, in the 60 Minutes segment on Sunday:

For us, for the people that go out onto the edge to represent our country, we believe that if we get in trouble, they are coming to get us, that our back is covered. To hear that it is not, it is a terrible, terrible experience.

It is not enough for the administration to just say there is nothing more that could have been done, especially given that evidence indicates that they didn't try much at all to assist the Americans under fire in Benghazi.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for a unified, bipartisan select committee. Let's get to the truth once and for all so we can find out what happened and restore the American people's confidence in congressional oversight and confidence in government.

I yield back the balance of my time.

HOUSE SELECT AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES (1963–PRESENT)

House Select and Special Committees	Date of creation
Select Committee on Government Research	September 11, 1963
Select Committee to Study the Factors Relating to the General Welfare and Education of Congressional Pages	September 30, 1964
Select Committee on Standards and Conduct	April 3, 1967
Select Committee on the Seating of Adam Clayton Powell in the 90th Congress	January 10, 1967
Select Committee on the House Beauty Shop	December 6, 1967
Select Committee to Regulate Parking on the House Side of the Capitol	March 13, 1969
Select Committee on Crime	July 1, 1968
Select Committee on the House Restaurant	July 10, 1969
Select Committee to Investigate All Aspects of United States Military Involvement in Southeast Asia	June 8, 1970
Select Committee on Committees I (Bolling)	January 31, 1973
Permanent Select Committee on Aging	October 2, 1974
Select Committee on Intelligence (Nedzi and Pike)	February 19, 1975
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence	July 14, 1977
Select Committee on the Outer Continental Shelf (Ad Hoc)	January 11, 1977
Select Committee to Study the Problem of United States Servicemen Missing in Action in Southeast Asia	September 11, 1975
Select Committee on Professional Sports	May 18, 1976
Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control	July 29, 1976
Select Committee on Assassinations	September 17, 1976
Select Committee on Ethics	March 9, 1977
Select Committee on Congressional Operations	March 28, 1977
Select Committee on Energy (Ad Hoc)	April 21, 1977
Select Committee on Population	September 28, 1977
Select Committee on Committees II (Patterson)	March 20, 1979
Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families	September 29, 1982
Select Committee on Hunger	February 22, 1984
Select Committee to Investigate Covert Arms Transactions with Iran	January 7, 1987
Select Committee to Investigate Fire Safety in the Capitol and House Office Building	May 10, 1988
Select Committee on U.S. National Security and Military/Commercial Concerns with the People's Republic of China	June 18, 1988
Select Bipartisan Committee to Investigate the Preparation for and Response to Hurricane Katrina	September 15, 2005

HOUSE SELECT AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES
(1963–PRESENT)—Continued

House Select and Special Committees	Date of creation
Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming.	March 8, 2007
Select Committee to Investigate the Voting Irregularities.	August 2, 2007

Source: Committees in the U.S. Congress 1947–1992 by Garrison Nelson; Committees in the U.S. Congress 1993–2010 by Garrison Nelson.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS
MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, ending domestic violence is not a quixotic quest; it is a noble calling. This is why we have filed H. Res. 392, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of October as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress should continue to raise awareness of domestic violence and its devastating effects on individuals, families, and communities, and support programs designed to end domestic violence in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to tell you that we will have a number of speakers.

At this time, I yield to the Congresswoman from the Fourth District of Maryland, the Honorable DONNA EDWARDS. She serves on Science, Space, and Technology; Transportation and Infrastructure; she cochairs the Women's Caucus; and she is the chair of the Democratic Women's Working Group. She also cofounded the National Network to End Domestic Violence in 1994. She was its executive director.

Ms. EDWARDS. I thank the gentleman. I know that you join with your colleague, Mr. POE of Texas, in hosting this hour so that we can have an opportunity to remember why it is that we identify and commemorate Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and to make a commitment from this day forward, and from this coming year to the next time we have this observance, to do what we can to end domestic violence. I think, after all, that is the goal.

I can't remember, Mr. GREEN, when I first became interested in domestic violence, or even aware of domestic violence, but I look back to the times when I was growing up. I grew up in a military family. We lived in very close quarters. We shared a wall in that military family housing with our neighbor. In our neighbor's house, there was clearly something going on. My sister and I shared a bedroom, and we could hear what was going on, and it was violent. It was clearly violent.

I don't know that I understood that at the time, Mr. Speaker, but I have come to understand it as an adult. It frames my commitment, lifelong commitment, to ending domestic violence.

I remember at that time the military police being called. They would come and they would drive the gentleman around the block, and then he would be delivered right back home. Then a few nights later, the exact same thing would happen again.

I remember my sister and I seeing the woman who lived next door, and we were friends with their children, and I remember seeing her. I was always intrigued by her dark glasses and her great makeup and the scarves that she wore around her neck. It wasn't until later that I understood that she was covering her black eye, she was covering the bruises on her neck, she was covering the bruises on her face from having been a victim of domestic violence. It was many, many years, in fact, as an adult where I came to really process and understand what was going on.

I think because domestic violence affects so many around the country, and most particularly it affects women, that there is almost a chance that in any given family or at a family reunion or family gathering, if you probe just enough, you will find someone who has experienced domestic violence.

Very sadly, you will also find many young children who have witnessed domestic violence. I think that we have only to look at the children who are growing up in homes where mostly their mothers are being abused, and then we wonder why it is that when we look at the population of young people who are incarcerated, and when you ask them one by one—and I have done this, I have visited incarcerated youth—almost to a one they will tell you that either they have been the victims of violence or they grew up in a violent home.

I think, Mr. Speaker, it must resonate with us that we have to ask ourselves why it is that we continue to have violence, and what it is that we can do to get to the root cause of that violence.

So in addition, during Domestic Violence Awareness Month, to identify the fact that we lose about \$8 billion a year in productivity that is lost because of domestic violence—lost time off of work, medical expenses, and the rest—we know that it is a social ill that is very pervasive.

We also know that there are other kinds of crimes that are associated with domestic violence—stalking is one of those, sexual assault within a relationship.

Mr. Speaker, we also are aware that our young women, ages 16 to 24, are more likely than not to experience some form of violence in those relationships.

So earlier this year—and it took us some time to get there, Mr. Speaker—we did finally reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act. The Violence Against Women Act, which was first authorized in 1994—I was a part of that, helped to lead that effort on the outside, where our leaders in Congress

were leading on the inside, leaders like our now Vice-President JOE BIDEN, who was in the Senate and who took this bull by the horns and led us to the passage of the first Violence Against Women Act that was signed into law by President Clinton.

It was the first time ever that the Federal Government came forward and said, we have a real commitment to ending domestic violence by providing resources for shelters and services, training law enforcement, making sure that our judges were equipped to handle these cases in court, providing advocacy services for those who are experiencing violence, and going through the system.

Over each successive couple of years, we have reauthorized the Violence Against Women Act. We did that just recently. As I have said, in these tough economic times, it has been very difficult. All of a sudden, domestic violence became partisan and political.

I am glad to say, Mr. Speaker, that we did finally reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act again. We are providing those resources to those who experience violence.

But it should also come as no surprise that as we engage in the fiscal debates that we have here in the Congress, that because of sequester and shutting down the government even, that many of those shelters and services and programs are, in fact, experiencing a really difficult time at the same time that they are experiencing more demand.

I don't say that, Mr. Speaker, to call out one side or the other, but I am glad we are back at a point where in this Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we take the politics out of domestic violence, and we say to women, whether you are Republicans, Democrats, or Independents, or you don't think about politics at all, that we care about ending domestic violence, we care about the fact, Mr. Speaker, that more women are placed in a much more dangerous circumstance when there is a weapon in the home and that weapon is used to either kill or harm or threaten the lives of those who are in the home. That is something that we can do something about.

Mr. Speaker, let me just say, this last year, we lost a really powerful advocate for those who experience domestic violence. When Senator Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey died earlier this year, we remembered him in a lot of ways as a leader, Mr. Speaker, but on this Domestic Violence Awareness Month, I would like the Nation to remember Senator Lautenberg because he was the one who spearheaded the domestic violence firearm prevention that said that if you are committing domestic violence and you have a domestic violence offense, that you cannot purchase or possess a weapon. The Federal Government and the Congress recognized the importance of removing a weapon from a home where there is domestic violence. Senator Lautenberg was the champion.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to close—I know that we have other speakers—and just say that this Member of Congress, and I know that our colleagues here today, remain committed to ending domestic violence, to making sure that women can achieve their fullest potential by living in a home that is free of violence.

□ 1545

And, in fact, as we look around the world, whether it is in Afghanistan or Iraq or it is in South or Central America or in Africa, in many nations women experience violence in relationships in their homes. But, Mr. Speaker, if we can end that violence in the home, then we would do a lot to make certain that children are growing up healthy and able to have healthy relationships and that women are able to achieve their fullest potential.

So I join you today in calling attention to Domestic Violence Awareness Month and to redoubling our commitment to end domestic violence. I say a special thank you and salute to an organization that I started—now I don't know—15 to 20 years ago, the National Network to End Domestic Violence, and all of the networks of advocates around the country who are committed to the same things that we are. And if only we can provide the resources that they need to do their work, I am convinced that we can end this scourge.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. I thank you very much for your testimony. Actually, it is something that I believe will benefit a good many persons who are viewing this today.

I would like to share just a few stories, if I may. Mr. Speaker, I practiced law in Houston, Texas, and my practice was one that involved a good deal of civil work. In the early 1970s, I can recall females coming to my office to receive assistance from a lawyer to file charges based upon abuse that had been imposed upon them.

In some of the cases, the damage done to the person was physical and immediately seen; but as you talked to the person, you could see that this person had been suffering for years. Literally years of suffering would emerge from this person in a 30-minute, 1 hour, 1½ hour visit. And they would plead with me, Please help me get the charges filed. The plea was there because at that time it was considered a family issue. When women would go in to file charges, the police would say, Well, we will look at it. We will see if we can get somebody out there. But they didn't always respond to the evident need. The need was evident because of what the eye could see.

Many of the women who would come in would bring a minister or some other person to corroborate the story. There was this belief that your physical appearance alone was not enough evidence to support the filing of charges.

Unfortunately, society had so developed at that time that we would take

this victim to intake and we would help with the filing of the charges and we would help get charges filed. The unfortunate circumstance was that the culture at that time was such that other family members would visit with the victim and encourage the victim to drop the charges; family members seeing and knowing about the abuse not only on this occasion for which charges were being filed, but also the abuse that had occurred through the years. And family members would quite often prevail; and, as a result, charges would sometimes be dropped.

I regret that we went through this time in our history where women were not treated with the dignity and respect that they should be accorded. A lot of that has gone away, and I will say more about a lot of this in just a moment, but there is still enough of it for us to band together and for us to answer the clarion call for help that these women present to us on a daily basis.

I am honored to tell you that we have with us now another Member of Congress from the 40th District of California. She serves on the Appropriations Committee, and I am honored to yield to the Honorable LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, let me begin by commending Congressman GREEN for his leadership in helping to highlight the tragedy of domestic violence in our country and for arranging today's Special Order.

While it is true that we have made some progress toward addressing violence against women, the fact remains that nearly one-third of women in the United States still report being physically or sexually abused by a partner in their lifetime. Domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking lead to severe social health and economic consequences for women and our communities, with the estimated cost of violence exceeding \$70 billion each year.

Our Nation's economic crisis has hammered home the sad truth that financial concerns often keep victims in abusive relationships. Studies indicate that economic independence is a key predictor of whether a victim will be able to break the cycle of violence and leave her abuser.

Far too often, it is difficult for victims to maintain employment in the aftermath of domestic violence, especially if they require time off for medical appointments, court appearances, and for their own safety. As a result, women who experience domestic violence are more likely than other women to be unemployed, to suffer from health problems that impact employability and job performance, to report lower personal income, and to rely on welfare. These poor economic outcomes often perpetuate the abuse.

For the last 16 years, I have introduced legislation that would help ensure victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking have the fi-

nancial independence they need to break free from their abusers.

The Security and Financial Empowerment Act, or SAFE Act, would allow survivors to take unpaid time off from work to make necessary court appearances, seek legal assistance, and get help with safety planning without the fear of losing their job. The SAFE Act would prohibit employers or insurance providers from basing hiring or insurance coverage decisions on an individual's history of abuse, and ensure eligibility for unemployment benefits should a survivor be forced to leave her job due to circumstances stemming from domestic violence.

The SAFE Act empowers victims of domestic violence with greater employment protections and increased economic stability to break the all-too-common cycle of dependence and abuse.

As Domestic Violence Awareness Month comes to an end, let us not forget the victims of domestic violence. I ask my colleagues to join me in ensuring financial freedom for those suffering from domestic abuse by cosponsoring the SAFE Act, and I encourage my colleagues to support Congressman GREEN's H. Res. 392 to make sure that we continue to highlight this tragedy of domestic violence in our country so that one day there will be no domestic violence; it will be unnecessary for us to be here in the Halls of Congress talking about this tragedy.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. I thank the gentlelady. I want to thank the gentlelady for the work she has done here in Congress over the years to eliminate domestic violence.

This has been a bipartisan effort, Mr. Speaker. I am proud to tell you that S. 47, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, this bill passed the House of Representatives with bipartisan support. In the House the vote was 286-138. It passed the Senate with bipartisan support. It was 78-22. The bill had this bipartisan support because it embraced women not only who are known to us as people from our communities, but also there were some communities that were embraced that have not been traditionally a part of the bill.

It helped American Indian women because at one time tribal courts could not take on persons who had sexually assaulted women because they were non-Indians. Well, the bill addressed this. It also addressed the LGBT community which had not been included. It doesn't matter what your sexual preference is, domestic violence can be imposed upon you. And when you are hurt, you need help. This bill provided the help needed for women regardless of race, creed, color, origin. Regardless of your sexual preference, you can get help pursuant to S. 47, which received bipartisan support.

I wanted to tell you that annually my friend from the State of Texas, the Honorable TED POE, works with me and I with him. We alternate years of taking the lead on this issue. He has had a

career that has paralleled mine. When he was a prosecutor, I was a defense attorney. He became a district court judge in Texas right around the time I became the judge of a justice court. Here in Congress, we have sought to work together on many bills and many pieces of legislation, but I am proudest of what we do on domestic violence.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month is one where he and I have collaborated to work together to make sure that we get this issue exposed to the public so we can continue the process of elimination. I am proud to tell you that he represents the Second Congressional District of Texas, serves on Foreign Affairs as well as the Judiciary Committee, and I am proud to tell you that I consider him a friend, not in the sense that we politely say it here in Congress when we say "my friend." I consider him a friend in the sense that he and I have developed a real kinship and relationship. Although we don't always agree, we always try to work together for the good of our State, city, and for the good of women who are being impacted by domestic violence.

I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE).

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I appreciate those comments.

It is true, Congressman GREEN, you and I, our careers have mirrored. We spent time at the courthouse together, you as a defense lawyer, me as a prosecutor. We became judges at about the same time. We got elected to Congress at the same time. We have known each other now almost 40 years, and I want to thank you for all that time you have been serving the community of Texas. And our districts match each other in the Houston area. We share the same common boundary.

I also think it is appropriate that we are wearing purple ties. If I remember correctly, if you take red and you take blue and you mix them together, you get purple. How appropriate because this is a bipartisan endeavor where we are trying to show the horrors of domestic violence nationwide. It is not a Democrat issue; it is not a Republican. It is an American issue. And I guess it is a purple issue, if we can use that phrase.

As you have mentioned, spending time at the courthouse, I saw a lot of these types of cases, and we have come a long way. And, yes, it is true, I remember the days when domestic violence, when some spouse would beat up another spouse, no matter how bad the injuries, unless it was death, many times the police would say, This is a family problem. It is not a criminal problem; it is not a public problem. It is a family problem. They have to deal with it.

Because of that, many women, primarily, were rejected from prosecuting their spouse when they beat them up. As Congressman GREEN mentioned, the days of spouse filing charges and then being pressured by sometimes the

batterer or family members to drop the charges, and then charges would be dropped. I found that frustrating as a prosecutor, and you found it frustrating when you were trying to help those women get those cases filed.

We finally did something in Texas that made a whole lot of sense. We took the spouse, the victim, out of the prosecution process. So it was the State of Texas versus the guy, and the spouse really had no control over the prosecution. The spouse certainly couldn't drop the charges. It took it off of her burden, and made those people who wanted the case dropped to deal with the State rather than the victim. That was a good thing because then those people started getting prosecuted.

□ 1600

JIM COSTA, a Democrat from California, he and I started the Victims' Rights Caucus when I came to Congress. It is a bipartisan caucus, a purple caucus, of both sides that advocate on the part of victims with about 85, 90 members.

One of the things that we are very concerned about, of course, is spouses that are victims of crime. I say that because when somebody beats up someone in the family, it is not the fault of the victim; it is the fault of the person that does the assaulting. The victim is not to blame. We have to get it through to our culture—and I think we are gradually doing that—to understand it is not the victim's fault. It is the person who commits the crime, commits the assault.

The most influential person in my life was my grandmother. God bless her. She lived to 99 years of age. She told me a lot of things and was very wise.

You would be glad to know, Congressman GREEN, she was an old-fashioned Texas Yellow Dog Democrat. She never forgave me for being a Republican. Anyway, we got past that.

She said that you never hurt somebody you claim you love. That was a true statement when she told me, and it is still a true statement. You never hurt somebody you claim you love, especially in the family situation. That is something that we need to live by and hold people accountable when they violate that important rule of life.

You mentioned the Violence Against Women Act. That is a good piece of legislation. I supported that for the reasons you mentioned, but also it does something else. It helps the immigrant community. Too often we find in Houston, where we have a lot of immigrants from all over the world, that someone that is in the United States, if they are assaulted by someone else that is in the United States, both undocumented, the batterer tells the victim, If you call the police, I am going to send you back to where you came from. He can't do that, but she thinks he can do that, so she doesn't call the police, and this guy gets away with hurting her. Plus, she continues to be victimized.

We changed that law because of VAWA. They can come forward. They can get a special visa. They can testify. This person can get prosecuted as they should. It is a good piece of legislation, and we certainly should be enforcing the rules under the VAWA law.

People that I have come in contact with over the years have impacted me. Of course, many of those have been victims of crime, many of those victims of domestic violence. One that I met after I came here to Congress was a wonderful lady that lives real close to us. She lives over in Maryland, Yvette Cade. She has made her story public, so I will use her name.

Yvette Cade was estranged from her husband. Her husband was under a protective order to leave her alone. She didn't have a lawyer. She didn't have someone like you, Mr. GREEN, representing her. She had to represent herself. When the protective order came to be renewed, she represented herself in the courtroom, and the judge denied the protective order. It was withdrawn.

Soon after the judge made that horrible decision, the estranged husband found her over at the video store where she worked supporting herself. He walked in carrying a jar of gasoline, and he poured it over Yvette Cade, and he set her on fire, that wonderful, precious lady. It is all on videotape from the store.

I don't know how she did it, but she survived. A passerby saw what happened. He helped her. He put the fire out. She has had numerous surgeries, and she is alive. Today, she advocates on behalf of victims who are abused in the family. She is quite a remarkable person, and she is a victim of crime.

Our culture needs to treat these people in a special way, whether it is to prosecute the criminal or to take care of them when their physical and mental needs need to be met. We are doing a better job of that. This month, we recognize those wonderful people who have been abused.

We still have the problem of convincing them that the crime is not their fault. They are embarrassed so often. As I told victims of crime as a prosecutor and even as a judge: You don't need to be embarrassed for what happened to you. The person who did it needs to be embarrassed.

It was part of our responsibility, I think, in the criminal justice system to make sure that happened. I won't go into all those types of cases that you are familiar with in unique sentencing, Mr. GREEN, but we made sure that the criminal knew that he was to blame and the victim was not to blame for that conduct.

After hearing 25,000 felony cases at the courthouse—and, Congressman GREEN, I am not going to relate all 25,000 of them, but I would like to mention another one. When we think of domestic violence, we need to remember not only the spouse, but we need to

think about the children that are involved, too, because many times they are the victims of domestic violence.

There was a young girl who was a second-grader, and, like a lot of kids today, she rode the bus back and forth to elementary school. I will call her "June." One afternoon, she is riding the schoolbus home, and she wouldn't get off the bus. She just sat there, and she was literally gripping that bar that is on the seat in front of you. Finally, the schoolbus driver came back and tried to talk to her and asked her, Why won't you get off the bus? This is your home. This is where you live.

June replied, I don't want to get off, because I am only safe when I am on the bus going to school, at school, and when I am on the bus going home. Bad things happen when I get off the bus.

You see, she went back into a situation where she was constantly battered by the "live-in boyfriend" is what I am going to call him. Because of the bus driver and doing what she did, they called the police and an investigation took place. That person was prosecuted; but, more importantly, June is safe and her mother is safe.

We need to understand that victims of domestic violence live, many times, quiet lives of desperation and fear. It is our responsibility as Congress to eliminate that the best we can, to provide services for victims, to let them understand that crime is not their fault, that it is the fault of the perpetrator. On the other end, we need to make sure those perpetrators get the justice that they deserve at the courthouse and they are held accountable for those actions that they commit against someone in their family.

Mr. Speaker, Grandma was right. You never hurt somebody you claim you love.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. I thank my colleague very much, and I thank you for your many words expressing what you actually witnessed. Yours was a testimony, not just a recitation, from something that was accorded you by some other person. You were there to see what happened, and you and I know that there is still great work to be done.

In our State of Texas, in 2012, domestic violence caused 11,994 adults to need shelter, Mr. Speaker. It caused 14,534 children to need shelter, Mr. Speaker. It caused 36,831 adults to need nonresidential services, counseling, legal assistance. It caused 15,694 children to need nonresidential services. Unfortunately, 26.2 percent of the adults were denied shelter because of a lack of space.

Mr. Speaker, there is still great work to be done, and I am honored to ask, at this time, another colleague to speak. However, would you kindly advise me as to the amount of time I have left.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. YOHO). The gentleman from Texas has 25 minutes remaining.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask so that Members may be

aware. We have a few Members left to speak, and we want to make sure that every Member has some time.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to ask the Honorable BARBARA LEE to move to the podium and consume an appropriate amount of time. She is my very dear friend from the great State of California, the 13th Congressional District, who sits on Appropriations and who has been a longtime champion of protecting women and protecting people and is truly a champion for the least, the last, and the lost.

I might also add, Mr. Speaker, that she was the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, and I was proud to serve under her leadership.

Ms. LEE of California. First, let me thank Congressman AL GREEN for that very humbling introduction, for your tremendous leadership, and for bringing us all together with, of course, Congressman POE, and for really pulling together this Special Order in recognition of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. It is so critical that we continue to raise the level of awareness in a bipartisan manner until we rid our country and the world of abuse and domestic violence.

As someone who unfortunately understands domestic violence on a very personal level, a deeply personal level, I know how traumatic the experience is, and, yes, I know what the support system and how important the support system is needed to emerge as a survivor. I also know that domestic violence is not only physical, but it is also emotional. It is brutal. It is dehumanizing to the battered and the batterer, and without strong and enforceable criminal laws and services, one's life can be shattered and destroyed. I know this from personal experience.

Also, as a psychiatric social worker by profession, battered women's syndrome will totally destroy a woman's life if we don't address the counseling and mental health services that will really help women rid themselves of the syndrome which comes as a result of a lifetime of abuse.

As a member of the California Legislature, I was very proud to write California's Violence Against Women Act and many domestic violence bills that were actually signed into law, Congressman GREEN, by a Republican Governor, Governor Pete Wilson, and I continue to make this a priority in my congressional work.

In my district, there are several agencies, such as A Safe Place, which is a victim-centered agency. Agencies such as this, they do wonderful work on a minimum budget on issues and services and housing related to and for victims of abuse; and we need to enhance and raise the level of funding because they do wonderful work, as I said, with minimal resources.

We know that staying in a shelter or working with an advocate significantly improves the victim's quality of life. It is my hope that we use Domestic Violence Awareness Month to recommit

ourselves to fighting the scourge of domestic violence against men and women.

We have made accomplishments over the decades on this issue, including the passage of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act and the Violence Against Women Act, which we fought hard to get reauthorized earlier this year under the bold and tremendous leadership of Congresswoman GWEN MOORE and Minority Leader NANCY PELOSI.

These pieces of legislation have led to an increase of nearly 51 percent in domestic violence reporting by women and a 37 percent increase in reporting for men. This is truly a significant impact. Yet, sadly, challenges remain.

Around the world, nearly one in three women have been beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused in her lifetime. Here in the United States, as many as one in four American women report being physically or sexually abused by a husband or a boyfriend at least once in their lives.

In my home State of California, the statistics are even more staggering. According to the Women's Health Survey, approximately 40 percent of California women experience physical, intimate partner violence in their lifetime. Of these women, three out of four of them had children under the age of 18 at home.

Children who see or experience domestic violence have a much greater chance to either become victims or perpetrators as adults. They are also more likely to attempt suicide, abuse drugs and alcohol, run away from home, engage in teenage prostitution, and commit other crimes.

Beyond the cost to children, domestic violence affects the economy with as many as half of domestic violence victims reporting the loss of a job due at least in part to domestic violence. In fact, domestic violence costs employers in the United States as much as \$13 billion each year, and it costs our health care system upwards of \$5.8 billion, including \$4 billion in direct health care expenses.

When we talk about the state of employment and the cost of health care, especially for women, the economic impacts of domestic violence and what we must do to eradicate it must be part of that conversation.

□ 1615

We must prioritize investments in programs that domestic violence survivors rely on when escaping their abuser, including domestic violence programs and other programs of the safety net.

When we fail to make the proper investments, women bear the consequences. Thousands of requests for domestic violence services go unmet. Thousands of calls to the National Domestic Violence Hotline go unanswered. In times of economic downturn, the rates of domestic violence tend to increase. That is why this reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act was so very important.

Not only were we able to increase outreach to victims on college campuses and expand protections for victims living on tribal lands, but for the first time, first time, we extended access to protections for immigrant and LGBT victims.

So as a member of the Appropriations Committee, I am going to continue to fight for robust funding at all levels, so that we can continue to provide victims with the services they need. With strong investments, we can address this crisis and end domestic violence, once and for all.

Although we have made great progress, we cannot claim victory. October is a critical time to raise awareness of what continues to be a pervasive issue in our country.

But we must remember that for women, children and men who are experiencing or who have experienced domestic violence, every day must be a day of awareness. So we must support all of the legislation and funding efforts that will indicate that finally, mind you, finally, we will not need Domestic Violence Awareness Month ever again because we have put an end to domestic violence.

Thank you again, Mr. GREEN.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. I thank you—and I also thank you for raising the issue of domestic violence against men. We talk quite often about it being against women, and there is good reason. The overwhelming empirical evidence connotes that women are the largest group of victims of domestic violence, so I thank you for broadening the issue for us. Thank you very much.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I am honored to tell you that we have a Congressman from the State of Florida—I was reared in Florida, went to Florida A&M University.

He serves the 18th District of Florida, serves on Financial Services, and he is committed to working across the aisle. He makes a concerted effort to achieve bipartisanship. He is a champion for fair play.

I also want you to know that he understands that, as we do this, as we try to end this scourge on society known as domestic violence, that it is more than simply an issue of violence; it also has economic components to it. He has tried to cause us to understand some of these components, but also, that it is a moral issue.

I would now ask my friend, who accorded me this tie that is purple—the color purple in the tie, as I understand it, represents courage, survival, honor and dedication, dedication to ending domestic violence. Of course, purple is being worn today to spread awareness of domestic violence.

I now yield as much time as he may consume to my friend, the Honorable PATRICK MURPHY.

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Thank you, Mr. GREEN, for organizing this special hour.

I also want to thank Mr. POE, Ms. EDWARDS and Mrs. ELLMERS for their leadership on this important issue.

I rise today to speak out against domestic violence and to demand that Congress act in a bipartisan manner to fight back against this plague on our country. The domestic violence statistic rates in our country are staggering. One out of every three women will be the victim of domestic violence in their lifetime. Four are murdered by their intimate partner every day in the United States.

Further, a woman is battered in the United States every 15 seconds. You do the math; that is 240 incidents every hour.

We, as a society, have a responsibility to work to protect the most vulnerable among us, and must do everything we can to address these unacceptable rates of domestic violence. That is why one of the first pieces of legislation I cosponsored as a Member of Congress was the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act.

Protecting people from violence by their partners should not be a partisan issue, and it was appalling in the last Congress that such vital legislation got caught up in this partisan gridlock.

With that in mind, I am thrilled to see Members from both sides of the aisle speaking today on this important issue. You will notice both Democrats and Republicans wearing purple pins or purple ties to highlight October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Domestic violence is not a partisan issue, and not just a woman's issue. It is a family issue, it is a community issue, it is an economic issue and a moral issue. That is why I specifically recruited male colleagues to participate in this Special Order hour, and you will see many of them here today wearing purple ties.

We, as men, can help draw awareness not only to how important it is to work toward ending domestic violence, but also to the fact that domestic violence is an issue that we have a responsibility to engage and not to dismiss as only a women's issue.

As role models and other males, we have a crucial part in this fight, and stopping domestic violence will only occur when the main perpetrators of these crimes, which are men, learn to stop hurting their partners. We, as men, not only can, but we must make addressing this issue a priority.

On International Women's Day, I hosted a roundtable discussion at a shelter in my district called SafeSpace, where I heard from both survivors and advocates about the challenges they face to keep women and children safe, and the importance of Federal funding to keep these programs operating. This roundtable highlighted the urgency of working together to address this pressing issue.

I am honored to have Jill Borowicz, the CEO of the shelter that hosted this important roundtable, here in attendance with us today and want to take this opportunity to thank her for her work on behalf of all the survivors of domestic abuse.

Unfortunately, what we are doing here today almost was not able to take place, due to the government shutdown. Jill knows all too well what the shutdown did back home and what the effects of it were on our district and across the country.

One of the less-talked about effects of the shutdown was its impact on shelters and services like SafeSpace that were forced to close their doors and suspend services for more than a week because VAWA funds were unaccessible.

Let me repeat: the government shutdown directly prevented women and children who were facing the threat of domestic violence from receiving services and shelter. This is unconscionable.

While the crisis may have been manufactured, the shutdown was very real, and the consequences were also real. It has shown that partisanship and dysfunction in Congress are a serious threat to the prevention of domestic violence. I hope we can all agree that this should no longer be tolerated.

I look forward to working together with my colleagues, both male and female, and Members from both parties to continue to fund important programs that help provide assistance and shelter to the victims of domestic violence, resources to law enforcement to help them adequately address these issues on the ground, and investments in programs that can help stop and break the vicious cycle of domestic violence in our communities.

Again, I want to thank Mr. GREEN for his leadership on this issue. It is important we bring this to the forefront. No matter where you are from or what party you are from, this is something that needs to be discussed.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. I thank my fellow Floridian. I, of course, am from Texas now, but my roots are in Florida, and I thank you so much.

Mr. Speaker, how much time do we have left?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 12 minutes remaining.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am honored at this time to recognize another Texan, a Texan from the 23rd District, who served 22 years, Mr. Speaker, in the State house, a Texan who serves on the Agriculture Committee, a Texan who is a strong supporter of domestic awareness, who voted for the reauthorization of the VAWA, and I might say, a Texan who started his career in Congress extending his hand across the aisle. He is one who not only preaches bipartisanship, he practices it.

I am honored to yield as much time as he may consume to my friend, the Honorable PETE GALLEGU.

Mr. GALLEGU. Thank you so much. I appreciate very much, Congressman GREEN, your leadership on this issue. It is incredibly important.

As I listened to Congressman MURPHY and others talk on this issue, and you realize that one out of every three

women will feel the impact of domestic violence in her lifetime, you have to realize that, even among the people in this room, we know people who have been impacted by domestic violence.

All of us have a mom. Many of us have sisters. Domestic violence can impact anyone. Even though it is not openly spoken about many times, even though it is not openly addressed in our society, and even though many feel that it is something that could never happen to them, the truth is, it could happen to anybody, and it could happen to people other than women. Fourteen percent of the victims of domestic violence are men.

In 2012, in Texas alone, 114 people were killed. In the district that I represent, from El Paso to San Antonio, there were eight cases of domestic violence.

Everyone here, many of you have met my son, who has become the center of my universe. I will tell you that children are incredibly important. They are certainly important to me and to the Members of this Chamber, the Members of this body.

The truth is that kids are also impacted by violence because, many times, the child is also assaulted. In fact, according to a Task Force report, in several instances, the young children at the scene of the crime were also attacked, and, in fact, they were stabbed or strangled or shot or kidnapped, or some violence was committed on the children.

These numbers are heartbreaking. There are far too many people impacted. The sad part is that most of the time there are many signs of trouble. You can see it. There is a time in the life of every problem where it is big enough to see but still small enough to solve.

Researchers and service providers have already identified some common characteristics that help predict the risk factor as a precursor to intimate partner murders. Stalking, for example.

Stalking ranks as a top indicator of risk. Nationally, 76 percent of those cases involve at least one episode of stalking within a year prior to the murder. One in six women report having experienced stalking which made them feel very fearful or believe that they or someone close to them would be harmed or killed.

Intimate partner violence manifests itself from dehumanizing attitudes and beliefs, and it results in cruelty, brutality, degradation of the victims' physical, mental and spiritual well-being.

Ninety-nine percent of all woman who have died as a result of domestic violence never stayed in a shelter. Ninety-five percent had no contact with a certified domestic violence center within 5 years of their death.

There is help out there. We just need to get people to the help, and the only way that we can do that is if more people are aware of the resources that are

available to victims of domestic violence.

As I said, all of us, statistically, we are going to know someone who has been impacted by domestic violence, and it is very important that we all work together to make sure that they all have the help that they need.

On any given day in the U.S., over 60,000 women and kids—60,000, think about that—60,000 women and kids are residing in domestic violence shelters. The shelters provide a critical, critical, critical service. It is up to us, our States, our communities and our fellow citizens to make a difference, to make sure that we step up to the plate and keep these resources available, keep the help where we need the help, so that we can stop those hearts from breaking, we can mend those lives, and we can help those kids.

I had the great privilege, as Mr. GREEN alluded to, of serving in the Texas Legislature for a long time, including service as chairman of the committee of jurisdiction, the Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence, and I carried a lot of legislation for victims of domestic violence.

I am very proud of those activities. I am very proud of that opportunity to be of service, and I hope that all 435 Members of this body and the 100 Members on the other side of this building will, all together, in a very bipartisan fashion, stand up and say, Let's put an end to domestic violence.

Thank you so much for your time.

□ 1630

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. I thank my colleague from the State of Texas.

I would also mention to my colleague that, unfortunately, one study concluded that 10,401 domestic violence victims reached out for help but were turned away because of a lack of resources. There is still great work to be done, and I thank you for continuing to do this great work. God bless you.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, we have another Texan, from the 18th Congressional District in Houston, Texas, who serves on Homeland Security as well as Judiciary. We are going to ask that our friend, the Honorable SHEILA JACKSON LEE, move to the podium.

And how much time remains, Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 6 minutes remaining.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. I ask that Members govern themselves accordingly, with 6 minutes left.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Let me thank the gentleman from Texas for his service and for his commitment to an issue that is so vital and important to the Nation, and that is, the protection of all Americans from domestic violence. There is a long history of the journey of this Congress to responding to the cry of women and men, both in the civilian life and in the United States military.

I rise today to acknowledge and commemorate Domestic Violence Preven-

tion Month. I remember the journey that we took in getting to the Violence Against Women Act with our former colleague, the late chair of the Judiciary Committee, Chairman Hyde. I remember in the early stages of the 1990s the attempt to reauthorize this legislation.

The good news was that Chairman Hyde, a Republican, Ranking Member CONYERS, and Senators on both sides of the aisle joined together in one big room to come together and acknowledge the importance of protecting women; and then, of course, to acknowledge that violence, domestic violence, is a disease, an epidemic that spreads beyond the question of whether you are male or female.

The loss of life that has come about because people have not found a refuge is staggering. And for those of us who have heard firsthand stories—as a member of the Houston area Women's Center, the board that, if you will, had supervision over local Women's Centers, where women could go. I have known and have seen stories that would argue so vigorously for more funding and more recognition and more laws that would protect these women.

So I am glad that even though the journey was even longer to get the Violence Against Women Act passed in the last Congress that we ultimately, after the many petitions that we were involved in, saw a bipartisan vote in the House and the Senate—much longer in the House—that allowed it to go to the President's desk.

So my remarks, as I summarize, are to say that this is an ongoing cause. Domestic violence comes from tension and pressure, but it results in violence that culminates with the loss of life. Time after time, women and children suffer a loss of life through violence by a spouse or a loved one; and, of course, we know that it occurs with men. Time after time, women in the United States military suffer from the act of violence, domestic violence, or violence against women.

So I want to thank the gentleman for giving me the opportunity to at least acknowledge that this is a somber occasion, and there is great need for continued support.

My last sentence, Mr. GREEN: you mentioned resources. I hope as we leave this floor that we will all reinforce the elimination of the sequester and a budget process that will allow the funding of vital programs like the Violence Against Women Act.

I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. I thank the gentlewoman.

And because time is of the essence, I will move quickly to the gentleman from the 41st District of California, the Honorable MARK TAKANO.

Mr. TAKANO. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I stand today with my colleagues in recognizing Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

The unfortunate reality is that domestic violence is something that affects every community in America, as

it touches every race, class, gender, and sexual orientation. Millions of domestic violence incidents are reported each year, and many more go unreported. Too often, domestic violence remains within the confines of the household, as many victims do not contact law enforcement or go public, often out of fear.

When it was first observed 26 years ago, Domestic Violence Awareness Month sought to shine a light on this tragic reality by educating the public, empowering the victims, and punishing the offenders. And in the 26 years since, we have made great progress, partly due to the Violence Against Women Act, which provides critical support to programs for victims and their families, as well as resources for law enforcement and community organizations.

With a 51 percent increase in reporting by women and a 37 percent increase in reporting by men, the results have been nothing short of incredible. Domestic violence is wrong, and no victim should be hesitant to report it. I encourage every American who feels threatened or who knows someone in a dangerous situation to contact law enforcement or a community organization. Together, we can strive to end domestic violence abuse in our communities.

I yield back to the gentleman.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I do thank you for your indulgence. You have been liberal with the time.

And I want to remind persons that while we do this on an annual basis in the month of October, we do want to make domestic violence awareness an everyday activity.

I yield back the balance of my time.

HEALTH CARE AND VOTER REGISTRATION ENROLLMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, this has been an interesting week for a number of reasons. I would like to call to attention a letter that was written by Chairman DARRELL ISSA, my friend from California, to Secretary Kathleen Sebelius at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services this week.

The first paragraph, after saying, "Dear Madam Secretary" says:

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is investigating the insurance exchange application, online at www.healthcare.gov, established by the Department of Health and Human Services. As part of this investigation, we are writing to request information related to voter registration data collected during the application process.

On further down, the letter says:

While HHS and its contractors continue to struggle with the task of processing applications for health insurance coverage, the agency uses the Web site to collect voter registration information. Once an applicant

completes the online application for health care coverage, a dialogue box appears asking, "Would you like to register to vote?" In light of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, also known as the Motor Voter Act, which requires any agency that provides public assistance to provide individuals with an opportunity to register to vote, the Department decided to include the voter registration option on the health care application. The inclusion of this voter registration may give applicants the impression that registering to vote is somehow tied to receiving health care benefits, such as insurance subsidies.

Given the well-documented flaws with the health care application process, the public lacks confidence that HHS has the ability to safeguard applicants' voter information. Documents reviewed by the committee show that applicants may submit personal information over the Internet during the application process without encryption, potentially exposing personally identifiable information to interception and abuse.

Further down it says:

Further, it is unclear how HHS uses the voting information it collects once a user submits this data on the Web site. Applicants rightly expect that only State election officials will have access to their information. Voter registration contains important personal details that are valuable to various individuals and organizations.

Toward the end, Chairman ISSA says:

These facts raise questions as to what happens when the same individual expresses the desire to register to vote multiple times. HHS does not appear to have the capacity to differentiate between duplicates and first-time applicants.

In short, it is unclear what happens to voter registration information once HHS receives it. Applicants have an expectation that the Federal Government is not transmitting private information to third parties, knowingly or unknowingly.

But interesting questions were raised by my friend Chairman ISSA. It should also be noted that the chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security, my friend from Utah, JASON CHAFFETZ, also signed that letter. So that has certainly caused some digging in my office to find out what this was about.

And then we find information about www.demos.org. They have a report by Lisa J. Danetz called "Building a Healthy Democracy: Registering 68 Million People To Vote Through Health Benefit Exchanges."

Well, that is interesting. It makes you wonder what they are up to. They are involved in this www.healthcare.gov, apparently. And their own information from demos.org says they are going to use the health benefit exchanges, apparently, to try to register 68 million people to vote.

So while people in America—and I have talked to many who are just scared because they have got someone sick in their family. They have lost their insurance that the President promised they could keep. They are scared about the superhigh deductibles they have gotten. They are scared that under ObamaCare they have been sentenced to go from full-time work to part-time work, which means, as I have heard from some, that, gee, that means we have now had to go on public assist-

ance because I never wanted welfare, didn't need welfare until the so-called Affordable Care Act forced us into it.

So people are concerned all over America. The majority want ObamaCare gone. The Web site is not working.

And then we find out that, actually, the Web site seems to be as concerned about getting people registered to vote and getting their invaluable voter information as they are about dealing with the crisis in American lives involving their health care and their health insurance.

You have got people with ulterior motives. They are apparently not just signing people up from the goodness of their hearts because Demos makes clear in their own information, We are going to use the health benefit exchanges to register voters.

Well, now, who would they be registering to vote? Because we are all in favor of people eligible to vote voting. Although we know that the Attorney General has sued States like Texas, even though the Supreme Court has made clear that Indiana's law requiring a photo ID, the Attorney General's rules that require a photo ID to get in to see him, the Democratic National Committee requiring photo IDs to get into their convention, having to have a photo ID to get alcohol or cigarettes or basically to get on a plane or get on most any conveyance in interstate commerce, you have got to have a photo ID. And States like Texas have said, If you can't afford it, then just fill out the oath, and we will take care of it for you.

□ 1645

So, on the one hand, we have an Attorney General and Department of Justice doing everything they possibly can, even in the face of a Supreme Court decision saying photo ID requirements are okay. They still are going after States, which I would humbly submit, Mr. Speaker, disenfranchises legitimate voters when the Attorney General of the United States takes action to prevent States from preventing fraudulent votes.

I was shocked when people called out for international observers to come watch our own election process. This is America. We don't need international observers to watch our process, so I thought. And yet international observers watched our process of voting and were absolutely shocked that we were so cavalier about who got to vote.

No identification requirements. Clearly, people were in a position to vote more than once if they wanted to. People were in a position to vote who were not U.S. citizens, and people could vote multiple times.

I know in Iraq, I was over there right after their first election, and those people had to dip their fingers in permanent ink that they wore around for weeks until it finally wore off. But it made sure that, even in Iraq, they were protecting the integrity of their voting

system further than what we are doing here.

Well, this demos.org, they are going to register, they say, 68 million to vote through health benefit exchanges. So the thing to do, it seemed to me, was to get their annual report.

So, Mr. Speaker, that is what I got—Demos' annual 2012 report—to see who these people are that are going to register voters. I am sure they would be fair and register voters from all walks of life.

And then here we see the president is Miles Rapoport. Being the president, he has got a nice Letter from the President, the board chair.

So then you look up a little background. Well, who is this Miles Rapoport? An article from keywiki said Miles S. Rapoport is the leftist president and CEO of New York-based think tank Demos.

It goes on to say:

While studying at Harvard in the late 1960s, Miles Rapoport was active in the radical Students for Democratic Society, SDS.

Mr. Speaker, it seems like I have in the back of my mind SDS evolved into something called—some of them did—the Weather Underground that Bill Ayers would know a great deal about, being that he held the first fundraiser for the man who is now our President.

But the article goes on to say:

Harvard SDS campaigned against U.S. military involvement in Vietnam—

Obviously, a lot of people did.

—and the presence of Reserve Officers' Training Corps, or ROTC, on campus. In an April 7, 1969, letter to the Harvard Crimson opposing Harvard President Pusey's support for the ROTC, Miles Rapoport and fellow SDSers Naomi Schapiro, Carlin Meyer, Rick Brown wrote, "to conclude, President Pusey, they support the U.S. military and the policies it carries out. We feel that ROTC must go because we oppose the policies of the United States and we oppose the military that perpetuates them. The lines are clearly drawn. The time to take sides is now.

Well, that was Miles Rapoport, the president of Demos, that is going to register 68 million people through health benefit exchanges that most of us thought were actually just going to be trying to help people get health insurance. They are going to gather their most personal information and allegedly get them registered to vote. And you can't help but wonder what people like former SDS leader Miles Rapoport want to do with people's personal identification information.

So looking on further back in the Demos Annual 2012 Report, see what kind of fundraisers they have had. Well, they had a "2012 Transforming America Awards and Gala Celebration." So we look down and who were the honorary chairs?

There is Bertha Lewis. Some may remember she was head of something called ACORN. So the former head of ACORN is honorary chairman, helping Demos that is going to register 68 million people through the health benefits exchanges.

There is Richard Trumka, the president of the AFL-CIO. Oh, and here are

our friends at Service Employees International Union, SEIU, and, of course, the international union UAW.

So that gives us a little feel about what Demos is doing, but it caused a little further examination as to who is it that is gathering this very personal information that Demos wants to use to get 68 million people registered to vote through the health benefit exchanges.

There are a lot of issues and questions that need to be answered—not only about how are they using the personal information of people that just wanted to protect their families or themselves with insurance.

So who is it that is actually gathering this information to help Demos in their efforts?

There is an article here from PJ Media by David Steinberg, "Draining the Swamp: Top 40 Troubling Listings from the ObamaCare Navigator/Assister Security Nightmare: The article said:

Last week, we reported that the "honor system" is being used to confirm the identity and certification of navigators/assisters. The "find local help" feature on healthcare.gov refers consumers to potential predators.

We have since reviewed, State by State, every single navigator/assister that healthcare.gov currently displays to the public via "find local help."

This search revealed two additional dangers of the navigator/assister system.

It is not just a defunct or a problematic Web site. There is a problem with who is doing this, who is gathering information, who is this nightmare and train wreck of a Web site sending people to.

This says:

Number 1. The consumer is vulnerable, but so is the taxpayer. The program is rife with organizations that have advocated for "open borders," have helped illegal immigrants dodge apprehension, and have attempted to give illegal immigrants access to additional taxpayer-funded resources.

Such organizations are obvious risks to fraudulently register illegal immigrants for subsidized health insurance and, as such, have no business being included in the government-funded navigator/assister program.

Number 2. Regulations require navigator/assisters to be "unbiased." However, many organizations that were founded partly or entirely to advocate for politically left-leaning policies—including causes such as "universal health care," "single-payer," and ObamaCare itself—are nonetheless part of the program.

Many of these groups already receive government funding, which further raises the obvious conflict of interest issues. As many will be paid according to the number of consumers successfully registered for an ObamaCare plan, such groups have several incentives to steer consumers away from free-market plans that may be superior options.

Outside of the below list, only a handful of suspicious "open borders" or politically biased organizations have yet been exposed nationally. Below, a list of 40 to spur the much-needed discussion.

This list is divided into three categories. Some listings may fit more than one category, but all are listed only according to the primary concern regarding each.

Number 1. Open Borders Groups. These groups exist in part or in whole to secure greater Federal benefits for illegal immigrants. As such, all are obvious risks to fraudulently register illegals for subsidized insurance.

Number 2. Politically Biased Organizations. ObamaCare regulations require all registered help to be "unbiased." Yet these groups include leftist political advocacy as a primary part of their mission, presenting conflict of interest problems. Additionally, they have financial incentives to steer consumers away from free-market plans.

Number 3. Suspicion Regarding Legitimacy. Of great concern, considering healthcare.gov does not guarantee the legitimacy of any listings. While some of these listings may be legitimate, healthcare.gov saw fit to expose these suspicious listings to consumers with no further information to assist with their choice.

A final note: These listings are certainly incomplete. Community health centers have generally been excluded from it, though the sector has generally been supportive of the push for ObamaCare. If included, this list would be several times longer.

Also, a part 2 of this article is forthcoming.

Open Borders Group.

Number 1. Campesinos Sin Fronteras: "Farmworkers Without Borders." This open-borders organization has participated in countless rallies and activity advocating for the decriminalization of illegal immigration. For just one example, read of Director Emma Torres' organization of a March in 2006:

The 5-mile walk was marked by chanting, the waving of American and Mexican flags, and showing placards of opposing Senator Sensenbrenner's proposal to criminalize undocumented immigrants and those who help them.

Emma Torres, adviser at the Institute of Mexicans Living Abroad and director of Farm Workers Without Borders, stated that a committee had recently been formed to plan the May 1 event. Around 30 people formed a committee in order to invoke a boycott of commercial goods and services and a walkout of jobs and schools.

The purpose of the committee, said Torres, is for the United States to feel the weight of the contribution of immigrants because "a lot of people deny the contribution that we make as legal or illegal immigrants and they don't want to see that we have so much power in the economy."

Number 2. Hispanic Women's Organization of Arkansas. This group's Web site boasts of being an affiliate of leading radical open-borders organization La Raza.

The success of HWOA and events also lies in its affiliations with local, State, and national organizations. In 2001, HWOA was selected to participate in the Emerging Latino Communities Initiative of the National Council of La Raza. Since October 1, 2004, HWOA has been an affiliate of NCLR, whose mission is to reduce poverty and discrimination, and improve life opportunities for Hispanic Americans.

It sounds nice, but they certainly are not unbiased.

Again, Mr. Speaker, these are organizations that are listed at healthcare.gov, apparently, to be navigators or assisters to help people with their health care choices. But, obviously, these organizations seem to have other motivations.

□ 1700

Number 3 is the Center for Pan Asian Community Services: This organization has expressed its support of just about every attempt to legalize the U.S. illegal population

and has additionally expressed displeasure with the Voter ID law. They rallied against the Supreme Court decision in *Shelby v. Holder*, inviting members to participate in a “voter suppression update teleconference.” They approved of the Associated Press’ decision to remove “illegal immigrant” from their style guide. They frequently and enthusiastically expressed their support for the passage of ObamaCare.

In 2007, when the idea of a \$10,000 fine instead of deportation for illegal immigrants was floated in Washington, D.C., CPACS Executive Director Chaiwon Kim gave the following statement:

People who are in the country illegally tend to be among the poorest clients at the Center for Pan Asian Community Services, said Chaiwon Kim, executive director of the Doraville nonprofit. So she doubts many could pay a fine beyond a couple thousand dollars.

“Most of the undocumented, they are really underpaid,” she said. “In a way, they’ve already paid society.”

Number 4, another group, is the Puerto Rican Cultural Center: The first thing that appears on the Web site (as of last week) is a statement from the organization Centro Sin Fronteras.

Centro Sin Fronteras is involved in the struggle to stop deportations and having a moratorium. We march and fight for the rights of immigrants. We march to stop the deportations and separations of our families. We are asking Obama to stop the deportations now, but instead, while the Senate is debating to pass an immigration reform, they are deporting and separating even more families than before.

In 2010, PRCC Executive Director Jose E. Lopez “was awarded the prestigious 2010 Health Award from the Health and Medicine Policy Research Group. The Health and Medicine Policy Research Group is an independent policy center promoting social justice and health care equality for the past 29 years”—and I just feel like there ought to be a drum roll—“in Chicago.”

Now, it is important to understand that we welcome immigration, and we need immigration in this country—it is freshwater flowing into this country—but it has got to be pursuant to the rule of law, and it has got to be legal. Even 60-plus percent of Hispanic adults agree that we need to secure the border before we do anything else in the way of reform.

It is also worth noting that, if a group like this had its way, we would never be able to deport terrorists. We had some who overstayed their visas and should have been deported. This group would be against that, which means they would be allowed to stay in the country and carry out the 9/11 attacks, which they did. Some of us have been pushing that the law be followed and that, if people overstay their visas, then legal action will be taken, and people will be deported, and it would be properly followed up.

This administration has not and even the prior administration had not been doing that or the Clinton administration, but it is something that needs to be done if we are going to be a Nation of laws. Yet these are the very people who are out there assisting people with their healthcare.org filings and getting their personal voter information.

Gee, after the IRS was weaponized and began targeting, wouldn’t it be

nice if conservative groups were allowed to register people for healthcare.org and to gather all of this personal information. I am being facetious, Mr. Speaker, because, under the law, to be a navigator or assister, you are supposed to be unbiased, and there is nothing but bias that we are seeing so far.

Number 5, Hispanic Liaison of Chatham County: This group operates a Victim’s Assistance program—that is great—which helps crime victims concerned about pursuing justice due to their illegal status.

Oh, we are back to that.

Our bilingual Victim’s Assistance program began in 1997 with funding from the North Carolina Governor’s Crime Commission. This program has been successful due to the trust we have developed with the Latino population and our collaborative relationship with community agencies. Several factors limit Latinos’ access to law enforcement and emergency services, including fear of the unknown, fear of documentation checks, and a lack of awareness that victims do not have to pay for an attorney.

Number 6, World Relief Chicago: This organization’s position on illegal immigration appears clear: they are currently assisting “children of illegal immigrants in delaying their deportation through the DACA program.” Their Twitter account links to an article, titled, “Undocumented Migrants in U.S. Gaining Improved Access to Higher Education.”

Number 7, Alliance of Filipinos for Immigrant Rights and Empowerment: From their site’s Civic Reflection page:

A recently formed Chicago advocacy group for immigrant rights, the Alliance of Filipinos for Immigrant Rights and Empowerment, supports comprehensive immigration reform and more just treatment of undocumented immigrants. Since late last year, AFIRE has been using conversation about readings by Pablo Neruda, Franz Kafka, Toni Cade Bambara, and others to develop its organizational structure and mission.

So it is interesting. We have got so many groups, and they are trying to help people who are illegally in the country. They are helping people illegally in the country, and Demos is a part of this, and their stated goal is to get 68 million new voters registered. This goes on and on, Mr. Speaker.

We have got 40 organizations like Planned Parenthood. They are in here and are registering voters as, apparently, part of the navigators or assisters. I guess they were helping with Demos. We need to know about these things.

A lot of these are politically active: the Arab American Action Network, the Arab American Family Services, the Campaign for Better Health Care, the CFL Workers Assistance Committee, Southern United Neighborhoods. It just goes on and on: In-Affordable Housing, Inc., Chatman, Inc., Chatman, LLC, the Family Health Care Foundation, Canaide, Inc., 2Hurt2Cry, Cutting Edge Health Options, Homebound Services, New Beginnings Medical Services, Village Communicator, Metro-east Area Communities for Empowerment.

We have got a bunch of folks who are supposed to be assisting in navigating for people who aren’t able to get

through the healthcare.org. They have political motivation. Their goal is to register 68 million new voters. No wonder this Web site is failing. If that is the case that it was being used for political purposes, what a disaster. People are scared about their health care, and these people just want to further their own political interests.

Mr. Speaker, it is time we worried about Americans and were against fraudulent voting and got America back on track to survive for years to come and flourish.

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

COMMUNICATION FROM DISTRICT DIRECTOR, THE HONORABLE CANDICE S. MILLER, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Karen Czernel, District Director, the Honorable CANDICE S. MILLER, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a subpoena, issued by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan for testimony in a criminal case.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

KAREN CZERNEL,
District Director.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SUDAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 113-70)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within the 90-day period prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the Sudan emergency is to continue in effect beyond November 3, 2013.

The crisis constituted by the actions and policies of the Government of

Sudan that led to the declaration of a national emergency in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997, and the expansion of that emergency in Executive Order 13400 of April 26, 2006, and with respect to which additional steps were taken in Executive Order 13412 of October 13, 2006, has not been resolved. These actions and policies are hostile to U.S. interests and continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to Sudan and maintain in force the sanctions against Sudan to respond to this threat.

BARACK OBAMA,

THE WHITE HOUSE, *October 30, 2013.*

ADJOURNMENT TO FRIDAY,
NOVEMBER 1, 2013

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today on a motion offered pursuant to this order, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Friday, November 1, 2013, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its concurrence in House Concurrent Resolution 62, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House of today, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Friday, November 1, 2013, at 10 a.m., unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its adoption of House Concurrent Resolution 62, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3438. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Gypsy Moth Generally Infested Areas; Additions in Wisconsin [Docket No.: APHIS-2012-0075] received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3439. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Cold Treatment for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables; MidAmerica St. Louis Airport, Mascoutah, IL [Docket No.: APHIS-2012-0089] received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3440. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Avocados Grown in South Florida; Change in Minimum Grade Requirements [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-12-0067; FV13-915-1 FR] received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3441. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Irish Potatoes Grown in Washington; Temporary Change to the Handling Regulations and Reporting Requirements for Yellow Fleshed and White Types of Potatoes [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-13-0067; FV13-946-2 IR] received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3442. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Apricots Grown in Designated Counties in Washington; Increased Assessment Rate [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-13-0041; FV13-922-2 FR] received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3443. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Kiwifruit Grown in California; Decreased Assessment Rate [Docket No.: AMS-FV-13-0071; FV13-920-2 IR] received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3444. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Apricots Grown in Designated Counties in Washington; Suspension of Handling Regulations [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-13-0040; FV13-922-1 IR] received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3445. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Sweet Cherries Grown in Designated Counties in Washington; Decreased Assessment Rate [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-13-0055; FV13-932-1 IR] received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3446. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin; Revising Handler Reporting and Grower Diversion Requirements [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-13-0030; FV13-930-2 IR] received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3447. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Organic Program (NOP); Sunset Review (2013) [Document Number: AMS-NOP-11-0003; NOP-10-13FR] (RIN: 0581-AD13) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3448. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — United States Standards for Condition of Food Containers [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-08-0027; FV-05-332] (RIN: 0581-AC52) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3449. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Paper and Paper-Based Packaging Promotion, Research and Information Order; Referendum Procedures [Document Number: AMS-FV-11-0069; FR-B] received October 23, 2013, pursuant to

5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3450. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Oranges, Grapefruit, Tangerines, and Tangelos Grown in Florida; Relaxing Size and Grade Requirements on Valencia and Other Late Type Oranges [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-13-0009; FV13-905-2 FIR] received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3451. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Potato Research and Promotion Plan; Amend the Administrative Committee Structure and Delete the Board's Mailing Address [Document Number: AMS-FV-13-0027] received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3452. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Domestic Dates Produced or Packed in Riverside County, California; Decreased Assessment Rate [Docket No.: AMS-FV-13-0053; FV13-987-1 IR] received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3453. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Vidalia Onions Grown in Georgia; Change in Reporting and Assessment [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-12-0071; FV13-955-1 FIR] received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3454. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Blueberry Promotion, Research and Information Order; Assessment Rate Increase [Document Number: AMS-FV-12-0062] received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3455. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Cranberries Grown in States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, and Long Island in the State of New York; Revising Determination of Sales History [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-12-0042; FV12-929-2 FR] received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3456. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Citrus Canker, Citrus Greening, and Asian Citrus Psyllid; Interstate Movement of Regulated Nursery Stock [Docket Number: APHIS-2010-0048] (RIN: 0579-AD29) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3457. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Manufactured Housing; Revision of Notification, Correction, and Procedural Regulations [Docket No.: FR-5238-F-02] (RIN: 2502-AI84) received October 15, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

3458. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Supplemental Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Department of Housing and Urban Development; Correction to Standards Governing Prohibited Financial Interests [Docket No.: FR-5722-F-01] (RIN:

2501-AD61) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

3459. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Records of Failed Insured Depository Institutions (RIN: 3064-AD99) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

3460. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Suspended Counterparty Program (RIN: 2590-AA60) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

3461. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Safety Standard for Cigarette Lighters; Adjusted Customs Value for Cigarette Lighters received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3462. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulations and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Certain Consumer Products and Commercial and Industrial Equipment [Docket No.: EERE-2013-BT-NOA-0047] (RIN: 1904-AD08) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3463. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products and Certain Commercial and Industrial Equipment: Test Procedures for Showerheads, Faucets, Water Closets, Urinals, and Commercial Prerise Spray Valves [Docket No.: EERE-2011-BT-TP-0061] (RIN: 1904-AC65) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3464. A letter from the Acting General Counsel, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Generator Requirements at the Transmission Interface [Docket No.: RM12-16-000; Order No. 785] received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3465. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Ejection Mitigation [Docket No.: NHTSA-2013-0097] (RIN: 2127-AL40) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3466. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Regulation of Fuels and Fuel Additives: Modifications to Renewable Fuel Standard Program [EPA-HQ-OAR-2012-0233; FRL-9900-89-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AR87) received September 30, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3467. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia; Removal of Obsolete Regulations and Updates to Citations to State Regulations Due to Recodification; Correction [EPA-R03-OAR-2012-0955; FRL-9901-40-Region 3] received September 30, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C.

801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3468. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; District of Columbia; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2008 Lead National Ambient Air Quality Standards and State Board Requirements [EPA-R03-OAR-2013-0499; FRL-9901-35-Region 3] received September 30, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3469. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Indiana; [EPA-R05-OAR-2011-0828; FRL-9901-53-Region 5] received September 30, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3470. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Ohio; Dayton-Springfield, Steubenville-Weirton, Toledo, and Parkersburg-Marietta; 1997 8-Hour Ozone Maintenance Plan Revision to Approved Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets [EPA-R05-OAR-2013-0136, EPA-R05-OAR-2013-0215, EPA-R05-OAR-2013-0344, EPA-R05-OAR-2013-0378; FRL-9901-61-Region 5] received September 30, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3471. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Ohio; Redesignation of the Canton-Massillon Area to Attainment of the 1997 Annual Standard and the 2006 24-Hour Standard for Fine Particulate Matter [EPA-R05-OAR-2012-0564; FRL-9901-63-Region 5] received September 30, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3472. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plan; Illinois; Redesignation of the Chicago Area to Attainment of the 1997 Annual Fine Particulate Matter Standard [EPA-R05-OAR-2010-0899; FRL-9901-44-Region 5] received September 30, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3473. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Glyphosate; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0307; FRL-9396-6] received September 30, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3474. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Methoxyfenozide; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0912; FRL-9399-6] received September 30, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3475. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Sedaxane; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0885; FRL-9397-8] received September 30, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3476. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agen-

cy's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Delaware; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2010 Nitrogen Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standards [EPA-R03-OAR-2013-0392; FRL-9901-83-Region 3] received October 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3477. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Determinations of Attainment of the 1997 Annual Fine Particulate Standards for the Liberty-Clairton Nonattainment Area [EPA-R03-OAR-2012-0769; FRL-9901-81-Region 3] received October 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3478. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Rhode Island; Prevention of Significant Deterioration; Greenhouse Gas Permitting Authority and Tailoring Rule [EPA-R01-OAR-2011-0148; A-1-FRL-9901-71-Region 1] received October 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3479. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; Revised Ambient Air Quality Standards for Fine Particulate Matter [EPA-R03-OAR-2013-0594; FRL-9901-80-Region 3] received October 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3480. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants, State of Iowa; Control of Emissions From Existing Hospital/Medical/Infectious Waste Incinerator Units, Negative Declaration and 111(d) Plan Rescission; Approval and Promulgation of Operating Permits Program, State of Iowa [EPA-R07-OAR-2012-0410; FRL-9901-65-Region 7] received October 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3481. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; California; South Coast; Contingency Measures for 1997 PM_{2.5} Standards [EPA-R09-OAR-2013-0384; FRL-9901-77-Region 9] received October 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3482. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Idaho; State Board Requirements [EPA-R10-OAR-2013-0548; FRL-9901-76-Region 10] received October 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3483. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Perfluoroalkyl Sulfonates and Long-Chain Perfluoroalkyl Carboxylate Chemical Substances; Final Significant New Use Rule [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2010-026 8; FRL-9397-1] received October 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3484. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental

Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Promulgation of State Implementation Plan Revisions; Revision to Prevention of Significant Deterioration Program; Infrastructure Requirements for the 1997 and 2006 PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Utah [EPA-R08-OAR-2011-0727; FRL-9901-92-Region 8] received October 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3485. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — An Inquiry Into the Commission's Policies and Rules Regarding AM Radio Service Directional Antenna Performance Verification [MM Docket No.: 93-177] received October 21, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3486. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.622(i), Post-Transition Table of DTV Allotments, Television Broadcast Stations (Cedar Rapids, Iowa) [MB Docket No.: 13-182] [RM-11701] received October 21, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3487. A letter from the Chief, Satellite Division, International Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Comprehensive Review of Licensing and Operating Rules for Satellite Services [IB Docket No.: 12-267] received October 21, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3488. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Decommissioning of Nuclear Power Reactors; Regulatory Guide 1.184, Revision 1 received October 15, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3489. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question covering the period April 1, 2013 through May 31, 2013; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3490. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report pursuant to the heading "Loan Guarantees to Israel" in Chapter 5 of Title I of the Emergency Wartime Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2003 (Pub. L. 108-11); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3491. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report entitled "Report of U.S. Citizen Expropriation Claims and Certain Other Commercial and Investment Disputes"; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3492. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report entitled "Report to Congress on Iran-Related Multilateral Sanctions Regime Efforts" covering the period from February 17, 2013 to August 17, 2013; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3493. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting consistent with the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-243), the Authorization for the Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 1991 (Pub. L. 102-1), and in order to keep the Congress fully informed, a report prepared by the Department of State for the June 20, 2013 — August 18, 2013 reporting period including matters relating to post-liberation Iraq, pur-

suant to Public Law 107-243, section 4(a) (116 Stat. 1501); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3494. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting pursuant to section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, certification regarding the proposed transfer of major defense equipment (Transmittal No. RSAT-13-3643); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3495. A letter from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Pilot Program for Enhancement of Contractor Employee Whistleblower Protections [FAC 2005-70; FAR Case 2013-015; Item I; Docket 2013-0015, Sequence 1] (RIN: 9000-AM56) received September 30, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3496. A letter from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-70; Introduction [Docket: FAR 2013-0076, Sequence6] received September 30, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3497. A letter from the Chairman and President, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, transmitting the Center's audited financial statements for the years ending September 30, 2012 and October 2, 2011, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 761(c); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3498. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's report entitled, "Federal Student Loan Repayment Program CY 2012", pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5379(a)(1)(B) Public Law 106-398, section 1122; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3499. A letter from the Auditor, Office of the District of Columbia, transmitting a report entitled, "Audit of the Public Service Commission Agency Fund for Fiscal Year 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3500. A letter from the Auditor, Office of the District of Columbia, transmitting a report entitled, "Audit of Non-District Resident Students Enrolled in Public Schools"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3501. A letter from the Auditor, Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting a report entitled, "Audit of the Public Service Commission Agency Fund for Fiscal Year 2010"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3502. A letter from the Auditor, Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting a report entitled, "Audit of the Public Service Commission Agency Fund for Fiscal Year 2012"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3503. A letter from the Auditor, Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting a report entitled, "Audit of the Public Service Commission Agency Fund for Fiscal Year 2009"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3504. A letter from the Auditor, Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting a report entitled, "Audit of the Department of Employment Services Adult Career and Technical Education Programs"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3505. A letter from the Auditor, Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting a report entitled, "Audit of the Department of Employment Services Workforce De-

velopment Monitoring and Quality Assurance Procedures"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3506. A letter from the Auditor, Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting a report entitled, "Audit of the DC Department of Parks and Recreation Facility Use and Permit Process"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3507. A letter from the President and Chief Executive Officer, Overseas Private Investment Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's annual financial statement audit for FY 2012; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3508. A letter from the Division Chief, Regulatory Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Minerals Management: Adjustment of Cost Recovery Fees [L13100000 PP0000 LLW0310000; L1990000 PO0000 LLW0320000] (RIN: 1004-AE32) received September 30, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3509. A letter from the Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Migratory Bird Hunting; Early Seasons; and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds in the Contiguous United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-MB-2013-0057] (RIN: 1018-AY87) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3510. A letter from the Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2013-14 Early Season [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-MB-2013-0057] (RIN: 1018-AY87) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3511. A letter from the Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Migratory Bird Hunting; Final Frameworks for Early-Season Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-MB-2013-0057] (RIN: 1018-AY87) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3512. A letter from the Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2013-2014 Late Season [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-MB-2013-0057] (RIN: 1018-AY87) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3513. A letter from the Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Migratory Bird Hunting; Late Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-MB-2013-0057] (RIN: 1018-AY87) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3514. A letter from the Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Migratory Bird Hunting; Final Framework for Late-Season Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-MB-2013-0057] (RIN: 1018-AY87) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3515. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Listing Endangered Species, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Determination of Endangered Species Status for 15 Species on Hawaii Island [Docket No.: FWS-R1-ES-2012-0070] (RIN: 1018-AY09) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3516. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Listing, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat of the Fluted Kidneyshell and Slabside Pearlymussel [Docket No.: FWS-R4-ES-2013-0026] (RIN: 1018-AZ48) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3517. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Listing, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for the Fluted Kidneyshell and Slabside Pearlymussel [Docket No.: FWS-R4-ES-2012-0004] (RIN: 1018-AY06) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3518. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Listing, Department of the Interior, transmitting The Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Species Status for Spring Pygmy Sunfish [Docket No.: FWS-R4-ES-2012-0068] (RIN: 1018-AY19) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3519. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Foreign Species, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing the Blue-throated Macaw [Docket No.: FWS-R9-ES-2012-0034; 450 003 0115] (RIN: 1018-AY68) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3520. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Endangered Species Listing, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Determination of Endangered Status for *Chromolaena frustrata* (Cape Sable Thoroughwort), *Consolea corallicola* (Florida Semaphore Cactus), and *Harrisia aboriginum* (Aboriginal Prickly-Apple) [Docket No.: FWS-ES-R4-2012-0076] (RIN: 1018-AY08) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3521. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Listing Endangered Species, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Revised Critical Habitat for the Comal Springs Dryopid Beetle, Comal Springs Riffle Beetle, and Peck's Cave Amphipod [Docket No.: FWS-R2-ES-2012-0082] (RIN: 1018-AY20) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3522. A letter from the Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; 2013-2014 Accountability Measure and Closure for Gulf King Mackerel in Western Zone [Docket No.: 001005281-0369-02] (RIN: 0648-XC868) received October 15, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3523. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Adminis-

tration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Shortraker Rockfish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 121018563-3418-02] (RIN: 0648-XC876) received October 15, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3524. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Arrowtooth Flounder in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 121018563-3148-02] (RIN: 0648-XC816) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3525. A letter from the Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fisheries Management Plan; Northern Red Hake Quota Harvested [Docket No.: 110816505-2148-03] (RIN: 0648-XC793) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3526. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 121018563-3148-02] (RIN: 0648-XC831) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3527. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 121018563-3148-02] (RIN: 0648-XC832) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3528. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Sharks in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 121018563-3418-02] (RIN: 0648-XC872) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3529. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 620 in the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 120918468-3111-02] (RIN: 0648-XC873) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3530. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; "Other Rockfish" in the Aleutian Island Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 121018563-3418-02] (RIN: 0648-XC869) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3531. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Greenland Turbot in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 121018563-3148-02] (RIN: 0648-XC851) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3532. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Bluefish Fishery; Quota Transfer [Docket No.: 130104009-3416-02] (RIN: 0648-XC815) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3533. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Red Snapper Management Measures [Docket No.: 130627573-3796-02] (RIN: 0648-BD39) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3534. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries Off West Coast States; Highly Migratory Fisheries; California Drift Gillnet Fishery; Sperm Whale Interaction Restriction [Docket No.: 130802674-3749-01] (RIN: 0648-BD570) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3535. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Queen Conch Fishery of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands; Regulatory Amendment 2 [Docket No.: 130402313-3748-02] (RIN: 0648-BD15) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3536. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Commercial Shark Fisheries [Docket No.: 110831548-3536-02] (RIN: 0648-XC836) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3537. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher/Processors Using Trawl Gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 120918468-3111-02] (RIN: 0648-XC850) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3538. A letter from the Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 121018563-3148-02] (RIN: 0648-XC817) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3539. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska Management Area [Docket No.: 120918468-3111-02] (RIN: 0648-XC856) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3540. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 630 in the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 120918468-3111-02] (RIN: 0648-XC875) received October 15, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3541. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Main Hawaiian Islands Deep 7 Bottomfish Annual Catch Limits and Accountability Measures for 2013-14 [Docket No.: 130625564-3821-02] (RIN: 0648-XC736) received October 15, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3542. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 121018563-3148-02] (RIN: 0648-XC882) received October 15, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3543. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — International Fisheries; Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; Bigeye Tuna Catch Limit in Longline Fisheries for 2013 and 2014 [Docket No.: 130104012-3777-02] (RIN: 0648-BC88) received October 15, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3544. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic [Docket No.: 120403251-3787-02] (RIN: 0648-BB70) received October 15, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3545. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Groupers Fishery Off the Southern Atlantic States; Regulatory Amendment 19 [Docket No.: 130403321-3803-02] (RIN: 0648-BD16) received October 15, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3546. A letter from the Federal Liaison Officer, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes to Implement the Patent Law Treaty [Docket No.: PTO-P-2013-0007] (RIN: 0651-AC85) received October 15, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

3547. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General; Office of Legal

Policy, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Certification Process for State Capital Counsel System [Docket No.: 1540; AG Order No. 33992013] (RIN: 1121-AA77) received September 30, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

3548. A letter from the Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's decision not to appeal the decision of the district court in the case of Cooper-Harris, et al. v. United States, No. 2:12-00887-CBM (C.D. Cal.); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

3549. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule — Visas: Regulatory Exception to Permit Compliance with the United Nations Headquarters Agreement and Other International Obligations and Clarification of Definition of "Immediate Family" for Certain Nonimmigrant Visa Certification received October 2, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

3550. A letter from the Auditor, Congressional Medal of Honor Society, transmitting the annual financial report of the Society for calendar year 2012, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 1101(19) and 1103; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

3551. A letter from the General Counsel, Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board, transmitting the Board's final rule — Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Guidelines; Outdoor Developed Areas (RIN: 3014-AA22) received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3552. A letter from the Chairman, Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Information Required in Notices and Petitions Containing Interchange Commitments [Docket No.: EP714] received October 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3553. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Piper Aircraft, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0983; Directorate Identifier 2012-CE-001-AD; Amendment 39-17457; AD 2013-10-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3554. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Various Aircraft Equipped with Rotax Aircraft Engines 912 A Series Engine [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0738; Directorate Identifier 2013-CE-022-AD; Amendment 39-17568; AD 2013-17-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3555. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Inc. Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0349; Directorate Identifier 2012-SW-058-AD; Amendment 39-17576; AD 2013-18-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3556. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls Royce plc (RR) Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2007-28059; Directorate Identifier 2007-NE-13-AD;

Amendment 39-17526; AD 2013-15-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3557. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0463; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-165-AD; Amendment 39-17584; AD 2013-19-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3558. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0186; Directorate Identifier 2013-NE-11-AD; Amendment 39-17571; AD 2013-17-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3559. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Honeywell ASCa Inc. Emergency Locator Transmitters Installed on Various Transport Category Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0707; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-158-AD; Amendment 39-17582; AD 2013-18-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3560. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; AgustaWestland S.p.A. Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0350; Directorate Identifier 2012-SW-050-AD; Amendment 39-17583; AD 2013-19-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 2, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3561. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0097; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-243-AD; Amendment 39-17572; AD 2013-17-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3562. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0301; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-025-AD; Amendment 39-17575; AD 2013-18-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3563. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0119; Directorate Identifier 2011-SW-034-AD; Amendment 39-17541; AD 2013-16-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3564. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; PIAGGIO AERO INDUSTRIES S.p.A. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0527; Directorate Identifier 2013-CE-014-AD; Amendment 39-17577; AD 2013-18-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3565. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Services B.V. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0270; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-113-AD; Amendment 39-17570; AD 2013-17-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3566. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0399; Directorate Identifier 2011-SW-064-AD; Amendment 39-17574; AD 2013-18-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3567. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0398; Directorate Identifier 2011-SW-065-AD; Amendment 39-17578; AD 2013-18-05] received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3568. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce plc Turboprop Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0143; Directorate Identifier 2013-NE-06-AD; Amendment 39-17561; AD 2013-2013-16-23] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3569. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0094; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-160-AD; Amendment 29-17573; AD 2013-17-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3570. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0239; Directorate Identifier 2010-SW-087-AD; Amendment 39-17552; AD 2013-16-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3571. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0240; Directorate Identifier 2011-SW-060-AD; Amendment 39-17565; AD 2013-17-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3572. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0364; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-114-AD; Amendment 39-17562; AD 2013-16-24] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3573. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel for Hazardous Materials Safety, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Hazardous Materials: Corrections and Response to Administrative Appeals (HM-215K, HM-215L, HM-218G and HM-219) [Docket No.: PHMSA-2013-

0041] (RIN: 2137-AF01) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3574. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron, Inc. (Bell) Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0379; Directorate Identifier 2009-SW-26-AD; Amendment 39-17580; AD 2013-18-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3575. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Piper Aircraft, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0535; Directorate Identifier 2013-CE-018-AD; Amendment 39-17489; AD 2013-13-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3576. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Limited (Bell) Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0400; Directorate Identifier 2009-SW-48-AD; Amendment 39-17579; AD 2013-18-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3577. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Wasatch, UT [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0528; Airspace Docket No. 13-ANM-16] received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3578. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class D Airspace; Bryant AAF, Anchorage, AK [Docket FAA No.: FAA-2012-0433; Airspace Docket No. 12-AAL-5] received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3579. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Battle Mountain, NV [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0530; Airspace Docket No. 13-AWP-9] received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3580. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment and Modification of Class E Airspace; Oakland, CA [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0457; Airspace Docket No. 13-AWP-5] received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3581. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Everett, WA [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0434; Airspace Docket No. 13-ANM-1] received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3582. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30918; Amdt. No. 3553] received

October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3583. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30919; Amdt. No. 3554] received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3584. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30916; Amdt. No. 3551] received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3585. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30917; Amdt. No. 3552] received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3586. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Dayton, TN, Establishment of Class E Airspace; Cleveland, TN, and Revocation of Class E Airspace; Bradley Memorial Hospital, Cleveland, TN [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0073; Airspace Docket No. 13-ASO-2] October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3587. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Umatilla, FL [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0002; Airspace Docket No. 12-ASO-46] received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3588. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airspace Designations; Incorporation By Reference [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0709; Amendment No. 71-45] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3589. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; Washington, DC [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0339; Airspace Docket No. 12-AEA-15] received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3590. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment, Modification and Cancellation of Air Traffic Service (ATS) Routes; Northeast United States [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0504; Airspace Docket No. 13-AEA-3] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3591. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D Airspace; Santa Monica, CA [Docket No.: FAA-2011-0611; Airspace Docket No. 11-AWP-11] received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A);

to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3592. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and E Airspace; Wrightstown, NJ [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0565; Airspace Docket No. 13-AEA-11] received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3593. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Stockton, KS [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0274; Airspace Docket No. 13-ACE-2] received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3594. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Harlingen, TX [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1140; Airspace Docket No.: 12-ASW-11] received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3595. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Fort Polk, LA [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0267; Airspace Docket No. 13-ASW-2] received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3596. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel for Hazardous Materials Safety, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Hazardous Materials: Enhanced Enforcement Procedures — Resumption of Transportation [Docket No.: PHMSA-2012-0259 (HM-258B)] (RIN: 2137-AE98) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3597. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel for Hazardous Materials Safety, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Highway-Rail Grade Crossing; Safe Clearance [Docket Numbers: PHMSA-2010-0319 (HM-255) & FMCSA-2006-25660] (RIN: 2137-AE69 & 2126-AB04) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3598. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel for Hazardous Materials Safety, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Hazardous Materials Regulations: Penalty Guidelines [Docket No.: PHMSA-2013-0045 (HM-258C)] (RIN: 2137-AF02) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3599. A letter from the FMCSA Regulatory Ombudsman, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendments to Implement Certain Provisions of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) (RIN: 2126-AB60) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3600. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0931; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-128-AD; Amendment 39-17555; AD 2013-16-17] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3601. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, trans-

mitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0341; Directorate Identifier 2012-SW-025-AD; Amendment 39-17557; AD 2013-16-19] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3602. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0887; Directorate Identifier 2009-SW-02-AD; Amendment 39-17551; AD 2013-16-13] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3603. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH (ECD) Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0020; Directorate Identifier 2010-SW-107-AD; Amendment 39-17558; AD 2013-16-20] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3604. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Embraer S.A. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0092; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-067-AD; Amendment 39-17560; AD 2013-16-22] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3605. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1076; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-274-AD; Amendment 39-17556; AD 2013-16-18] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3606. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0335; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-187-AD; Amendment 39-17549; AD 2013-16-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3607. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Lockheed Martin Corporation/Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1078; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-012-AD; Amendment 39-17534; AD 2013-15-18] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3608. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0808; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-170-AD; Amendment 39-17380; AD 2013-05-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3609. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0424; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-014-AD; Amendment 39-17564; AD 2013-16-26] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C.

801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3610. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0422; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-097-AD; Amendment 39-17567; AD 2013-17-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3611. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Alexander Schleicher GmbH & Co. Segelflugzeugbau Sailplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0450; Directorate Identifier 2013-CE-010-AD; Amendment 39-17543; AD 2013-16-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3612. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30922; Amdt. No. 3557] received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3613. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0459; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-044-AD; Amendment 39-17569; AD 2013-17-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3614. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1003; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-064-AD; Amendment 39-17563; AD 2013-16-25] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3615. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Early Warning Reporting, Foreign Defect Reporting, and Motor Vehicle and Equipment Recall Regulations [Docket No.: NHTSA-2012-0068; Notice 2] (RIN: 2127-AK72) received October 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3616. A letter from the Director, Regulation Policy and Management, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — VA Dental Insurance Program-Federalism (RIN: 2900-AO85) received October 21, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

3617. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Annual Report On Child Welfare Outcomes 2008-2011, pursuant to Public Law 105-89, section 203(a) (111 Stat. 2127); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3618. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "2012 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor"; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3619. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Service's final rule — Applications of the Segregation Rules to Small Shareholders [TD 9638] (RIN: 1545-BK03) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3620. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Applicable Federal Rates — November 2013 (Rev. Rul. 2013-22) received October 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3621. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Temporary Shelter for Individuals Displaced by Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides in Colorado [Notice 2013-63] received October 17, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3622. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — 2013-2014 Special Per Diem Rates [Notice 2013-65] received October 17, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3623. A letter from the Chairman, International Trade Commission, transmitting the 21st report in a series on Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (CBERA): Impact on U.S. Industries and Consumers and on Beneficiary Countries; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3624. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Medicare Program; FY 2014 Inpatient Prospective Payment Systems: Changes to Certain Cost Reporting Procedures Related to Disproportionate Share Hospital Uncompensated Care Payments [CMS-1599-IFC] (RIN: 0938-AR53) received October 1, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

3625. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medicare Program; FY 2014 Inpatient Prospective Payment Systems: Changes to Certain Cost Reporting Procedures Related to Disproportionate Share Hospital Uncompensated Care Payments [CMS-1599-IFC] (RIN: 0938-AR53) received October 21, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); 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. GOODLATTE: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 982. A bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code to require the public disclosure by trusts established under section 524(g) of such title, of quarterly reports that contain detailed information regarding the receipt and disposition of claims for injuries based on exposure to asbestos; and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-254). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GOODLATTE: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 2655. A bill to amend Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to improve attorney accountability, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-255). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CONAWAY: Committee on Ethics. In the Matter regarding the arrests of Members of the House during a protest outside the United States Capitol on October 8, 2013 (Rept. 11-256). Referred to the House Calendar.

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. RAHALL:

H.R. 3380. A bill to delay any increases in premium rates for flood insurance coverage under the National Flood Insurance Program until the Federal Emergency Management Agency completes a comprehensive review and updating of all flood insurance rate maps and the Army Corps of Engineers reviews and certifies that such maps include all flood mitigation and flood control projects completed by the Corps; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. ROGERS of Michigan:

H.R. 3381. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2014 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select).

By Mr. LABRADOR (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. JEFFRIES, and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois):

H.R. 3382. A bill to focus limited Federal resources on the most serious offenders; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. ESTY:

H.R. 3383. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend to all veterans with a serious service-connected injury eligibility to participate in the family caregiver services program; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BENTIVOLIO (for himself, Mr. STOCKMAN, and Mr. ROHRBACHER):

H.R. 3384. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that veterans may attend pre-apprenticeship programs using certain educational assistance provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. JONES, Mr. OLSON, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. ESTY, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. ENYART, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. HOLT, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. OWENS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. TONKO, and Ms. KAPTUR):

H.R. 3385. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to provide for the purchase of paper United States savings bonds with tax refunds; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SMITH of Texas (for himself and Ms. BASS):

H.R. 3386. A bill to require Certificates of Citizenship and other Federal documents to reflect name and date of birth determinations made by a State court and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. BENISHEK, Ms. GABBARD, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, and Mr. HUNTER):

H.R. 3387. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the mental health

treatment provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to veterans who served in classified missions; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CHABOT (for himself and Mr. DEUTCH):

H.R. 3388. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to provide a grant to assist Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies in the rapid recovery of missing individuals; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself, Mr. HUIZenga of Michigan, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. COTTON, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. PITTINGER):

H.R. 3389. A bill to repeal the Consumer Financial Civil Penalty Fund and to deposit existing amounts in such Fund into the Treasury, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. AMODEI (for himself, Mr. HECK of Nevada, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. GARAMENDI):

H.R. 3390. A bill to provide for environmental restoration activities and forest management activities in the Lake Tahoe Basin, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the importation or shipment of quagga mussels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Agriculture, and the Judiciary, 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. VALADAO (for himself, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. COLE, Mr. COOK, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. KIND, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. JOYCE, and Mr. COSTA):

H.R. 3391. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income payments under the Indian Health Service Loan Repayment Program and certain amounts received under the Indian Health Professions Scholarships Program; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS (for himself and Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico):

H.R. 3392. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a PDP safety program to prevent fraud and abuse in the dispensing of controlled substances under part D of the Medicare program, 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 Mrs. BLACK (for herself and Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois):

H.R. 3393. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to consolidate certain tax benefits for educational expenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BROWNLEY of California:

H.R. 3394. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make the work opportunity tax credit permanent; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BROWNLEY of California:

H.R. 3395. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the work opportunity credit for hiring veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BURGESS (for himself, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. MICHAUD, Ms.

MCCOLLUM, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. LATTA, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. WITTMAN, Mrs. BUSTOS, and Mr. HONDA):

H.R. 3396. A bill to provide for the issuance of a Veterans Health Care Stamp; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, 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 Mrs. CAPPS:

H.R. 3397. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to develop guidelines regarding the use by the Secretaries of the military departments and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of unofficial sources of information to determine the eligibility of a member or former member of the Armed Forces for benefits and decorations when the member's service records are incomplete because of damage to the records, including records damaged by a 1973 fire at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, Missouri; 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. CHABOT (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Ms. MCCOLLUM):

H.R. 3398. A bill to authorize the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to provide assistance to support the rights of women and girls in developing countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. CHU (for herself, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. COOK, and Mr. DENHAM):

H.R. 3399. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain clarifications and improvements in the academic and vocational counseling programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CLAY (for himself, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. SERRANO, and Mrs. NOEM):

H.R. 3400. A bill to adopt the North American bison as the national mammal of the United States; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 3401. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to allow a local educational agency that receives a subgrant under section 2121 of such Act to use the funds to provide professional development activities that train school personnel about restorative justice and conflict resolution; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. MOORE):

H.R. 3402. A bill to improve the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act by explicitly barring debt collectors from bringing legal action on a debt in which the statute of limitations has expired against any consumer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CRAWFORD (for himself, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. WOMACK, and Mr. COTTON):

H.R. 3403. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to allow motor carriers to use hair testing as a method of detecting the use of controlled substances by operators of commercial motor vehicles, and for other pur-

poses; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. DEFALZIO, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MORAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. TSONGAS, and Mr. WOLF):

H.R. 3404. A bill to require that every mammography summary delivered to a patient after a mammography examination, as required by section 354 of the Public Health Service Act (commonly referred to as the "Mammography Quality Standards Act of 1992"), contain information regarding the patient's breast density and language communicating that individuals with more dense breasts may benefit from supplemental screening tests, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DENHAM (for himself and Mr. WALZ):

H.R. 3405. A bill to better connect current and former members of the Armed Forces with employment opportunities by consolidating duplicative Federal Government Internet websites into a single portal, to conserve resources by merging redundant and competing programs, 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. DESANTIS (for himself, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. YOHO, Mr. BARR, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. SALMON, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. POSEY, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. COLE, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. LABRADOR, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. BRIDENSTINE, Mr. ROTHFUS, Mr. COTTON, Mr. BENTIVOLIO, Mr. AMASH, Mr. MICA, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. GOWDY, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, and Mr. ROKITA):

H.R. 3406. A bill to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to ensure that individuals can keep their health insurance coverage; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DEUTCH (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia):

H.R. 3407. A bill to establish the National Center for the Right to Counsel; to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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 Mrs. ELLMERS (for herself, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. COBLE, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, and Mr. PITTENGER):

H.R. 3408. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to educate certain staff of the Department of Veterans Affairs and to inform veterans about the Injured and Amputee Veterans Bill of Rights, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. FINCHER:

H.R. 3409. A bill to amend the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 to require that any expansion of a national wildlife refuge must be expressly au-

thorized by statute; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. FRANKS of Arizona (for himself and Mr. SESSIONS):

H.R. 3410. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to secure critical infrastructure against electromagnetic pulses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. GOHMERT (for himself, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. STOCKMAN, Mr. BRADY of Texas, and Mr. HALL):

H.R. 3411. A bill to provide for an exchange of land between the United States Department of Agriculture and the Sabine River Authority of Texas; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. GOWDY (for himself and Mr. WELCH):

H.R. 3412. A bill to establish the Higher Education Regulatory Reform Task Force, to expand the experimental sites initiative under the Higher Education Act of 1965 to reduce college costs for students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, 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. HANNA (for himself, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, and Mr. MICHAUD):

H.R. 3413. A bill to require a study and report by the Comptroller General regarding the restart provision of the Hours of Service Rules for Commercial Truck Drivers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER (for herself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. SCHRADER, and Ms. BONAMICI):

H.R. 3414. A bill to amend the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 with respect to ecosystem restoration in the lower Columbia River and Tillamook Bay estuaries; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. HORSFORD (for himself and Mr. AMODEI):

H.R. 3415. A bill to facilitate planning, permitting, administration, implementation, and monitoring of pinyon-juniper dominated landscape restoration projects within Lincoln County, Nevada, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas (for himself and Mr. OLSON):

H.R. 3416. A bill to amend titles 5, 10, and 32, United States Code, to require congressional approval before any change may be made to the oaths required for enlistment in the Armed Forces, appointment to an office in the civil service or uniformed services, or appointment as a cadet or midshipman at a military service academy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, 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. SAM JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 3417. A bill to prohibit the consideration of any bill by Congress unless a statement on tax transparency is provided in the bill; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and

in addition to the Committee on Rules, 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. KILMER (for himself and Mr. COLE):

H.R. 3418. A bill to establish a demonstration program to provide rental assistance and supportive housing for homeless or at-risk Indian Veterans; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. KINGSTON:

H.R. 3419. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt certain small businesses from the employer health insurance mandate and to modify the definition of full-time employee for purposes of such mandate; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KINGSTON:

H.R. 3420. A bill to require any communication using Federal funds to advertise or educate the public on certain provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Healthcare and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 to state that such communication was produced at taxpayer expense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and the Workforce, 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 Mrs. KIRKPATRICK (for herself, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, and Mr. FRANKS of Arizona):

H.R. 3421. A bill to remove use and disposal restrictions on property located in the City of Winslow, Navajo County, Arizona; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself, Mr. COOK, and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida):

H.R. 3422. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit for veteran first-time homebuyers and for adaptive housing and mobility improvements for disabled veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself, Mr. WITTMAN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BASS, and Mr. GRIMM):

H.R. 3423. A bill to ensure the safety and well-being of adopted children; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. LARSON of Connecticut:

H.R. 3424. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for facilities using a qualified methane conversion technology to provide transportation fuels and chemicals; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LIPINSKI (for himself, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. PETERS of California, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. BARBER, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. BARROW of Georgia, Mr. VELA, and Mr. GARCIA):

H.R. 3425. A bill to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to delay the individual health insurance mandate and any penalties for violating the individual mandate until after there is a certification that the healthcare.gov website is fully operational, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico (for himself and Mr. BILIRAKIS):

H.R. 3426. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to add physical therapists to the list of providers allowed to utilize locum tenens arrangements under Medicare; 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 Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. POE of Texas, Ms. MOORE, and Ms. BASS):

H.R. 3427. A bill to amend the Crime Control Act of 1990 to require certification of State and law enforcement agency reports related to missing children, to require that certain information be provided to individuals reporting a missing child, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself and Mr. ENYART):

H.R. 3428. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an increased credit for development and to extend and simplify the credit for increasing research; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS (for herself and Mr. LANKFORD):

H.R. 3429. A bill to protect personal and financial information by requiring certain certifications by entities awarded funds under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act for the operation of a Navigator program or certain other Exchange activities; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MCNERNEY (for himself, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD):

H.R. 3430. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage hiring unemployed individuals; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. O'ROURKE (for himself and Mr. PEARCE):

H.R. 3431. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to promote family unity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PEARCE:

H.R. 3432. A bill to expedite the planning and implementation of salvage timber sales as part of Forest Service and Department of the Interior restoration and rehabilitation activities for lands within the Gila and Lincoln National Forests and for Bureau of Land Management lands in New Mexico adversely impacted by the 2012 and 2013 fire seasons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. POLIS (for himself, Mr. CARDENAS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. DELANEY, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HOLT, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. LOEBSACK, and Mr. KIND):

H.R. 3433. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to invest in innovation for education; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. SOUTHERLAND, and Mr. YOUNG of Indiana):

H.R. 3434. A bill to amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to require a State to deny assistance under the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families to a parent, caretaker relative, or legal guardian of a child

who is not attending enough school, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California (for herself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. CHU, Ms. NORTON, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Mr. POLIS, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. CLARKE, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. RANGEL, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. PIERLUISI, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. HOLT, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. BASS, and Mr. TAKANO):

H.R. 3435. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to create a demonstration project to fund additional secondary school counselors in troubled title I schools to reduce the dropout rate; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. SANFORD (for himself, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. BENTIVOLIO, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. AMASH, Mr. GOWDY, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina):

H.R. 3436. A bill to require the Director of the National Security Agency and the Inspector General of the National Security Agency to be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, 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. SCHWARTZ:

H.R. 3437. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to consolidate, with modifications, the Hope Scholarship Credit, the Lifetime Learning Credit, and the American Opportunity Tax Credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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. SWALWELL of California (for himself, Mr. SIMPSON, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. BEN RAY LUJAN of New Mexico, Mr. FOSTER, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO):

H.R. 3438. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize use of grants under the Urban Area Security Initiative and the State Homeland Security Grant Program to work in conjunction with a Department of Energy national laboratory; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself and Mr. HALL):

H.R. 3439. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the permanent application of the new markets tax credit for the redevelopment of communities impacted by realignment or closure of military installations; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 3440. A bill to designate a peak in the State of Nevada as Maude Frazier Mountain; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 3441. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the Marine Gunnery

Sergeant John David Fry scholarship to include spouses of members of the Armed Forces who die in the line of duty, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 3442. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to eligible non-profit entities to establish clearing-houses for local information about employment opportunities and services for veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. TITUS (for herself, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HONDA, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. DELANEY, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER):

H.R. 3443. A bill to amend titles 38 and 37, United States Code, to expand eligibility for certain caregiver services provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and to modify the Department of Defense special compensation program to make eligible members of the uniformed services with serious injuries or illnesses and to exempt payments of such compensation from taxation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, 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 Mr. WALDEN (for himself and Mr. KIND):

H.R. 3444. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide flexibility in the manner in which beds are counted for purposes of determining whether a hospital may be designated as a critical access hospital under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mr. GUTIERREZ):

H.R. 3445. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to disallow deductions for the payment of compensatory and punitive damages to a government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California:

H.J. Res. 100. A joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, 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. PALAZZO:

H.J. Res. 101. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to limit the number of consecutive terms that a Member of Congress may serve; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WOODALL:

H. Con. Res. 62. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. KIRKPATRICK (for herself, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Ms. NORTON, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. COLE, Mr. HONDA, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. GRJALVA, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. COOK, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. MORAN, Ms. HANABUSA, and Mr. BENISHEK):

H. Con. Res. 63. Concurrent resolution honoring the service of Native American Indians in the United States Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BACHUS (for himself and Ms. SEWELL of Alabama):

H. Res. 395. A resolution recognizing Birmingham, Alabama, as home to the first and longest-running celebration of Veterans Day and home of the National Veteran Award; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, 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. FATTAH (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania):

H. Res. 396. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of November as National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (for himself, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. CLARKE, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. LEWIS):

H. Res. 397. A resolution recognizing the 40th anniversary of the independence of the Bahamas; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. HONDA (for himself, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. CLAY, Ms. HAHN, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. POCAN, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. GRJALVA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. HOLT, Ms. KUSTER, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MORAN, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. BARBER, Ms. CHU, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. WATT, Mr. FARR, Mr. HIMES, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. POLIS, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. LOWENTHAL):

H. Res. 398. A resolution expressing support for designation of October 2013 as "National Anti-Bullying Month"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H. Res. 399. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Cyber Security Awareness Month and raising awareness and enhancing the state of cybersecurity in the United States; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. PERLMUTTER (for himself and Mr. POLIS):

H. Res. 400. A resolution honoring the life and work of Commander M. Scott Carpenter, the second American to orbit the Earth; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. PETERS of California (for himself, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. ESTY, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. PETERS of Michigan, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Ms. CHU, Mr. POLIS, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. HONDA, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. KIND, Mr. HECK of Washington, Mr. FOSTER, and Mr. BENTIVOLIO):

H. Res. 401. A resolution expressing support for designation of the third Tuesday of November as "National Entrepreneurs Day"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

151. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, relative to House Resolution No. 731 appealing to the Members of Congress to exercise sound judgement and urge them to responsibility assume their duty of settling their disagreements regarding the budget; jointly to the Committees on Appropriations and Oversight and Government Reform.

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. RAHALL:

H.R. 3380.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 and Clause 18 of the Constitution.

By Mr. ROGERS of Michigan:

H.R. 3381.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States government are carried out to support the national security interests of the United States, to support and assist the armed forces of the United States, and to support the President in the execution of the foreign policy of the United States.

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States provides, in pertinent part, that "Congress shall have power . . . to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States"; ". . . to raise and support armies . . ."; "To provide and maintain a Navy"; "To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces"; and "To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers vested in this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

By Mr. LABRADOR:

H.R. 3382.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Per Article 1, Section 8, Clause 9, and Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution and the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution, Congress has the power to enact this proposed legislation to make reforms to federal criminal sentencing. The proposed legislation conforms to the norms of the Fifth Amendment with respect to due process.

By Ms. ESTY:

H.R. 3383.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. BENTIVOLIO:

H.R. 3384.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 12; "The Congress shall have the power to . . . raise and support armies . . . Article 1, Section 8, Clause 13; "To provide and maintain a navy" And, Article 1, Section 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 this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.”

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 3385.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 2: The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes;

By Mr. SMITH of Texas:

H.R. 3386.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 of the United States Constitution enumerating congressional authority “Rio establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization.”

By Ms. SINEMA:

H.R. 3387.

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 raise and support Armies and provide and maintain a Navy, as well as make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces; as enumerated in Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. CHABOT:

H.R. 3388.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States;

By Mrs. CAPITO:

H.R. 3389.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 1: All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States

Article I Section 9 Clause vii: No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law

By Mr. AMODEI:

H.R. 3390.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 1 (relating to providing for the general welfare of the United States) and clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress), and Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 (relating to the power of Congress to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States).

By Mr. VALADAO:

H.R. 3391.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 3392.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the

Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

By Mrs. BLACK:

H.R. 3393.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have the Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debt and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Ms. BROWNLEY of California:

H.R. 3394.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8; and Amendment XVI.

By Ms. BROWNLEY of California:

H.R. 3395.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8; and Amendment XVI.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 3396.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The attached bill is constitutional under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: “To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes” as well as Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1: “The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.”

By Mrs. CAPPS:

H.R. 3397.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CHABOT:

H.R. 3398.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3: To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes;

Article 1, Section 9, Clause 7: No money shall be drawn from the treasury, but in consequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular statement and account of receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time.

By Ms. CHU:

H.R. 3399.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. CLAY:

H.R. 3400.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Paragraph 18 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 3401.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The changes made by this bill to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act are within Congress’ authority under Article I, section 8, clause 1 of the Constitution.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 3402.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, clause 3 (relating to the power to regulate foreign and interstate commerce).

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 3403.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the enumerated powers listed in Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 3404.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. DENHAM:

H.R. 3405.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. DESANTIS:

H.R. 3406.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution (Interstate Commerce Clause)

By Mr. DEUTCH:

H.R. 3407.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the U.S. Constitution and Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mrs. ELLMERS:

H.R. 3408.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The authority to enact this bill is derived from, but may not be limited to, Clause 12 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. FINCHER:

H.R. 3409.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 4, Section 3, Clause 2 of the United States Constitution, which states:

“The Congress shall have the power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.”

By Mr. FRANKS of Arizona:

H.R. 3410.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution which states that Congress shall have power to . . . provide for the common defense.

By Mr. GOHMERT:

H.R. 3411.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the Constitution states that “The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States . . .” Under the authority of the Constitution, the Sabine National Forest Land Exchange Act authorizes the disposal of federal land through exchange or sale of federal land.

By Mr. GOWDY:

H.R. 3412.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. HANNA:

H.R. 3413.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority on which this bill rests is enumerated in Clause 3 of

Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER:

H.R. 3414.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. HORSFORD:

H.R. 3415.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 and Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2.

By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 3416.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 16 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 3417.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 5, Clause 2

By Mr. KILMER:

H.R. 3418.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, clause 1 and Article 1, section 8, and clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. KINGSTON:

H.R. 3419.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8:

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excise shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

By Mr. KINGSTON:

H.R. 3420.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8: The Congress shall have the 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.

Article I, Section 9: No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.

By Mrs. KIRKPATRICK:

H.R. 3421.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, "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 the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof"

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 3422.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 3423.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1.

By Mr. LARSON of Connecticut:

H.R. 3424.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. LIPINSKI:

H.R. 3425.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico:

H.R. 3426.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 3427.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause I and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. MCKINLEY:

H.R. 3428.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution: The Congress shall have power to enact this legislation to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS:

H.R. 3429.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to Congress' legislative powers under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 to regulate Commerce among the several States.

By Mr. MCNERNEY:

H.R. 3430.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. O'ROURKE:

H.R. 3431.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8. The Congress shall have the Power to establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization

By Mr. PEARCE:

H.R. 3432.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 4, Section 3, Clause 2 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the power to enact this law.

By Mr. POLIS:

H.R. 3433.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. REED:

H.R. 3434.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California:

H.R. 3435.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article One of the United States Constitution, section 8, clause 18:

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 Mr. SANFORD:

H.R. 3436.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article II, Section 2, Clause 2, which states that the President ". . . shall nominate, and by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, shall appoint . . . all other officers of the United States . . ."

[Appointments Clause]

By Ms. SCHWARTZ:

H.R. 3437.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. SWALWELL of California:

H.R. 3438.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18; Article I, Section 9, Clause 7

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 3439.

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, Section 8, Clause 1of the United States Constitution: The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 3440.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 3441.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Amendment XVI, of the United States Constitution

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 3442.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Amendment XVI, of the United States Constitution

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 3443.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. WALDEN:

H.R. 3444.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. WELCH:

H.R. 3445.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: 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 Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California:

H.J. Res. 100.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Clause 9, Section 7

By Mr. PALAZZO:

H.J. Res. 101.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article V of the United States Constitution, which grants Congress the authority to propose constitutional amendments.

Article V: The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution, or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this, Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States or by Conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other Mode of Ratification may be proposed by the Congress; Provided that no Amendment which may be made prior to the Year One thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any Manner affect the first and fourth Clauses in the Ninth Section of the first Article; and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of its equal Suffrage in the Senate.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 15: Mr. VALADAO.
 H.R. 24: Mr. PALAZZO and Mr. GRAVES of Georgia.
 H.R. 38: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
 H.R. 164: Mrs. NOEM.
 H.R. 227: Mr. RUIZ.
 H.R. 259: Mr. GOWDY and Mr. MILLER of Florida.
 H.R. 311: Mr. FORBES.
 H.R. 351: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, and Mr. CALVERT.
 H.R. 383: Mr. HECK of Nevada.
 H.R. 455: Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. PETERSON.
 H.R. 465: Mr. JONES, and Mr. PETERS of California.
 H.R. 503: Mr. LOBIONDO.
 H.R. 530: Mr. KIND.
 H.R. 533: Mr. GUTHRIE and Ms. KUSTER.
 H.R. 535: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
 H.R. 541: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York and Mr. TIERNEY.
 H.R. 647: Mr. TIPTON.
 H.R. 683: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
 H.R. 685: Mr. FOSTER, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mrs. ELLMERS and Mr. REICHERT.
 H.R. 721: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. BARBER, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. CLEAVER.
 H.R. 764: Ms. TSONGAS.
 H.R. 800: Mrs. ROBY.
 H.R. 831: Mr. CALVERT, Mr. LEWIS, and Mr. RUIZ.
 H.R. 846: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
 H.R. 847: Mr. ROTHFUS.
 H.R. 863: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Ms. KUSTER.
 H.R. 875: Mr. LANKFORD.
 H.R. 901: Mr. MURPHY of Florida.
 H.R. 921: Ms. BONAMICI.
 H.R. 938: Mrs. BLACKBURN.
 H.R. 946: Mr. WENSTRUP.
 H.R. 1000: Mr. VEASEY.
 H.R. 1015: Ms. DELBENE.
 H.R. 1037: Mr. SERRANO.
 H.R. 1074: Mr. TONKO.
 H.R. 1091: Mr. RIBBLE.
 H.R. 1095: Mr. SCALISE.
 H.R. 1105: Mr. MCINTYRE.
 H.R. 1186: Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.
 H.R. 1199: Mr. LOBIONDO.
 H.R. 1201: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 1209: Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. BARR.

H.R. 1212: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
 H.R. 1239: Mr. PAYNE.
 H.R. 1250: Mr. TIERNEY.
 H.R. 1281: Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. MATSUU, and Ms. GRANGER.
 H.R. 1291: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
 H.R. 1296: Mr. GARAMENDI.
 H.R. 1331: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
 H.R. 1333: Mr. SABLAN.
 H.R. 1339: Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. DELANEY, and Ms. BONAMICI.
 H.R. 1342: Mr. BISHOP of Utah and Mr. BENTIVOLIO.
 H.R. 1395: Mr. HUFFMAN.
 H.R. 1428: Mr. CASTRO of Texas.
 H.R. 1501: Mr. JONES and Mr. RANGEL.
 H.R. 1563: Mr. TURNER, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. HULTGREEN.
 H.R. 1566: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
 H.R. 1616: Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois and Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
 H.R. 1661: Mr. VEASEY, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Mr. GARAMENDI.
 H.R. 1666: Mr. DELANEY and Mr. PAYNE.
 H.R. 1701: Mr. LUCAS.
 H.R. 1725: Mr. MEEKS.
 H.R. 1726: Mr. HONDA and Mr. VEASEY.
 H.R. 1731: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.
 H.R. 1750: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.
 H.R. 1755: Mr. RUIZ, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. GIBSON.
 H.R. 1787: Mr. BARR.
 H.R. 1795: Mr. VALADAO.
 H.R. 1803: Mr. BRADY of Texas.
 H.R. 1812: Mr. SCHOCK.
 H.R. 1814: Mr. LAMBORN.
 H.R. 1832: Mr. MICHAUD.
 H.R. 1918: Mr. VEASEY.
 H.R. 1921: Mr. CAPUANO.
 H.R. 1992: Mr. VEASEY and Mr. SHERMAN.
 H.R. 1998: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.
 H.R. 2001: Ms. KUSTER.
 H.R. 2018: Mr. DAINES.
 H.R. 2023: Ms. TSONGAS.
 H.R. 2041: Mr. CARNEY.
 H.R. 2084: Mr. HARRIS.
 H.R. 2085: Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois.
 H.R. 2134: Mr. JOYCE and Mr. SWALWELL of California.
 H.R. 2178: Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. LOFGREN.
 H.R. 2182: Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. LEWIS.
 H.R. 2283: Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. EDWARDS, and Mr. LATTA.
 H.R. 2288: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
 H.R. 2302: Mr. SERRANO and Mr. GIBSON.
 H.R. 2309: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER and Mrs. BLACK.
 H.R. 2333: Mr. SCHRADER.
 H.R. 2358: Mr. HONDA.
 H.R. 2368: Mrs. CAPPS and Ms. WILSON of Florida.
 H.R. 2376: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 2415: Mr. PAYNE and Ms. BONAMICI.
 H.R. 2429: Mr. BUCHANAN, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. VALADAO.
 H.R. 2430: Mr. LEWIS.
 H.R. 2453: Mr. WHITFIELD.
 H.R. 2502: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. FARR, and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.
 H.R. 2504: Ms. HANABUSA.
 H.R. 2540: Mr. YODER, Mr. HONDA, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. CÁRDENAS.
 H.R. 2543: Mr. SMITH of Missouri.
 H.R. 2548: Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. COOPER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. MOORE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.
 H.R. 2582: Mr. PETERS of Michigan.
 H.R. 2591: Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois.
 H.R. 2606: Mr. FORTENBERRY.
 H.R. 2607: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, and Mr. WALBERG.
 H.R. 2666: Mr. ANDREWS.
 H.R. 2675: Mr. GARCIA.
 H.R. 2692: Ms. HANABUSA.
 H.R. 2725: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
 H.R. 2728: Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.
 H.R. 2778: Mr. JONES and Mr. SESSIONS.
 H.R. 2780: Mr. VAN HOLLEN and Mr. DOGGETT.
 H.R. 2785: Mr. NUNNELEE.
 H.R. 2805: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
 H.R. 2810: Mr. RUIZ.
 H.R. 2822: Ms. EDWARDS.
 H.R. 2827: Mr. PAYNE.
 H.R. 2918: Mr. GIBSON and Mr. ROKITA.
 H.R. 2939: Mr. OWENS, Mr. HIMES, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. KILMER, Mr. COOK, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, and Ms. SPEIER.
 H.R. 2943: Mr. HENSARLING.
 H.R. 2955: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
 H.R. 2959: Mr. JORDAN, Mr. HECK of Nevada, Mr. LONG, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. COBLE, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. BARTON, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. MCINTYRE and Mr. POSEY.
 H.R. 2962: Mr. LEVIN, Mr. MCNERNEY, and Mr. HORSFORD.
 H.R. 2967: Mr. RIBBLE and Mr. WOLF.
 H.R. 2983: Ms. LEE of California, Mr. HONDA, and Ms. MENG.
 H.R. 3040: Mr. MORAN.
 H.R. 3086: Mr. HOLDING, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. PETRI, and Mr. FORBES.
 H.R. 3108: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.
 H.R. 3116: Mr. SCHNEIDER and Mr. WALBERG.
 H.R. 3118: Mr. POCAN.
 H.R. 3121: Mrs. NOEM.
 H.R. 3125: Mr. RUSH, Mr. PETERS of California, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Mrs. BUSTOS.
 H.R. 3143: Mr. FARENTHOLD.
 H.R. 3146: Mr. KIND.
 H.R. 3179: Mr. HARPER, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. ROKITA, and Mr. BUCHANAN.
 H.R. 3199: Mr. HALL, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, and Mr. BENTIVOLIO.
 H.R. 3212: Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. RANGEL, and Ms. BROWN of Florida.
 H.R. 3219: Ms. CHU.
 H.R. 3279: Mr. BROUN of Georgia.
 H.R. 3299: Mr. BRADY of Texas.
 H.R. 3301: Mr. LATTA.
 H.R. 3305: Mr. CALVERT.
 H.R. 3308: Mr. AMODEI, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. POE of Texas, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BARTON, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. DENT, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. FLORES, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. GOWDY, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. LANCE, Mr. MCKEON, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. MICA, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. RADEL, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, and Mrs. WAGNER.
 H.R. 3309: Mr. HONDA.
 H.R. 3310: Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. RUIZ, and Mr. BISHOP of New York.
 H.R. 3318: Mr. COLE and Mr. VARGAS.
 H.R. 3319: Mr. AMODEI, Mr. CRAWFORD, and Mr. RICE of South Carolina.
 H.R. 3333: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico.
 H.R. 3346: Mr. GARAMENDI.
 H.R. 3348: Mrs. BACHMANN.
 H.R. 3349: Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
 H.R. 3350: Mr. COOK, Mr. COTTON, Ms. FOXF, Mr. JONES, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. JOYCE, Mr. BARR, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. ROONEY, Mr. CARTER, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. STIVERS, Mr.

BENTIVOLIO, Mr. RUNYAN, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. REED, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. LABRADOR, Mrs. BLACK, and Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 3351: Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 3353: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. LEWIS, Ms. CHU, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. HAHN, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 3356: Mr. AMODEI and Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.

H.R. 3358: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.

H.R. 3359: Mr. COLE, Mr. HECK of Nevada, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, and Mr. LABRADOR.

H.R. 3361: Mr. ENYART, Mr. LEWIS, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. HORSFORD, and Mr. MCCLINTOCK.

H.R. 3363: Mr. COBLE, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. HANNA, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. MEAD-

OWS, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. RADEL, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. NOLAN, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. OWENS, Mr. BARROW of Georgia, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, and Mr. WESTMORELAND.

H.R. 3364: Mr. HONDA.

H.R. 3370: Mr. RUNYAN, Ms. DELAURO, M. JOHNSON of Ohio, Ms. MENG, Mr. ROONEY, Mr. SANFORD, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. CHU, Mr. COLLINS of New York, and Mr. LANCE.

H.J. Res. 21: Mr. KIND.

H.J. Res. 56: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Ms. DELAURO, Mrs. BUSTOS, and Mr. RUSH.

H.J. Res. 64: Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.

H. Res. 109: Mr. SCHOCK and Mr. YODER.

H. Res. 153: Mr. JONES.

H. Res. 190: Mr. RICHMOND.

H. Res. 231: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. ISSA, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. HECK

of Washington, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. HULTGREN, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Mr. MASSIE.

H. Res. 254: Mr. PASTOR of Arizona and Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H. Res. 281: Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. MESSER, Mr. TERRY, and Mr. FLORES.

H. Res. 284: Mr. DESANTIS and Mr. WESTMORELAND.

H. Res. 365: Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. CAPUANO, and Mr. PETERS of Michigan.

H. Res. 394: Mr. RANGEL, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. RUSH, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. MORAN, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. SMITH of Washington.