United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 160 WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JULY 14, 2014 No. 109

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LAMALFA).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 14, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DOUG LAMALFA 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 7, 2014, 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, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

END HUNGER NOW

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, being poor in America is hard work. Despite what some of my colleagues and many right-wing pundits might think, it simply isn't easy to be poor in America.

Mr. Speaker, week after week, I come to this floor to talk about how we can end hunger now. It is a simple concept. We can end hunger if we muster the political will to do so. We have the food and we know how to do it. We just need the commitment to make it happen. Unfortunately, Congress has very consciously decided to make hunger worse.

In November, this Congress let a massive, across-the-board cut to SNAP take effect. The result was a benefit cut of $30 per month for a family of three. Imagine living on a fixed income, relying on food stamps to put food on the table, and then seeing your monthly allotment cut, without the cost of food going down. It is hard to make those numbers work.

On top of that across-the-board cut, this Congress passed a farm bill that cut an additional $8.5 billion from SNAP. Thankfully, a number of Governors have stepped up, covered those costs, and ensured that this cut would not impact poor people in their States. But not every State did the responsible thing, and poor people in those States will see an additional cut of $90 per month.

Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, this is an assault on poor people.

Part of the problem is that very few Members of Congress have even the faintest clue what it is like to be poor in America. How many Members of Congress have actually visited food banks, talked to SNAP recipients, or stayed overnight in a family shelter? How many of my colleagues have even looked at a WIC, LIHEAP, or Medicaid application, let alone tried to fill one out or gone through the approval process? The answer, Mr. Speaker, is very few.

Too many of my colleagues either turn a blind eye to the poor or go out of their way to dismiss their struggles. Many of these Members who don't take time to learn about the struggles of the poor are actually dispensing misleading information and are advocating for cuts to programs they mistakenly refer to as bloated and fraught with fraud, waste, and abuse.

Take SNAP, for example. Yes, it is a large program. We spend a lot of money ensuring that poor people have access to food. But until we do something about wages—and the first thing we should do is to raise the minimum wage, Mr. Speaker, so that people can actually afford to live their lives—we will be forced to either let people go hungry or help them buy their food. SNAP is that lifeline that helps put food on kitchen tables.

By the way, a majority of people who rely on SNAP actually work for a living.

Opponents of SNAP continue to describe it as fraught with fraud, waste, and abuse. This is absolutely false, period. The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities recently released a report explaining that the rates of both over- and underpayments have fallen considerably in recent years. In fact, the center found that less than 1 percent of food stamps go to ineligible people.

It is time we hear from people who are struggling to make ends meet. I was pleased that my friend, Congressman CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, the ranking member of the Budget Committee, invited Tianna Gaines-Turner to testify before the Budget Committee last week, at the request of Congresswoman BARBARA LEE of California.

Chairman PAUL RYAN has held five hearings on the 50th anniversary of the war on poverty, and this is the first time a poor person actually testified before the committee. It is amazing that it took so long to hear from a person who is actually trying to dig herself and her family out of poverty. That is the good news. If you want to hear the bad news, you should watch some of the questioning she endured at the hands of some of my Republican colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, we need to hear more from people like Ms. Gaines-Turner, and we need to work even harder to end hunger in America.

I will close by saying to my colleagues that the poor in America are

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more than statistics; they are real people. It is long past time this Congress made their plight a priority.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DENHAM) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

God of the universe, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

As the Members of this people's House deliberate these days, give them the wisdom and magnanimity to lay aside what might divide us as a people to forge a secure future for our country.

We pray for all people who have special needs. May Your presence be known to those who are sick that they might feel the power of Your healing Spirit.

Be with those who suffer persecution in so many places of our world, and bless our troops who are engaged in the easing of those sufferings. Give to all who are afraid or anxious or whose minds are clouded by uncertain futures the peace and confidence that come from trust in Your goodness and mercy.

Inspire the men and women who serve in this House to be their best selves that they may, in turn, be an inspiration to the Nation and to the world.

May all that is done here 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 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX 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.

LOSS OF JOBS IS A FAILURE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, an alarming admission has shown itself in the June unemployment report. For the 49th time in 50 months, there are more people dropping out of the job search than those who have found a new job. More people are giving up than succeeding. This reveals the real unemployment rate as 11.2 percent, not the claimed 6.1 percent.

Hardworking Americans are suffering by losing jobs at the hand of a failed jobs policy—at the hand of President Obama and his pen. A sad revelation of the President's failure is that now 14 million more Americans have depended on food stamps under his failed policies since he was elected. The definition of ''success'' is having a job and not being forced to depend on food stamps.

House Republicans will continue working to create jobs by passing legislation that puts Americans back to work in good-paying opportunities. Over 40 jobs bills have passed the House, but are now stuck in the Senate.

When more Americans give up jobs than succeed, it is a problem. When it happens that many times in a row, it is a tragic failure.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

ECONOMY

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, the recently revised downward first quarter GDP numbers show the economy contracted by 2.9 percent in the opening months of 2014.

We have a social safety net that is already forecasted to run perpetual deficits for decades to come, and diminished economic growth will hurt our already underfunded entitlement plans.

For as long as I have been in Congress, Republicans have been working to enact structural reforms to put our budget back in balance. The recent GDP report makes those reforms even more urgent.

These long-term reforms need to be considered. In the short run, let's hope that the recent economic contraction will spur the President and Senate Majority Leader HARRY REID to act on the dozens of House-passed jobs bills awaiting action in the Senate.

These bills will help put Americans back to work and expand our economy.

Will the President act?

INTERNET TAX FREEDOM ACT

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

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I wish to speak about the Internet Tax Freedom Act.

Interstate commerce has blossomed with the wires and connectivity that the Internet has provided us for these last couple of decades, and since 1998, the Internet Tax Freedom Act has prohibited your Internet access bill from lighting up like a Christmas tree as it has on your telephone bill. It has aided those who want to access the Internet by allowing those costs to stay down, without burdensome taxes being added on.

If ever there were an invention that is truly interstate commerce, it is the Internet. We could be standing side by side and could send each other a tweet or a post on Facebook or even an email, and it could go through a whole host of States on its way, in order to get to the person who is standing right next to you.

Only two people have ever voted against the Internet Tax Freedom Act, which was originally enacted in 1998, and every 4 years, we have had to renew that. Now, Chairman BOB GOODLATTE is bringing this up again, so as to make this permanent, to add certainty and to keep costs low.

I urge the passage of the Internet Tax Freedom Act as we address it later this week.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, July 14, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on July 14, 2014 at 11:19 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 1104.
That the Senate passed S. 653.
That the Senate passed S. 2056.
That the Senate passed S. 2057.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1376.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1813.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 3 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1502

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro

tempore (Mr. BENTIVOLIO) at 3 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

STEM EDUCATION ACT OF 2014

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5031) to define STEM education to include computer science, and to support existing STEM education programs at the National Science Foundation.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5031

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 ''STEM Education Act of 2014''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF STEM EDUCATION.

For purposes of carrying out STEM education activities at the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and the Environmental Protection Agency, the term ''STEM education'' means education in the subjects of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, including other academic subjects that build on these disciplines such as computer science.

SEC. 3. INFORMAL STEM EDUCATION.

(a) GRANTS.—The Director of the National Science Foundation, through the Directorate for Education and Human Resources, shall continue to award competitive, merit-reviewed grants to support—

(1) research and development of innovative out-of-school STEM learning and emerging STEM learning environments in order to improve STEM learning outcomes and engagement in STEM; and

(2) research that advances the field of informal STEM education.

(b) USES OF FUNDS.—Activities supported by grants under this section may encompass a single STEM discipline, multiple STEM disciplines, or integrative STEM initiatives and shall include—

(1) research and development that improves our understanding of learning and engagement in informal environments, including the role of informal environments in broadening participation in STEM; and

(2) design and testing of innovative STEM learning models, programs, and other resources for informal learning environments to improve STEM learning outcomes and increase engagement for K–12 students, K–12 teachers, and the general public, including design and testing of the scalability of models, programs, and other resources.

SEC. 4. NOYCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AMENDMENTS.

(a) AMENDMENTS.—Section 10A of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1862n–1a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2)(B), by inserting ''or bachelor's'' after ''master's'';

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (2)(B);

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by inserting ''for teachers with master's degrees in their field'' after ''Teaching Fellowships''; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting ''; and''; and

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

''(4) in the case of National Science Foundation Master Teaching Fellowships for teachers with bachelor's degrees in their field and working toward a master's degree—

''(A) offering academic courses leading to a master's degree and leadership training to prepare individuals to become master teachers in elementary and secondary schools; and

''(B) offering programs both during and after matriculation in the program for which the fellowship is received to enable fellows to become highly effective mathematics and science teachers, including mentoring, training, induction, and professional development activities, to fulfill the service requirements of this section, including the requirements of subsection (e), and to exchange ideas with others in their fields.'';

(3) in subsection (e), by striking ''subsection (g)'' and inserting ''subsection (h)'';

(4) by redesignating subsections (g) through (i) as subsections (h) through (j), respectively; and

(5) by inserting after subsection (f) the following new subsection:

''(g) SUPPORT FOR MASTER TEACHING FELLOWS WHILE ENROLLED IN A MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM.—A National Science Foundation Master Teacher Fellow may receive a maximum of 1 year of fellowship support while enrolled in a master's degree program as described in subsection (c)(4)(A), except that if such fellow is enrolled in a part-time program, such amount shall be prorated according to the length of the program.''.

(b) DEFINITION.—Section 10(i)(5) of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1862n–1(i)(5)) is amended by inserting ''computer science,'' after ''means a science,''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) and the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. ESTY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 5031, the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The STEM Education Act of 2014 is bipartisan legislation that ensures computer science is included in the definition of STEM education for programs and activities at our Federal science agencies.

The bill also supports and strengthens ongoing STEM education efforts at the National Science Foundation. I thank Ranking Member EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON and Representatives ELIZABETH ESTY, LARRY BUCSHON, CHRIS COLLINS, RANDY HULTGREN, ROBIN KELLY, JOE KENNEDY, DAN LIPINSKI, and FREDERICA WILSON for their initiative on this bill.

Earlier this year, the Science Committee held a hearing on STEM education. The discussion that took place at that hearing helped to illustrate the importance of STEM education and why we should include computer science as a component of STEM education. Frankly, it is hard to believe it hasn't been done before.

Today, a variety of jobs from banking to business to medicine require familiarity with computer science. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, computing and mathematics will be one of the top 10 major occupational groups from 2010 to 2020; and by 2020, there will be over 4 million U.S. jobs in computing and information technology.

Unfortunately, America lags behind many other nations when it comes to STEM education. American students rank 21st in science and 26th in math. That must change for the better.

We need to ensure that young adults have the scientific and mathematical skills to strive and thrive in a technology-based economy, but we have to capture and hold the desire of our Nation's youth to study science and engineering, so they will want to pursue these careers.

H.R. 5031 also includes language to support informal STEM education programs and activities at the National Science Foundation. These activities reach students outside of the classroom and strengthen a student's engagement in STEM subject areas.

The STEM Education Act ensures that teachers working towards a master's degree in STEM subjects can participate in the Robert Noyce Master Teacher Fellowship program. This program provides more opportunities for teachers who want to strengthen their teaching skills and now will encourage more teachers to pursue advanced degrees.

A healthy and viable STEM workforce, literate in all STEM subjects, including computer science, is critical to American industries. A well-educated and trained STEM workforce ensures our future economic prosperity. More graduates with STEM degrees means more advanced technologies and a more robust economy.

We must work to ensure that students continue to go into these fields, so that their innovative ideas can lead to a more innovative and prosperous America. I encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to start by thanking my friend, Chairman SMITH,

for his leadership on the Science Committee in promoting STEM education. I am grateful that we are able to advance these important provisions today in a bipartisan fashion, thanks in large part to his willingness to work across the aisle.

I would also like to thank Ranking Member EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON and Representative LIPINSKI for their leadership on the committee and their thoughtful guidance on these issues.

The STEM Education Act of 2014 provides critical support to the teachers and advocates of STEM education who are preparing our students with the skills they need to succeed in our increasingly competitive global society.

As Chairman SMITH said, the bill includes three provisions to support and promote STEM education in this country. It supports teachers who are passionate about STEM education, codifies the importance of informal hands-on STEM education, and expands the definition of STEM education to explicitly include computer science.

As a mother of three, I know firsthand the importance of having teachers who are engaged and passionate about being in the classroom, particularly science and math teachers.

From my own experience—my son just graduated from college with a degree in astrophysics—and from our time studying these issues on the committee, we know that when children are excited about science projects and math problems at a young age, they carry that passion with them throughout their lives. That is why we must encourage talented people to go into teaching, and this bill does just that.

It expands the Robert Noyce Master Teacher Fellowship at the National Science Foundation, so that more people who are enthusiastic about the sciences can teach our children.

I am grateful to see portions of my bill, the STEM Jobs Act, included in the legislation before us today. Currently, the Robert Noyce Master Teaching Fellowship provides mentoring, training, and financial support to people who have a master's degree in a STEM discipline and who want to enter the teaching profession.

The program is designed to ensure that these passionate individuals have the tools they need to become highly effective math and science teachers.

In Connecticut, the University of Bridgeport's Master Teaching Fellowship program is dedicated to placing physics teachers in our high-needs schools. At UConn's Teachers for Tomorrow program, we prepare teachers to effectively teach math to elementary, middle, and high school students.

The bill before us today expands the master teaching fellowships, so those working towards a master's degree are also eligible to apply. This expansion will allow more gifted individuals to be in our classrooms, preparing our children to become the next generation of engineers, scientists, and even astronauts.

However, no matter how great your math teacher is, studies show that all students thrive in a hands-on learning environment.

We are fortunate in Connecticut to have a terrific partner in informal STEM education at the Connecticut Science Center, which opened in 2009, to support STEM education in our schools.

When students visit the center, they can navigate through outer space, use lasers to learn about sight and sound, experiment with forces and motion, and explore our very own Connecticut River.

These interactive learning environments also provide structured support for teachers and for students. For example, the Connecticut Science Center trains more than 800 teachers annually. In teaching skills and content to support our school curriculum, these teachers then return to the classroom across the State of Connecticut and provide our students with the high-quality education that they need to succeed.

Programs like these are hosted by museums and science centers around the country. This bill directs the National Science Foundation to continue to award competitive grants to support these out-of-school, hands-on STEM learning experiences.

Finally, as Chairman SMITH noted, this bill takes an important—in fact, a critical step forward in expanding the definition of STEM to include computer science. Computer science is a critical component of STEM education. As he noted, the Bureau of Labor Statistics projects there will be more than 4 million computing and information technology jobs by the year 2020.

Students who study computer science can be leaders in diverse fields such as energy, manufacturing, defense, and health care. Unfortunately, computer science has all too often been overlooked at our elementary, middle, and high school levels. Even more concerning, only 25 percent of computer scientists are women, although women make up 57 percent of the workforce.

Manufacturing is the backbone of our economy in Connecticut, and I know, from conversations with our manufacturers, that they are desperate for high school and college graduates who have the computer skills necessary for our manufacturing jobs—high tech manufacturing jobs.

Our need for graduates with these skills will only continue to grow, and that is why it is so critical that we focus on building these skills in our elementary, middle, and high school students today.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that we have put together a bipartisan bill to support an advanced STEM education. Preparing our students with the skills they need to thrive in a global economy transcends partisan politics.

Again, I want to thank Chairman SMITH, Ranking Member JOHNSON, Representative BUCSHON, Representative LIPINSKI, and all of the committee staff for their hard work on the STEM Education Act. This bill is an important step in securing our children's future.

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to again thank the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. ESTY) for her interest in this subject of STEM education and for her contributions to this bill as well.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. COLLINS), who is a member of the Science Committee and also a cosponsor of this legislation.

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman SMITH for the opportunity to speak in support of the STEM Education Act, legislation that I have cosponsored to help create a new generation of innovators.

As a graduate in mechanical engineering, I quickly learned years ago of the important role a STEM background plays in U.S. manufacturing. Later, as I started my own business ventures, I have continued to learn how hard it can be to find new graduates with backgrounds in science, technology, engineering, or math.

These are jobs that drive our economy, and we need to act now to encourage students to realize the benefits in choosing one of these fields.

□ 1515

Among these STEM fields is commuter science, which is the primary driver for job growth among the four STEM fields of study. By 2020, there will be an estimated 4.2 million computing and information technology jobs; yet, at the current rate of students graduating from American universities and colleges, these jobs will be vastly underfilled.

We cannot let that happen. That is why we need this no-cost legislation to direct Federal agencies to include computer science as one of the definitions of STEM. This will allow the Federal Government to expand on this focus and help address the future gap in computer science.

Further, this bill will help teachers find ways to spur student interest in STEM. With more than 40 years separating us from the last Moon landing, we need to find a spark that spurs interest in STEM among young students. Whether it is a robotics competition or a simple after-school science experiment, these are the ways we will help create the next generation of great American innovators and inventors.

I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 5031.

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON), the ranking member of the committee.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5031 and the three other science, Space, and Technology bills being considered today.

Earlier this year, all of my Democratic committee colleagues joined me in introducing H.R. 4159, the America Competes Reauthorization Act of 2014. Three of the bills considered today are similar or identical to the provisions we included in our Competes bill, and the fourth bill similarly reflects a longstanding bipartisan effort. I will speak briefly about each of the four bills.

First, I want to thank Chairman SMITH and my Democratic colleagues, Mr. LIPINSKI and Ms. ESTY, for introducing H.R. 5031, the STEM Education Act of 2014. While we still have much work to do to improve access to high-quality STEM education for all young Americans, this bill is a good step in the right direction.

American students and American companies are at a significant disadvantage when it comes to having a well-prepared information technology workforce. While there is no silver bullet, it is important that we include computer science in the definition of STEM.

This bill also authorizes informal STEM education grants at the National Science Foundation. Learning happens in all settings at all times of the day, not just in the classroom.

While we know that informal STEM education holds great promise to increased engagement and learning in STEM by diverse populations, R&D and NSF helps ensure that we are developing and implementing the most effective programs.

Finally, H.R. 5031 amends NSF's Noyce Master Teacher Fellowship program to expand eligibility to current math and science teachers who already have a bachelor's degree in a STEM field.

This update ensures that we are tapping into our entire pool of talented STEM teachers who might serve as master teachers in their schools and districts. I urge my colleagues to support this good bill.

Next, I want to thank my fellow Texan, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, who introduced H.R. 1786, legislation that would reauthorize the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program, or NWIRP. The last several years have been devastating years for natural disasters across the country. Tornadoes have resulted in significant loss of life and property across the Midwest.

Superstorm Sandy caused widespread destruction and death along the eastern seaboard, and it was not so long ago that Hurricane Katrina devastated the gulf coast. We cannot stop these windstorms, but we must make sure our communities have the tools they need to prepare for and respond to and recover from these disasters.

H.R. 1786 reauthorizes NWIRP, an important program that helps our Federal agencies and communities across the Nation develop and implement new model building codes and many other measures to minimize the loss of life and property during windstorms and to rebuild effectively and safely after such storms.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this important bill.

I also want to thank Mr. BUCSHON and Mr. PETERS for introducing H.R. 5056, the Research and Development Efficiency Act. I think we can all agree that when federally funded researchers are spending more than 40 percent of their time on administrative burdens rather than doing science, we are not getting the most we can out of our investments in R&D.

While we must continue to prioritize both safety and accountability in federally funded research, we should not be creating piles of unnecessary paperwork for the scientists in the lab. Much of the burden is caused by a lack of consistency and uniformity in policies and requirements across our Federal science agencies.

I applaud my colleagues for ensuring that the science agencies, along with OSTP and OMB, continue to look for ways to harmonize and streamline Federal requirements affecting the conduct of R&D in our Nation's great research institutions. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Finally, I want to thank Mr. LIPINSKI for introducing H.R. 5029, the International Science and Technology Cooperation Act of 2014. The 2012 National Academies report, Rising to the Challenge: U.S. Innovation Policy for the Global Economy, notes that ''the globalization of research and innovation presents valuable opportunities for U.S. firms and federally funded research institutes to capitalize on offshore R&D initiatives and growing pools of science and technology talent.''

International collaborations have led to some of the latest discoveries and developments in science and technology, many of which have relevance to our everyday lives. Topics such as cybersecurity, nanotechnology, energy technology, and water resources are all ripe for greater international engagement and cooperation. In many cases, we simply cannot afford to do it all alone. In some cases, in this interconnected world, going at it alone could lead to significant unintended roadblocks in the future.

The better coordinated we are as a nation, the better positioned we are to lead on these issues globally. H.R. 5029 helps us achieve these goals. This is a good bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no other requests for time on this side, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI).

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5031, the STEM Education Act.

Like Mr. COLLINS who spoke earlier, I am also a mechanical engineer. I understand, as all of us do, the importance of improving STEM education. It is one of the most important tasks our Nation faces if our children are going to be able to compete in the global economy of today and tomorrow.

The language in this bill, which affirms support for informal STEM education at the National Science Foundation, is language that I offered to the NSF authorization bill in markup. I would like to thank Chairman SMITH for including it in his bill.

About 65 million visits to museum and science centers occur each year, including 13 million visits from schoolchildren. However, museums and science centers are much more than just an inspiring field trip destination. Their educational programming and inspirational exhibits linked to classroom curriculum make museums and science centers natural partners with schools in STEM education.

Programs supporting informal education at museums and science centers are responsible for some of the most innovative forms of teaching around. Passage of this bill would be a clear signal that Congress supports informal STEM education activities funded by the National Science Foundation and would ensure that they continue.

I would also like to thank my friend from Connecticut (Ms. ESTY) for her work on this bill to make substantive improvements to the Noyce scholarship program at NSF, and to Chairman SMITH for providing language which includes computer science in the definition of STEM education.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we have no further individuals who have requested time, so I am ready to yield back if the minority is ready to yield back.

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairman SMITH and Ranking Member EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON for their leadership in bringing this legislation to the floor and for their commitment to advancing STEM education and including computer science within the definition of STEM.

As a senior member of the Homeland Security Committee, I rise in support of H.R. 5031, the ''STEM Education Act of 2014.'' STEM workers drive our nation's innovation and competitiveness by generating new ideas, new companies and new industries.

I am committed to making sure that our nation can keep pace with global innovation today and into the future. During the 113th Congress:

I originally sponsored the Cybersecurity Education Enhancement Act, which directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a program to award grants to institutions of higher education for: cybersecurity professional development programs, associate degree programs in cybersecurity, and the purchase of equipment to provide training in cybersecurity for either professional development or degree programs.

I offered an amendment that was adopted by the Full Homeland Security Committee that would establish a fellowship program to attract STEM undergraduate and doctoral students to work at the Department of Homeland Security in exchange for tuition reimbursement assistance.

I co-sponsored the Veterans' STEM Education Program, the STEM Gateways Act, the National STEM Education Act, the Tax Incentive for Teacher Act, and the Women and Minorities in STEM Booster Act of 2014 all of which work towards bolstering the growth of STEM.

I also hosted the first Annual Congressional STEM Competition for my District, which challenged High School Students to design and/or create projects using Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics skills.

Houston is the 4th largest city in the United States and the 5th most populated metropolitan area in the nation.

The Houston region is one of the most important industrial bases in the world and was recently Manufacturers' New ranked the city first among other U.S. manufacturing cities.

Houston is also home to the largest medical complex in the world—the Texas Medical Center—and provides clinical health care, research and education at its 54 institutions.

The Houston Texas region lost 153,100 jobs during the Great Recession and gained 309,100 jobs during the recovery.

Only 3 other top metropolitan areas have done as well as Houston: Dallas at 158.9% recovery of jobs; Washington, DC at 144.2% of post recession job recovery and Boston had a 123.4% post recession jobs recovery.

The middle class of this decade is being determined by workers who get the right STEM education and job training today.

Brookings' Metropolitan Policy Program's report "The Hidden STEM Economy," reported that in 2011, 26 million jobs or 20 percent of all occupations required knowledge in 1 or more STEM areas.

Half of all STEM jobs are available to workers without a 4 year degree and these jobs pay on average $53,000 a year, which is 10 percent higher than jobs with similar education requirements.

There will be STEM winners and losers, but not because the skills needed are too difficult to obtain, but because people are not aware of the jobs that are going unfilled today nor do they know what education or training will create job security for the next 2 to 3 decades.

A third of Houston jobs are in STEM-based fields.

Houston has the second largest concentrations of engineers (22.4 for every 1,000 workers according to the Greater Houston Partnership.)

Houston has 59,070 engineers the second largest populations in the nation.

STEM Jobs can be found in every sector of the economy. For example: Science

Houston has more than 400 software development companies and a ready customer base in the areas of energy, space science, biotechnology and leading technology research and development entities.

Houston has the Johnson Space Center, a $1.5 billion complex housing one of NASA's largest Research and Development facilities that provides some of the nation's best high-tech professionals in science and engineering.

Mr. Speaker, in the past 10 years, growth in STEM jobs has been three times greater than non-STEM jobs.

In the next decade, almost all of the 30 fastest-growing jobs will require some STEM skills, yet 61 percent of middle school students would rather take out the garbage than do their math homework.

STEM jobs are expected to keep up an accelerated pace in the coming years leading to 1.8 million STEM-related job openings in 2018.

60 percent of U.S. employers are having difficulties finding qualified workers to fill vacancies at their companies.

In the current overall employment market, unemployed people outnumber job postings 3.6 to one. In the STEM occupation 4, job postings outnumbered unemployed people by 1.9 to one.

At all levels of educational attainment, STEM job holders earn 11 percent higher wages compared with their same-degree counterparts in other job.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting passage of H.R. 5031.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5031.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL WINDSTORM IMPACT REDUCTION ACT REAUTHORIZATION OF 2014

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1786) to reauthorize the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1786

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 "National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization of 2014".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

(a) DIRECTOR.—Section 203(1) of the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 15702(1)) is amended by striking "Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy" and inserting "Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology".

(b) LIFELINES.—Section 203 of the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 15702) is further amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (4) as paragraphs (3) through (5), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:

"(2) LIFELINES.—The term 'lifelines' means public works and utilities, including transportation facilities and infrastructure, oil and gas pipelines, electrical power and communication facilities and infrastructure, and water supply and sewage treatment facilities.".

SEC. 3. NATIONAL WINDSTORM IMPACT REDUCTION PROGRAM.

Section 204 of the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 15703) is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (a), (b), and (c) and inserting the following:

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program, the purpose of which is to achieve major measurable reductions in the losses of life and property from windstorms through a coordinated Federal effort, in cooperation with other levels of government, academia, and the private sector, aimed at improving the understanding of windstorms and their impacts and developing and encouraging the implementation of cost-effective mitigation measures to reduce those impacts.

"(b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROGRAM AGENCIES.—

"(1) LEAD AGENCY.—The National Institute of Standards and Technology shall have the primary responsibility for planning and coordinating the Program. In carrying out this paragraph, the Director shall—

"(A) ensure that the Program includes the necessary components to promote the implementation of windstorm risk reduction measures by Federal, State, and local governments, national standards and model building code organizations, architects and engineers, and others with a role in planning and constructing buildings and lifelines;

"(B) support the development of performance-based engineering tools, and work with appropriate groups to promote the commercial application of such tools, including through wind-related model building codes, voluntary standards, and construction best practices;

"(C) request the assistance of Federal agencies other than the Program agencies, as necessary to assist in carrying out this Act;

"(D) coordinate all Federal post-windstorm investigations; and

"(E) when warranted by research or investigative findings, issue recommendations to assist in informing the development of model codes, and provide information to Congress on the use of such recommendations.

"(2) NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY.—In addition to the lead agency responsibilities described under paragraph (1), the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall be responsible for carrying out research and development to improve model building codes, voluntary standards, and best practices for the design, construction, and retrofit of buildings, structures, and lifelines.

"(3) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—The National Science Foundation shall support research in—

"(A) engineering and the atmospheric sciences to improve the understanding of the behavior of windstorms and their impact on buildings, structures, and lifelines; and

"(B) economic and social factors influencing windstorm risk reduction measures.

"(4) NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION.—The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall support atmospheric sciences research to improve the understanding of the behavior of windstorms and their impact on buildings, structures, and lifelines.

"(5) FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—The Federal Emergency Management Agency shall—

"(A) support—

"(i) the development of risk assessment tools and effective mitigation techniques;

"(ii) windstorm-related data collection and analysis;

"(iii) public outreach and information dissemination; and

"(iv) promotion of the adoption of windstorm preparedness and mitigation measures, including for households, businesses, and communities, consistent with the Agency's all-hazards approach; and

"(B) work closely with national standards and model building code organizations, in conjunction with the National Institute of Standards and Technology, to promote the implementation of research results and promote better

building practices within the building design and construction industry, including architects, engineers, contractors, builders, and inspectors.'';

(2) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (c), and by striking subsections (e) and (f); and

(3) by inserting after subsection (c), as so redesignated, the following new subsections:

''(d) BUDGET ACTIVITIES.—The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Director of the National Science Foundation, the Director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall each include in their agency's annual budget request to Congress a description of their agency's projected activities under the Program for the fiscal year covered by the budget request, along with an assessment of what they plan to spend on those activities for that fiscal year.

''(e) INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON WINDSTORM IMPACT REDUCTION.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an Interagency Coordinating Committee on Windstorm Impact Reduction, chaired by the Director.

''(2) MEMBERSHIP.—In addition to the chair, the Committee shall be composed of—

''(A) the heads of—

''(i) the Federal Emergency Management Agency;

''(ii) the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;

''(iii) the National Science Foundation;

''(iv) the Office of Science and Technology Policy; and

''(v) the Office of Management and Budget; and

''(B) the head of any other Federal agency the chair considers appropriate.

''(3) MEETINGS.—The Committee shall meet not less than 2 times a year at the call of the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

''(4) GENERAL PURPOSE AND DUTIES.—The Committee shall oversee the planning and coordination of the Program.

''(5) STRATEGIC PLAN.—The Committee shall develop and submit to Congress, not later than one year after the date of enactment of the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization of 2014, a Strategic Plan for the Program that includes—

''(A) prioritized goals for the Program that will mitigate against the loss of life and property from future windstorms;

''(B) short-term, mid-term, and long-term research objectives to achieve those goals;

''(C) a description of the role of each Program agency in achieving the prioritized goals;

''(D) the methods by which progress towards the goals will be assessed; and

''(E) an explanation of how the Program will foster the transfer of research results into outcomes, such as improved model building codes.

''(6) PROGRESS REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization of 2014, the Committee shall submit to the Congress a report on the progress of the Program that includes—

''(A) a description of the activities funded under the Program, a description of how these activities align with the prioritized goals and research objectives established in the Strategic Plan, and the budgets, per agency, for these activities;

''(B) the outcomes achieved by the Program for each of the goals identified in the Strategic Plan;

''(C) a description of any recommendations made to change existing building codes that were the result of Program activities; and

''(D) a description of the extent to which the Program has incorporated recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Windstorm Impact Reduction.

''(7) COORDINATED BUDGET.—The Committee shall develop a coordinated budget for the Program, which shall be submitted to the Congress at the time of the President's budget submission for each fiscal year.''.

SEC. 4. NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WINDSTORM IMPACT REDUCTION.

Section 205 of the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 15704) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 205. NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WINDSTORM IMPACT REDUCTION.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall establish an Advisory Committee on Windstorm Impact Reduction, which shall be composed of at least 7 members, none of whom may be employees of the Federal Government, including representatives of research and academic institutions, industry standards development organizations, emergency management agencies, State and local government, and business communities who are qualified to provide advice on windstorm impact reduction and represent all related scientific, architectural, and engineering disciplines. The recommendations of the Advisory Committee shall be considered by Federal agencies in implementing the Program.

''(b) ASSESSMENTS.—The Advisory Committee on Windstorm Impact Reduction shall offer assessments on—

''(1) trends and developments in the natural, engineering, and social sciences and practices of windstorm impact mitigation;

''(2) the priorities of the Program's Strategic Plan;

''(3) the coordination of the Program; and

''(4) any revisions to the Program which may be necessary.

''(c) COMPENSATION.—The members of the Advisory Committee established under this section shall serve without compensation.

''(d) REPORTS.—At least every 2 years, the Advisory Committee shall report to the Director on the assessments carried out under subsection (b) and its recommendations for ways to improve the Program.

''(e) CHARTER.—Notwithstanding section 14(b)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App), the Advisory Committee shall not be required to file a charter subsequent to its initial charter, filed under section 9(c) of such Act, before the termination date specified in subsection (f) of this section.

''(f) TERMINATION.—The Advisory Committee shall terminate on September 30, 2016.

''(g) CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—An Advisory Committee member shall recuse himself from any Advisory Committee activity in which he has an actual pecuniary interest.''.

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 207 of the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 15706) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 207. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''(a) FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for carrying out this title—

''(1) $5,332,000 for fiscal year 2014; and

''(2) $5,332,000 for fiscal year 2015.

''(b) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the National Science Foundation for carrying out this title—

''(1) $9,682,000 for fiscal year 2014; and

''(2) $9,682,000 for fiscal year 2015.

''(c) NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the National Institute of Standards and Technology for carrying out this title—

''(1) $4,120,000 for fiscal year 2014; and

''(2) $4,120,000 for fiscal year 2015.

''(d) NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for carrying out this title—

''(1) $2,266,000 for fiscal year 2014; and

''(2) $2,266,000 for fiscal year 2015.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 1786, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1786, the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization of 2014, introduced by my Texas colleague, Congressman RANDY NEUGEBAUER, reauthorizes the activities of the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program through 2015.

This important program supports Federal research and development efforts to help mitigate the loss of life and property due to wind-related hazards.

Millions of Americans live in areas vulnerable to hurricanes, tornadoes, and other windstorms.

According to the latest data in the National Science and Technology Council's biennial report to Congress, in 2011, windstorms in the U.S. caused an estimated $11 billion in total direct property losses, injured nearly 7,000 people, and took nearly 700 lives.

In Texas, we are all too familiar with the harm that excessive wind can cause. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Storm Prediction Center, 179 tornadoes and 1,586 windstorms were reported in Texas in just the last 2 years. The effects of these disasters can be felt for years.

Initially established in 2004, the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program supports activities to improve our understanding of windstorms and their impacts and helps to develop and encourage the implementation of cost-effective mitigation measures.

H.R. 1786 establishes the National Institute of Standards and Technology as the lead agency for the program, improves coordination and planning of agency activities in a fiscally responsible way, and improves transparency for how much money is being spent on windstorm research.

I want to thank Representative NEUGEBAUER for his continued efforts to support this program. He and Representative FREDERICA WILSON worked together to ensure that H.R. 1786 was reported out of the Science Committee with bipartisan support.

I encourage my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 11, 2014.

Hon. LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman, Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I write concerning H.R. 1786, the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization of, 2013, as ordered reported by the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology on February 28, 2014. Thank you for working with us to incorporate mutually agreeable changes to provisions within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

In order to expedite the House's consideration of H.R. 1786, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will forgo further action on this bill. However, this is conditional on our mutual understanding that forgoing consideration of the bill does not prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or to any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in the bill or similar legislation that fall within the Committee's Rule X jurisdiction. I request you urge the Speaker to name members of the Committee to any conference committee named to consider such provisions.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding, and would request that you insert our exchange of letters on this matter into the committee report on H.R. 1786 and the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House floor.

Sincerely,

BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY,
Washington, DC, March 11, 2014.

Hon. BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SHUSTER, Thank you for agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1786, the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization of 2013, and for working with us to incorporate mutually agreeable changes to provisions within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

I agree that forgoing further action on this bill does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your Committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this legislation.

I will insert copies of this exchange in the report filed on H.R. 1786 as well as in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House floor. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work with the Transportation Committee as the bill moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1786, legislation that would reauthorize the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program, or NWIRP.

As an Illinoisan, I know firsthand that windstorms are a threat to American lives and the economy. Last November, Illinois was struck by 24 tornadoes on one day, resulting in seven fatalities, hundreds of injuries, and significant economic damage.

While we cannot stop a hurricane or tornado from happening, there is much we can do to save both lives and property when windstorms and other natural disasters happen. In addition to responding quickly and with sufficient resources in the aftermath of a natural disaster, we must also invest in preparedness and resilience. Studies of FEMA's predisaster mitigation program have shown that for every dollar we invest in mitigation activities, we save $3 to $4 in recovery costs.

□ 1530

NWIRP is primarily a mitigation program. It has the potential to lessen the loss of life and economic damage by supporting research and development on windstorms and their impacts and helping to ensure that this research is translated into improved building codes and emergency plans. But NWIRP needs investments to reach that potential.

I was pleased that when this bill was considered in the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, we worked in a bipartisan manner to make several improvements to this bill. I want to thank my colleagues, Chairman SMITH and Mr. NEUGEBAUER, for working across the aisle in a smooth and productive process.

We worked together to increase the authorization for FEMA, the NWIRP agency tasked with translating the research conducted at other agencies into effective mitigation tools and techniques and helping communities across the Nation implement mitigation measures through outreach and partnership.

In addition, we worked together to add language to the bill addressing human factors in reducing windstorm impacts. This is not just a building engineering problem; it is also a social science and human response problem. People in the path of a windstorm have to make smart decisions, no matter what structure they are in. In order to design effective strategies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a disaster, we must take into account research in how people make decisions and respond to warnings during natural disasters.

We must also understand how different groups of people may respond differently so that we can tailor outreach and warnings appropriately. I was pleased we were able to strengthen the legislation by adding this important language on human factors.

Often, in a compromise like this one, you do not get everything you would like. I would have liked to see increases in the authorization levels across the board. This bill includes a lower total authorization level than what was authorized for this program in fiscal year 2008. Nevertheless, I understand the need to reauthorize this important program.

Finally, I want to thank my colleagues on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, which I also serve on, for working with us on this bill since we share jurisdiction over this program.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEUGEBAUER), who is a member of the Science Committee and also a sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate Chairman SMITH's support of this legislation, as well as Ms. JOHNSON, the ranking member.

I rise today in support of H.R. 1786, the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act. This is a very important piece of legislation because what we know is that tornadoes and tornadic-type winds have caused a huge amount of destruction and loss of life in our country.

Last year alone, there were over 1,300 recorded tornadoes in our country, causing over 70 deaths and over 1,500 injuries. These storms not only cost lives, but they also damaged property. The average is about $4 million a year, except in 2011, when we saw a bad year for tornadoes. The damage was over $28 billion. That is not just a natural disaster; it is national disaster as well.

Back in 1970, I had an opportunity firsthand to find out exactly how devastating these tornadoes can be. In my hometown of Lubbock, Texas, a tornado ripped through our community and killed 26 of our citizens. Fortunately, I was not injured. It was in an area that I lived at that time, and I had the opportunity to see firsthand the tremendous amount of devastation that can happen from these storms.

Very quickly, after that storm in 1970, Dr. Ernst Kiesling, with Texas Tech University, began to study these tornadic winds and to look at ways to build structures more effectively, to build shelters, and to really study the impacts that these storms have on building materials and what materials hold up the best.

We have been talking about statistics, but it is really about the lives of people that are impacted by these storms. When someone loses their home, they not only rebuild their home, but, in many cases, they are going to have to rebuild their lives, which is one of the primary reasons that I introduced this important piece of legislation.

What does it do? Basically, it begins to, as I mentioned earlier what was going on at Texas Tech, not only study the building materials and different types of wind activity and the material

in the structure and construction techniques that are used to apply those materials, but also to begin to have a better ability to predict how these storms form and, in the future, be able to give more warning, but just doing the research overall of how we can do better at predicting and also helping the American people do mitigation against these kinds of storms and understand the mechanics of them.

Basically, what this NWIRP does is take four agencies and pool them together in how they spend money for this important research. It takes NOAA, the National Science Foundation, FEMA, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology, or NIST, and basically makes sure that they are coordinating and sharing that information.

What is so important about using Federal tax dollars to do that research is to make sure that we are transforming that out into the general public. And so as we learn about these techniques and we begin to make suggestions of how building codes, building standards, and building techniques can be improved in the future, we thereby save lives and property down the road. That is an important part of this.

What we learned is that for every dollar that we spend in mitigation, we save $4 in response down the road. And so not only is this a piece of legislation that will help save lives and property, but a really novel idea of saving the American taxpayers money at the same time.

This is a commonsense piece of legislation that is bipartisan. It passed out of the committee in a bipartisan way. It will save lives; it will save money; and it will save property. I encourage my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation.

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the Home and Security Committee, I rise in support of H.R. 1786, the "National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization of 2014."

I want to thank Chairman SMITH and Ranking Member EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON for their leadership in bringing this bill to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, Houston is vulnerable to hurricanes that traverse the Gulf of Mexico and we have experienced powerful storms during the past decade.

Hurricane Ike heavily impacted Houston and nearby city of Galveston in 2008, causing $27.8 billion in damage, and killing 20.

Tropical storms in Texas are also known for being heavy rain producers as well as wind surge threats. For example, tropical storm Allison in 2001 dumped as much as 35 to 40 inches of rain, killing 41 people and causing $9 billion in damage.

We are currently in the 2014 hurricane season and forecasters are expecting one to two major hurricanes.

This bill amends the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of 2004 to revise provisions governing the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program (NWIRP) as well as designates the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) as the entity with primary responsibility for Program planning and coordination.

Congress, under the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of 2004, designated four agencies to compromise the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program including the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and National Science Foundation (NSF)

The federal agencies which compromised the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Windstorm Impact Reduction will have the following respective responsibilities.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) will have the primary responsibility for planning and coordinating the program, carry out research and development to improve model building codes, voluntary standards, and best practices for the design, construction, and retrofit of buildings, structures, and lifelines.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) will support research in engineering and atmospheric sciences and economic and social factors influencing windstorm risk reduction measures.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will support atmospheric sciences research to improve the understanding of the behavior of windstorms and their impact on buildings, structures, and lifelines.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will support the development of risk assessment tools and effective mitigation techniques, conduct public outreach and information dissemination, and promote the adoption of windstorm preparedness and mitigation measures.

The bill will also require the Committee to submit a progress report to Congress and to develop a coordinated budget for the Program which must be submitted at the time of the President's annual budget submission.

Finally, the bill allows the Director of NIST to establish an Advisory Committee on Windstorm Impact Reduction which shall be composed of at least 7 members. This advisory committee will offer assessments and practices of wind storm impact mitigation.

This coordinated effort will greatly increase the efficiency and effectiveness of federal efforts to save lives in Houston and around the country as well as mitigate property loss.

The reasons for supporting this bill are obvious, and I ask my colleagues in the House to vote for its passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1786, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EFFICIENCY ACT

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5056) to improve the efficiency of Federal research and development, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5056

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 "Research and Development Efficiency Act".

SEC. 2. REGULATORY EFFICIENCY.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) high and increasing administrative burdens and costs in Federal research administration, particularly in the higher education sector where most federally sponsored research is performed, are eroding funds available to carry out basic scientific research;

(2) progress has been made over the last decade in streamlining the pre-award grant application process through Grants.gov, the Federal Government's website portal;

(3) post-award administrative costs have grown as Federal research agencies have continued to impose agency-unique compliance and reporting requirements on researchers and research institutions;

(4) facilities and administration costs at research universities can exceed 50 percent of the total value of Federal research grants, and it is estimated that nearly 30 percent of the funds invested annually in federally funded research is consumed by paperwork and other administrative processes required by Federal agencies; and

(5) it is a matter of critical importance to American competitiveness that administrative costs of federally funded research be streamlined so that a higher proportion of taxpayer dollars flow into direct research activities.

(b) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall establish a working group under the authority of the National Science and Technology Council, to include the Office of Management and Budget. The working group shall be responsible for reviewing Federal regulations affecting research and research universities and making recommendations on how to—

(1) harmonize, streamline, and eliminate duplicative Federal regulations and reporting requirements; and

(2) minimize the regulatory burden on United States institutions of higher education performing federally funded research while maintaining accountability for Federal tax dollars.

(c) STAKEHOLDER INPUT.—In carrying out the responsibilities under subsection (b), the working group shall take into account input and recommendations from non-Federal stakeholders, including federally funded and nonfederally funded researchers, institutions of higher education, scientific disciplinary societies and associations, nonprofit research institutions, industry, including small businesses, federally funded research and development centers, and others with a stake in ensuring effectiveness, efficiency, and accountability in the performance of scientific research.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 3 years, the Director shall report to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce,

Science, and Transportation of the Senate on what steps have been taken to carry out the recommendations of the working group established under subsection (b).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 5056, the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague, chairman of the Research and Technology Subcommittee, LARRY BUCSHON, in support of this legislation, which reduces the regulatory burden faced by researchers and research universities.

In its recently released report, the Federal Demonstration Partnership found that researchers devote 42 percent of their time to administrative tasks. Answering Federal regulatory and reporting requirements takes away from time spent on the conduct of science.

H.R. 5056 requires the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to establish a working group under the National Science and Technology Council to review Federal regulations that affect research and research universities. The working group is tasked with making recommendations on how to harmonize, streamline, and eliminate duplicative Federal regulations and reporting requirements, and making recommendations on how to minimize the regulatory burden on research institutions.

H.R. 5056 is an important step to ensure Federal research dollars are being spent on research and not on regulatory requirements. I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5056, the Research and Development Efficiency Act.

I would like to thank my colleagues, Mr. BUCSHON and Mr. PETERS, for introducing this important bill. As ranking member of the Subcommittee on Research and Technology, I have also been working on a topic of research regulations for some time, and I am pleased to be a cosponsor of this bill.

Recent reports have found that federally funded researchers face significant administrative burdens, spending about 40 percent of their time on paperwork instead of what they do best, which is conducting research. This could mean a delay in research progress and lengthening the time for the next scientific breakthrough. It is certainly not the best use of some of our Nation's greatest science and engineering talent or of taxpayers' investment in that talent.

I want to stress that administrative requirements are very important and many are in place for a reason. We must have a system that ensures that human participants are being protected and our resources are being used wisely. We have heard from those most affected by these requirements, and they fully agree.

That being said, we also agree that we need to find the right balance that meets our safety and accountability goals, but still allows researchers to advance science for the good of the Nation. Right now, we are not striking the appropriate balance.

H.R. 5056 was originally introduced by Chairman BUCSHON as part of the FIRST Act. The America Competes Reauthorization Act of 2014, which Ranking Member JOHNSON introduced and I cosponsored, had very similar language with the same goal.

This bill requires the Office of Science and Technology Policy to establish a working group of Federal research agencies to figure out how to better standardize and streamline the administrative requirements on their grantees. Mr. PETERS helped strengthen the provision during the subcommittee consideration of the FIRST Act with an amendment that ensured that those stakeholders who are affected by all of the requirements have a means to provide input and recommendations to the agency working group. The result is the bipartisan bill that we are considering today.

Through a recent OMB process to overhaul their guidance on requirements for Federal grants and contracts, some progress has been made to streamline and harmonize administrative tasks. Some agencies are taking additional steps on their own, for example, considering requiring certain administrative information from researchers only if the proposal has been through scientific merit review and is likely to be awarded. These are important efforts, but significant work remains.

Every week in the Science Committee we hear expert testimony on challenges with no easy solution. The challenge of having a patchwork of uncoordinated and sometimes duplicative administrative burdens on federally funded researchers should be a solvable problem. H.R. 5056 is a very important step in the right direction.

Once again, I want to thank Chairman BUCSHON and Mr. PETERS for their leadership on this issue. I urge my colleagues to support their legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Indiana, Dr. BUCSHON, who is also the chairman of the Research and Technology Subcommittee of the Science Committee and the sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. BUCSHON. Thank you, Chairman SMITH.

Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to work on this bipartisan effort to reduce the administrative burden placed on federally funded researchers.

Last year, in my new role as the chairman of the Subcommittee on Research and Technology, I participated in a university tour across the State of Indiana. This tour focused on federally funded research in the State of Indiana, and included Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology and Indiana State University, both located in Terre Haute, Indiana, and the University of Evansville and the University of Southern Indiana, both in Evansville, Indiana, and the issues of concern these higher education institutions have surrounding federally funded research.

Along with the input I received during last year's tour, we have also received feedback and input at various hearings the committee has held pertaining to this regulatory burden.

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This legislation would establish a working group to review Federal regulations that affect these universities and others. The working group would be required to obtain input from stakeholders, including federally and nonfederally funded researchers, higher education institutions, small businesses, and scientific disciplinary societies. The bill also requires a report on what steps are taken to carry out the recommendations of the working group.

I would like to thank Chairman SMITH, Ranking Member JOHNSON, my colleague Mr. PETERS from California, and my colleague Mr. LIPINSKI from Illinois for their work on the bill. I am hopeful this bipartisan legislation can see movement in the Senate and that, from there, we can help to alleviate some of the burden placed on our research universities so they can get back to the main goal of conducting basic science research.

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

I want to take this opportunity to thank Chairman BUCSHON and Chairman SMITH for their work not just on this bill but on the series of bills that we are considering today.

The Research and Technology Subcommittee, which Chairman BUCSHON is chairman of and I am ranking member of, has been very active in this Congress. We had been working on the first act, and I am very happy that, although there were some disagreements on that bill, which did pass through committee, that, today, we are considering pieces of that bill and other legislation that we have worked on, in a bipartisan manner, on that subcommittee and on this committee. I am very happy we have been able to do that.

There is a lot that we need to accomplish and that we are moving forward on accomplishing now on the Science, Space, and Technology Committee. I want to thank Chairman SMITH and Chairman BUCSHON for all of their work, and, hopefully, that will continue as we move forward in this Congress.

I urge my colleagues to pass this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman, the ranking member of the subcommittee, for his very generous comments. They are much appreciated. We have lots to thank him for as well on this bill and on many other bills on which he has shown a leadership role and on which he has contributed much to many bills under consideration today.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5056.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION ACT OF 2014

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5029) to provide for the establishment of a body to identify and coordinate international science and technology cooperation that can strengthen the domestic science and technology enterprise and support United States foreign policy goals.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5029

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 ''International Science and Technology Cooperation Act of 2014''.

SEC. 2. COORDINATION OF INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIPS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall establish a body under the National Science and Technology Council with the responsibility to identify and coordinate international science and technology cooperation that can strengthen the United States science and technology enterprise, improve economic and national security, and support United States foreign policy goals.

(b) NSTC BODY LEADERSHIP.—The body established under subsection (a) shall be co-chaired by senior level officials from the Office of Science and Technology Policy and the Department of State.

(c) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The body established under subsection (a) shall—

(1) coordinate interagency international science and technology cooperative research and training activities and partnerships supported or managed by Federal agencies and work with other National Science and Technology Council committees to help plan and coordinate the international component of national science and technology priorities;

(2) establish Federal priorities and policies for aligning, as appropriate, international science and technology cooperative research and training activities and partnerships supported or managed by Federal agencies with the foreign policy goals of the United States;

(3) identify opportunities for new international science and technology cooperative research and training partnerships that advance both the science and technology and the foreign policy priorities of the United States;

(4) in carrying out paragraph (3), solicit input and recommendations from non-Federal science and technology stakeholders, including universities, scientific and professional societies, industry, and relevant organizations and institutions; and

(5) identify broad issues that influence the ability of United States scientists and engineers to collaborate with foreign counterparts, including barriers to collaboration and access to scientific information.

(d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall transmit a report, to be updated annually, to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, and to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate. The report shall also be made available to the public on the reporting agency's website. The report shall contain a description of—

(1) the priorities and policies established under subsection (c)(2);

(2) the ongoing and new partnerships established since the last update to the report;

(3) the means by which stakeholder input was received, as well as summary views of stakeholder input; and

(4) the issues influencing the ability of United States scientists and engineers to collaborate with foreign counterparts.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 5029, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Science and technology research addresses the major challenges facing our Nation. These include energy production, public health, national security, and economic development.

H.R. 5029, the International Science and Technology Cooperation Act of 2014, will improve our collaboration efforts with international partners on scientific issues.

I thank the ranking member, Mr. LIPINSKI of Illinois, for his initiative on this issue and, as I mentioned a while ago, for his initiative on so many bills that are being considered today.

Better collaboration with our international partners will strengthen the U.S. scientific activities and will additionally promote the free exchange of ideas in other nations.

While many Federal agencies are engaged with international partners on science and technology projects, there is a need to coordinate these projects across the Federal Government and to identify opportunities for additional collaborations. Interagency coordination ensures that tax dollars are used efficiently and that U.S. priorities are consistently addressed when working with our international partners on science and technology issues.

The International Science and Technology Cooperation Act directs the National Science and Technology Council to identify and coordinate the U.S. interagency strategy for international science and technology cooperation. Further, this council will make recommendations for how to improve U.S. engagement in science and technology cooperation with our global partners. This will help ensure that the U.S. maintains its leadership in science and technology research and discovery.

The bill strengthens U.S. science and technology activities, improves economic and national security, and supports U.S. foreign policy goals. For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5029.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

The U.S. has a great tradition of using science diplomacy to strengthen our ties with allies and to open the door to building better relationships across the globe. That is why I introduced H.R. 5029, the International Science and Technology Cooperation Act of 2014.

Scientific issues know no boundaries and deal with problems and opportunities of the highest importance to the entire world. Improvements in such areas as energy security, infectious diseases, space exploration, telecommunications and the Internet, and many more are due, in part, to international cooperation—to the benefit of all nations involved. By collaborating with international partners on science, we strengthen the U.S. scientific enterprise, which helps us get the best return on our research investment.

This bipartisan bill would improve international science cooperation by requiring the National Science and Technology Council at the White House to maintain a body that would identify and coordinate U.S. interagency strategy for international science and technology cooperation. Many Federal agencies already work with international counterparts on science and technological issues, but until recently, there was no coordinating body to identify new partnerships and to fully leverage existing collaborations.

While the administration is taking steps to formulate a strategy for international science cooperation, this bill will ensure that the process moves forward with the appropriate congressional oversight, which is something I think we can all agree on.

The U.S. scientific enterprise is admired across the world. In addition to helping our own researchers solve problems of national and global importance more efficiently, international cooperation helps to demonstrate the value of the free flow of ideas, which is the foundation of American democracy.

There is one other thing I wanted to raise. If anyone has any questions about the importance of collaboration when it comes to scientific endeavors, I certainly recommend the documentary ''Particle Fever,'' which is about the work at CERN, in Switzerland, on the Large Hadron Collider. As a physicist searches for the Higgs boson—it sounds like it would be an incredibly boring documentary to watch, but it is just fascinating to see and to see the international cooperation that goes on as they do this search. It is a great example of what international collaboration can do in the scientific enterprise.

I want to thank Chairman SMITH and Ranking Member JOHNSON for working with me to improve the bill we have before us and to bring it to the floor. When this bill was considered in the 111th Congress, it passed the House with overwhelming bipartisan support. I am hopeful that we will pass it again today and see action in the Senate as well. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Homeland Security Committee and former member of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, I thank you for the opportunity to rise and speak in support of H.R. 5029, the "International Science and Technology Cooperation Act of 2014."

I would like to thank the Chairman SMITH and Ranking EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of the Science, Space, and Technology House Committee for their work in advancing scientific cooperation around the globe that will benefit our domestic efforts to remain competitive and stong in a wide range of scientific fields.

The United States federal science agencies are already effective in collaborating with international agencies and organizations on Science and Technology (S&T), but this bill would ensure that there is a group that coordinates and looks for new opportunities to get involved with our international partners.

International cooperation in Science and Technology will help us answer scientific questions, and conduct elaborate research and development more quickly and efficiently.

According to the International Science and Technology Strategy for the United States Department of Defense, the non-U.S. component of global research and development is more than 60 percent of the total global investment and is expected to continue to outpace the U.S. contribution.

International collaboration would help us address global challenges on a broader scale and would give mutual enhancement of resources for both the United States and its partners.

A few enhancements would allow access to unique research laboratories and facilities, risk reduction through multiple technical approaches to solve difficult technical problems, improve the warfighting capabilities of all involved, and potentially enhance interoperability during coalition operations.

Our partnerships with Service-sponsored international offices in the U.K., Japan, Singapore, and Australia, along with our partners in South America, Canada, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom in the Technical Cooperative Program, and the NATO Research and Technology Organization, give us a broad range of resources to work with across the world.

We must continue to enhance and strengthen our foreign relationships in S&T to broker new research, identify mutually advantageous opportunities, and exchange information with potential partners regarding research interests.

The International Space Station, which was built 16 years ago, and continues to operate under the collaboration of several countries around the world, is one of many portrayals that show how international relationships can produce profound research and discoveries.

The European Council for Nuclear Research which conducts in-depth studies on Earth's fundamental matter and particles is another prime example of how foreign collaboration is beneficial and effective in producing elaborate research.

The Center for Disease Control's World Health Organization is also one of the best illustrations of foreign collaboration used to advance the efforts in finding cures for diseases and conducting vital research and studies for global health concerns.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in my support for H.R. 5029, and understand the importance of our international relationships involving Science and Technology, so that when successful, may lead to cooperative research, development and technology programs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5029.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS, PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE, AND COURT SERVICES AND OFFENDER SUPERVISION AGENCY ACT OF 2014

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4185) to revise certain authorities of the District of Columbia courts, the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia, and the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4185

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 ''District of Columbia Courts, Public Defender Service, and Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency Act of 2014''.

SEC. 2. AUTHORITIES OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS.

(a) AUTHORIZATION TO COLLECT DEBTS AND ERRONEOUS PAYMENTS FROM EMPLOYEES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 17 of title 11, District of Columbia Official Code, is amended by adding at the end of subchapter II the following new section:

''§ 11–1733. Collection, compromise, and waiver of employee debts and erroneous payments

''(a) COLLECTION OF DEBTS AND ERRONEOUS PAYMENTS MADE TO EMPLOYEES.—

''(1) AUTHORITY TO COLLECT.—If the Executive Officer determines that an employee or former employee of the District of Columbia Courts is indebted to the District of Columbia Courts because of an erroneous payment made to or on behalf of the employee, or any other debt, the Executive Officer may collect the amount of the indebtedness in accordance with this subsection.

''(2) TIMING OF COLLECTION.—Any debt authorized to be collected under this subsection may be collected in monthly installments or at officially established regular pay period intervals, by deduction in reasonable amounts from the current pay of the employee.

''(3) SOURCE OF DEDUCTIONS.—Deductions described in paragraph (2) may be made from any wages, salary, compensation, remuneration for services, or other authorized pay, including but not limited to incentive pay, back pay, and lump sum leave payments, but not including retirement pay.

''(4) LIMIT ON AMOUNT.—The amount deducted with respect to an employee for any period may not exceed 20 percent of the employee's disposable pay, except that a greater percentage may be deducted upon consent of the employee involved.

''(5) COLLECTIONS AFTER EMPLOYMENT.—If an employee's employment ends before collection of the amount of the employee's indebtedness is completed, deductions may be made from later non-periodic government payments of any nature due the former employee, except retirement pay, and such deductions may be made without regard to the limit under paragraph (4).

''(b) NOTICE AND HEARING REQUIRED.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), prior to initiating any proceedings under subsection (a) to collect any indebtedness of an individual, the Executive Officer shall provide the individual with—

''(A) a minimum of 30 days written notice, informing such individual of the nature and amount of the indebtedness determined by the District of Columbia Courts to be due, the intention of the Courts to initiate proceedings to collect the debt through deductions from pay, and an explanation of the rights of the individual under this section;

''(B) an opportunity to inspect and copy Court records relating to the debt;

''(C) an opportunity to enter into a written agreement with the Courts, under terms agreeable to the Executive Officer, to establish a schedule for the repayment of the debt; and

''(D) an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with paragraph (2) on the determination of the Courts concerning the existence or the amount of the debt, and in the case of an individual whose repayment schedule is established other than by a written agreement pursuant to subparagraph (C), concerning the terms of the repayment schedule.

''(2) PROCEDURES FOR HEARINGS.—

''(A) AVAILABILITY OF HEARING UPON REQUEST.—A hearing under this paragraph shall be provided if the individual, on or before the fifteenth day following receipt of the notice described in paragraph (1)(A), and in accordance with such procedures as the Executive Officer may prescribe, files a petition requesting such a hearing.

''(B) BASIS FOR HEARING.—Unless the hearing officer determines that the existence or the amount of the debt turns on an issue of credibility or veracity or cannot be resolved by a review of the documentary evidence, the hearing shall be on the written submissions.

''(C) STAY OF COLLECTION PROCEEDINGS.—The timely filing of a petition for hearing shall stay the commencement of collection proceedings.

''(D) INDEPENDENT OFFICER.—A hearing under this paragraph shall be conducted by an independent hearing officer appointed in accordance with regulations promulgated under subsection (e).

''(E) DEADLINE FOR DECISION.—The hearing officer shall issue a final decision regarding the questions covered by the hearing at the earliest practicable date, but not later than 60 days after the hearing.

''(3) EXCEPTION.—Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply to routine intra-Courts adjustments of pay that are attributable to clerical or administrative errors or delays in processing pay documents that have occurred within the 4 pay periods preceding the adjustment and to any adjustment that amounts to $50 or less, if at the time of such adjustment, or as soon thereafter as practical, the individual is provided written notice of the nature and the amount of the adjustment and a point of contact for contesting such adjustment.

''(c) COMPROMISE.—

''(1) AUTHORITY TO COMPROMISE CLAIMS.—The Executive Officer may—

''(A) compromise a claim to collect an indebtedness under this section if the amount involved is not more than $100,000; and

''(B) suspend or end collection action on such a claim if it appears that no person liable on the claim has the present or prospective ability to pay a significant amount of the claim or if the cost of collecting the claim is likely to be more than the amount recovered.

''(2) EFFECT OF COMPROMISE.—A compromise under this subsection is final and conclusive unless gotten by fraud, misrepresentation, presenting a false claim, or mutual mistake of fact.

''(3) NO LIABILITY OF OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPROMISE.—An accountable official is not liable for an amount paid or for the value of property lost or damaged if the amount or value is not recovered because of a compromise under this subsection.

''(d) WAIVER OF CLAIM.—

''(1) AUTHORITY TO WAIVE CLAIMS.—Upon application from a person liable on a claim to collect an indebtedness under this section, the Executive Officer may, with written justification, waive the claim if collection would be—

''(A) against equity;

''(B) against good conscience; and

''(C) not in the best interests of the Courts.

''(2) LIMITATIONS ON AUTHORITY.—The Executive Officer may not exercise the authority under this subsection to waive a claim if—

''(A) in the Executive Officer's opinion, there exists, in connection with the claim, an indication of fraud, misrepresentation, fault, or lack of good faith on the part of the employee, former employee, or any other person having an interest in obtaining a waiver of the claim; or

''(B) the application for waiver is received in the Executive Officer's office after the expiration of 3 years immediately following the date on which the erroneous payment was discovered or 3 years after the date of the enactment of this section, whichever is later, except if the claim involves money owed for Federal health benefits, Federal life insurance, or Federal retirement benefits.

''(3) DENIAL OF APPLICATION FOR WAIVER.—A decision by the Executive Officer to deny an application for a waiver under this subsection shall be the final administrative decision of the District government.

''(4) REFUND OF AMOUNTS ALREADY COLLECTED AGAINST CLAIM SUBSEQUENTLY WAIVED.—If the Courts have been reimbursed for a claim under this section in whole or in part, and a waiver of the claim is then granted, the employee or former employee shall be entitled to a refund of the amount of the reimbursement upon application for that refund, so long as the application is received not later than 2 years after the effective date of the waiver.

''(5) EFFECT ON ACCOUNTS OF COURTS.—In the audit and settlement of accounts of any accountable official, full credit shall be given for any amounts with respect to which collection by the Courts is waived under this subsection.

''(6) VALIDITY OF PAYMENTS.—An erroneous payment or debt, the collection of which is waived under this subsection, is a valid payment for all purposes.

''(7) NO EFFECT ON OTHER AUTHORITIES.—Nothing contained in this subsection shall be construed to affect in any way the authority under any other statute to litigate, settle, compromise, or waive any claim of the District of Columbia.

''(e) REGULATIONS.—The Executive Officer's authority under this section shall be subject to regulations promulgated by the Joint Committee on Judicial Administration.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents of chapter 17 of title 11, District of Columbia Official Code, is amended by adding at the end of the items relating to subchapter II the following new item:

''11–1733. Collection, compromise, and waiver of employee debts and erroneous payments.''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply with respect to erroneous payments made and debts incurred before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE UNIFORMS FOR PERSONNEL.—Section 11–1742(b), District of Columbia Official Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''Under the authority of the previous sentence, the Executive Officer may purchase uniforms to be worn by nonjudicial employees of the District of Columbia Courts whose responsibilities warrant the wearing of uniforms, so long as the cost of furnishing a uniform to an employee during a year does not exceed the amount applicable for the year under section 5901(a)(1) of title 5, United States Code (relating to the uniform allowance for employees of the Government of the United States).''.

SEC. 3. AUTHORITIES OF COURT SERVICES AND OFFENDER SUPERVISION AGENCY.

(a) AUTHORITY TO DEVELOP AND OPERATE INCENTIVE PROGRAMS FOR SENTENCED OFFENDERS.—Section 11233(b)(2)(F) of the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 (sec. 24–133(b)(2)(F), D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking ''sanctions'' and inserting ''sanction and incentive''.

(b) PERMANENT AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT GIFTS.—Section 11233(b)(3)(A) of such Act (sec. 24–133(b)(3)(A), D.C. Official Code) is amended to read as follows:

''(A) AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT GIFTS.—The Director may accept, solicit, and use on behalf of the Agency any monetary or nonmonetary gift, donation, bequest, or use of facilities, property, or services for the purpose of aiding or facilitating the work of the Agency.''.

(c) PERMANENT AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT AND USE REIMBURSEMENTS FROM DISTRICT GOVERNMENT.—Section 11233(b)(4) of such Act (sec. 24–133(b)(4)) is amended by striking ''During fiscal years 2006 through 2008, the Director'' and inserting ''The Director''.

SEC. 4. AUTHORITIES OF PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE.

(a) ACCEPTANCE AND USE OF SERVICES OF VOLUNTEERS.—Section 307(b) of such Act (sec. 2–1607(b), D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking ''the Service may accept public grants and private contributions made to assist it'' and inserting ''the Service may accept and use public grants, private contributions, and voluntary and uncompensated (gratuitous) services to assist it''.

(b) TREATMENT OF MEMBERS OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES AS EMPLOYEES OF SERVICE FOR PURPOSES OF LIABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 303(d) of such Act (sec. 2–1603(d), D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking ''employees of the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''employees of the Service''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the District of Columbia Courts and Justice Technical Corrections Act of 1998 (Public Law 105–274).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

This legislation, introduced by Ms. NORTON, would provide increased flexibility to the District of Columbia courts and related entities.

Among other provisions, H.R. 4185 would allow the D.C. courts to collect outstanding employee debts or overpayments, and authorizes its executive officer to purchase and provide uniforms for employees whose responsibilities warrant wearing uniforms.

The bill authorizes the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency to develop and operate incentive programs for sentenced offenders, such as vocational and educational training, and it allows the Public Defender Service to accept volunteer service.

I want to thank Ms. NORTON for all of her work on this bill, and I urge all Members to support this.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of the District of Columbia Courts, Public Defender Service, and Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency Act of 2014, or H.R. 4185.

First, I want to thank my good friends—the chairman of the full committee, Mr. ISSA, and our ranking member, Mr. CUMMINGS—for their work together with me on this bill, especially Chairman ISSA for seeing to it that this bill got to the House floor today.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes, really, quite minor changes, but they are important to the District of Columbia and to the Federal agencies involved. They happen to be Federal agencies that uniquely serve the District of Columbia.

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I will not bore the House with all of the elements of this bill because they will seem quite minor to the House, though, as I indicate, they are of some considerable importance to the agencies that are involved.

For example—and I will use examples only—for the courts, it allows the courts to collect debts owed to the courts by employees, such as debts for loss or damage to property and improper credit card payments. This is the kind of authority the court would now have.

Where there were erroneous payments to employees, those employees would get a hearing before any such collection was charged to them.

The courts would have the authority to purchase uniforms, as an example. As you can imagine, Mr. Speaker, in our courts, it would be important that everyone who has the authority to enter the courts have the same kind of uniform, given the kinds of secure hearings that take place here in the District of Columbia, even more so than in most other courts—Federal courts of the United States.

As an example, for the Public Defender Service, the board of trustees should be treated as Federal employees or Public Defender Service employees. They were formerly treated as District of Columbia employees because this used to be a District of Columbia agency.

As an example, from the Court Services administration, which serves our offenders who are under court supervision, there is an important section, as an example, to allow CSOSA—as we call it—to use incentives-based programming and not alone sanctions because all of the documentation shows that incentives, along with sanctions—not sanctions alone—are best to get compliance with supervision.

There are a number of others. I thank the committee for bringing this bill, important to the District of Columbia, to the floor before the end of the August recess.

I thank my good friend from Arizona for yielding, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the District of Columbia Courts, Public Defender Service, and Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency Act of 2014 (H.R. 4185).

I would like to thank Chairman ISSA and Ranking Members CUMMINGS for their work together to assist me with this bill, and Chairman ISSA for seeing to it that the bill would be on the floor today. This bill makes minor changes, but they are important, to the authorities of the District of Columbia Courts (Courts), the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia (PDS) and the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA), placing these entities in the same position as their federal counterparts for more effective management and operation.

This bill would allow the Courts to collect debts owed to the Courts by its employees, such as debts from loss or damage to property, improper credit card payments, erroneous payments to employees and the like. The Courts would have to provide employees with at least 30 days's written notice regarding the debt collection, and employees would have the right to a hearing conducted by an independent officer. The bill would also give the Courts the authority to purchase uniforms to ensure the safety of its building engineers, maintenance workers and main personnel. These service employees must regularly access buildings run by the Courts at all hours. The increase in the number of security incidents in courthouses throughout the country as well as the location of the Courts here in the nation's capital require visual security and uniformity of staff to help ensure that unauthorized persons do not enter secure areas.

The bill also would allow PDS to accept and use public grants and both voluntary and uncompensated services, such as unpaid law clerks and interns, as well as private contributions made to advance PDS's work. It would allow the members of the PDS board of trustees to be treated as PDS employees instead of District of Columbia employees for purposes of liability. Under current law, due to an apparent drafting error, the members of the board are treated as District of Columbia employees for purposes of any action brought against board members. PDS employees are not District of Columbia employees. PDS has the authority to indemnify its board. This bill would rectify this oversight.

Finally, this bill would allow CSOSA to develop and implement incentive-based programming to accompany its current sanction policies. Combining both sanctions and incentives has proven to be more effective than only compliance with supervision. The bill also would authorize CSOSA to solicit, receive and use gifts for the purpose of advancing its work, and would require the CSOSA to keep detailed records on its use of this gift authority. It would also permit the Director to enter into cost-reimbursement agreements with the D.C. government for space or services provided. The D.C. government is a frequent partner of CSOSA's due to its location in D.C. and CSOSA's mandate to assist in the reintegration of D.C. Code offenders into society. Giving CSOSA the authority to enter into reimbursable agreements with the District is necessary to assist CSOSA in its daily work.

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

I urge all Members to join me in support of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4185.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RICHARD K. SALICK POST OFFICE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 451) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 North Brevard Avenue in Cocoa Beach, Florida, as the ''Richard K. Salick Post Office''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 451

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

SECTION 1. RICHARD K. SALICK POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 North Brevard Avenue in Cocoa Beach, Florida, shall be known and designated as the ''Richard K. Salick Post Office''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Richard K. Salick Post Office''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 451, introduced by my colleague, Representative BILL POSEY of Florida, would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 North Brevard Avenue in Cocoa Beach, Florida, as the Richard K. Salick Post Office.

Richard Salick was a devoted and charitable member of his community in Cocoa Beach, Florida. Salick was an

internationally-renowned surfer who competed on both the U.S. and world surfing teams in the 1960s and 1970s.

Tragically, Salick was diagnosed with kidney disease in 1973, but he persevered and was able to touch the lives of everyone who had the pleasure of meeting him. He became a tireless advocate with the National Kidney Foundation, to assist their efforts to support patients and to raise money for their care.

Salick founded the National Kidney Foundation Surf Festival in 1986, which donates its proceeds to the National Kidney Foundation.

Mr. Salick passed away at the age of 62 in 2012.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 451, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 North Brevard Avenue in Cocoa Beach, Florida, as the Richard K. Salick Post Office.

Richard Salick was born in Wisconsin in 1949 and competed for national and world surfing teams in the 1960s and 1970s.

At the age of 23, Richard was diagnosed with kidney failure. After undergoing his first kidney transplant, Richard was told that his surfing career was over.

Less than a year after surgery, however, Richard developed an innovative paddling technique that allowed him to return to his passion of professional surfing. In 2000, Richard was inducted into the Surfing Hall of Fame as an East Coast Legend.

Richard began dedicating his life to helping others suffering from kidney disease. In 1976, just 2 years after his initial kidney transplant, Richard and his brother helped organize a surfing competition in Cocoa Beach, Florida, to benefit local dialysis centers.

That event has now become the largest charitable surfing festival in the world, raising millions of dollars to support educational, patient services, and organ donation programs.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to recognize Richard Salick's extraordinary strength in the face of chronic illness, his perseverance to excel at the highest level in his sport, and his tireless dedication to improving the lives of others fighting kidney disease.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to my distinguished colleague from the State of Florida (Mr. POSEY).

Mr. POSEY. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for coming in contact with a lot of people during my lifetime, and Richard Salick is certainly one of them. In fact, I think so much of Rich and his selfless giving to others, I introduced this legislation, H.R. 451, to designate the U.S. Post Office on North Brevard Avenue in Cocoa Beach as the Richard K. Salick Post Office.

Rich Salick, who passed away on July 2 of 2012, was a local hero and a true champion to many people. Rich was a champion surfer through much of the late 1960s and 1970s, but he was also a lifelong sufferer of kidney disease and a longtime advocate of supporting kidney transplantation and kidney disease patients.

What made Rich a champion was not the number of trophies that he won—which was considerable—but the battles he willingly and personally waged on behalf of others in need.

At age 23, at the high point of his professional surfing career, Rich fell ill and was told by doctors that he would die if he did not get a kidney transplant. Aided by his twin brother, Phil Salick—who was his first kidney donor—Rich recovered, but was told all physical sports were out of the question in his future.

After a year of recovery, Rich developed a unique padding system to protect his transplanted kidney and went on to win surfing contests and even proudly displayed one of the trophies in the Shands teaching hospital in Gainesville, Florida. Rich would routinely call kidney patients to offer them a message of hope and to aid their recoveries.

His work did not stop there. Rich and Phil began hosting small surfing events to benefit those on dialysis. Every year, these events grew larger and larger and larger and culminated into hugely successful annual surf festivities.

These events have raised millions of dollars for the National Kidney Foundation and are some of the largest charitable surfing events in the world.

When I was serving in the State legislature, it was not uncommon to meet Rich Salick walking the halls of the capitol advocating for kidney patients, trying to find some commonsense fixes to some of these flawed laws to help make lives better for other people.

The National Kidney Foundation tells us that 90,000 Americans with kidney disease die each year, and approximately 100,000 Americans are waiting for a direly-needed kidney transplant.

Every year, I join hundreds of others in our community to participate in the annual Cocoa Beach Kidney Walk, known as Footprints in the Sand, to support those who suffer from kidney disease and to honor Rich's commitment.

Despite suffering from kidney disease for most of his adult life, Rich proved that others with the same condition can truly accomplish anything they set their minds to.

He was the first professional athlete ever to receive a transplant and return to his sport at a professional level. In 2000, he was inducted into the Surfing Hall of Fame, and in April of 2008, he was also inducted into the Martial Arts Hall of Fame, a man of many talents.

He received the prestigious Nancy Katin Award in 1977 for his worldwide humanitarian work.

I would like to thank Chairman ISSA, Ranking Member CUMMINGS, and the members and staff of the committee for moving this bill to the floor to honor a great American and a true champion.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to join me in support of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 451.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SPECIALIST CHRISTOPHER SCOTT POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 606) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 815 County Road 23 in Tyrone, New York, as the ''Specialist Christopher Scott Post Office Building''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 606

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

SECTION 1. SPECIALIST CHRISTOPHER SCOTT POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 815 County Road 23 in Tyrone, New York, shall be known and designated as the ''Specialist Christopher Scott Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Specialist Christopher Scott Post Office Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 606, introduced by Representative TOM REED of New York,

would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 815 County Road 23 in Tyrone, New York, as the Specialist Christopher Scott Post Office.

Army Specialist Christopher Scott was from Dundee, New York, and was proud to serve his country as a military police officer in Afghanistan. While in Afghanistan, Scott made the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

On September 3, 2011, he was killed in Kandahar province during an insurgent attack. Scott is survived by his parents, brothers, grandparents, and his fiancee.

At the time of his death, Scott had been scheduled to return home in 12 days to be married to his fiancee, Tory L. Oden. Specialist Christopher Scott was just 21 years old.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 606, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 815 County Road 23 in Tyrone, New York, as the Specialist Christopher Scott Post Office.

Christopher Scott was raised in Dundee, New York, and graduated from Dundee Central School in 2009. Christopher excelled in both the classroom and athletics as a member of the football, track, and cheerleading teams.

□ 1615

Christopher enlisted in the United States Army in July 2009, where he served as a military policeman. Specialist Scott was assigned to the 561st Military Police Company, 716th MP Battalion. Specialist Scott was attached to the 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regimen, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, Fourth Infantry Division upon his deployment to Afghanistan in 2011.

Just 2 months into his first tour overseas and 12 days before returning home to get married, Specialist Scott was tragically killed while conducting a dismounted patrol with Afghan uniformed police partners in Kandahar City. Specialist Scott was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, National Service Ribbon, and Combat Action Badge for his honorable service.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to recognize the valor of Specialist Christopher Scott and the extraordinary sacrifices made by him and his family. I urge all Members of the Congress to vote in favor of this legislation.

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

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from the State of New York (Mr. REED).

Mr. REED. I thank the gentleman from Arizona for yielding, as well as my colleague from Maryland for his support.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 606, to rename the post office at 815 County Road 23 in Tyrone, New York, after Specialist Christopher Scott.

Mr. Speaker, Specialist Scott gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country on September 3, 2011, at the young age of 21 years old, and I am honored to recognize him here today.

A 2009 graduate of Dundee Central Schools, Christopher was an engaged student who was active on both his school's football and track teams. In addition, he was the only male cheerleader on the varsity squad. Outside of school, Chris was skilled in martial arts and was an avid member of the Spencer Van Etten Coon Hunting Club.

It was Specialist Scott's dream to serve his country as a military policeman, and he enlisted shortly after graduating from Dundee. He was assigned to the 716th Military Police Battalion, 101st Sustainment Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, Air Assault, stationed at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and he was ultimately deployed in July of 2011. His fellow soldiers commended him on his leadership and constant professionalism.

Tragically, Mr. Speaker, he was killed September 3, 2011, while on patrol in Afghanistan, just 2 weeks before he was to return home to be married. The news devastated his tight-knit community of 1,500 people.

His service and heroism earned him numerous awards and decorations, which include the Bronze Star Medal for Valor, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, the NATO Medal, and Combat Action Badge.

Specialist Scott personified patriotism, giving the ultimate sacrifice for our Nation. The least we can do is to pay tribute to his bravery and dedication by naming the Tyrone Post Office in his honor to help preserve his legacy as one of New York's true heroes for generations to come.

I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 606 and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 606.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ELIZABETH L. KINNUNEN POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2223) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 Elm Avenue in Munising, Michigan, as the ''Elizabeth L. Kinnunen Post Office Building''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2223

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

SECTION 1. ELIZABETH L. KINNUNEN POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 Elm Avenue in Munising, Michigan, shall be known and designated as the ''Elizabeth L. Kinnunen Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Elizabeth L. Kinnunen Post Office Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GOSAR. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2223, introduced by my colleague Representative DAN BENISHEK of Michigan, would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 Elm Avenue in Munising, Michigan, as the Elizabeth L. Kinnunen Post Office.

Elizabeth Kinnunen emigrated from Finland to the United States in 1903. She operated a boarding house in Marquette, Michigan, with her husband and had 11 children.

During her life, Mrs. Kinnunen endured a devastating and unfathomable loss: two of her sons died while in service to our country. Her son Eiso was killed at the Battle of the Bulge in 1945, and her son Raymond was killed in Korea in 1952.

Mrs. Kinnunen passed away in 1974. Mrs. Kinnunen's sacrifice and the sacrifice of thousands of others just like her and their continued perseverance illustrate the courage and indomitability of the American spirit.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 2223, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 Elm Avenue in Munising, Michigan, as the Elizabeth L. Kinnunen Post Office Building.

Elizabeth Kinnunen came to the United States from Finland in 1903 with hopes of a better life. After marrying Oscar Kinnunen in 1909, Elizabeth worked alongside her husband to

run a boarding home for timber and mining workers in Marquette, Michigan. Eventually, Elizabeth, Oscar, and their 11 children moved to Munising, Michigan, where they continued to work tirelessly so that each of their children could achieve the American Dream.

Ms. Kinnunen made many sacrifices on behalf of her children, and two of her beloved sons made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our great country. Eiso Kinnunen was killed in action in the Battle of the Bulge in 1945; and shortly thereafter, in 1952, Ms. Kinnunen became a two Gold Star Mother, when Raymond Kinnunen lost his life in the Korean war.

It is difficult to fathom, Mr. Speaker, the devastating losses Ms. Kinnunen endured, but we can honor her hard work, her dedication, and her sacrifices by naming this post office in her honor.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from the State of Michigan (Mr. BENISHEK).

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues from Maryland and Arizona for bringing this bill to the floor.

I rise today in support of H.R. 2223, a bill to name the post office building in Munising, Michigan, after the late Mrs. Elizabeth Kinnunen.

Born in 1893, the former Elizabeth Lempi Paasto immigrated to our country from Finland in 1903. She came, like many in northern Michigan and throughout our great land, for freedom and opportunity and for a chance at the American Dream. She married Oscar Kinnunen in 1909. Together, they had 11 children.

To provide for their family, Mr. and Mrs. Kinnunen operated a boarding house in Marquette, Michigan. They provided lodging to timber and mining workers in Marquette County. Eventually, they moved to Munising, Michigan, where Oscar worked for the paper company and Elizabeth worked as a local cook. Mrs. Kinnunen continued to work to support her family after Oscar died in 1952 and was a faithful member of the Messiah Lutheran Church in Munising.

Mrs. Kinnunen's life was, unfortunately, marked by tragedy in two great wars that defined this country. Two of her sons, Eiso and Raymond, were killed overseas defending the American people and our freedom. Eiso was killed in action during the Battle of the Bulge in 1945, and Raymond lost his life in Korea in 1952. We will never know the devastating grief their family must have suffered after such an enormous loss. We will also never be able to fathom the somber dignity Mrs. Kinnunen must have felt, in the words of President Lincoln, ''to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.''

Mrs. Kinnunen died on April 5, 1974, at the age of 81. While Mrs. Kinnunen is not a household name, her hard work to provide for her family and the terrible sacrifices she and her family endured, much like many throughout our country, form an important part of our history. Naming this post office in her honor is a thoughtful and lasting way for the community of Munising to celebrate her life and accomplishments.

The City of Munising, the Alger County Board of Commissioners, and the American Legion Post 131 in Munising have worked for years to honor Mrs. Kinnunen by renaming this post office in her name. It is my honor to represent the citizens of northern Michigan today who have worked so hard to recognize the sacrifices Mrs. Kinnunen made for love of family and country.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 2223, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2223.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

OFFICER JAMES BONNEAU MEMORIAL POST OFFICE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3534) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 West Michigan Avenue in Jackson, Michigan, as the ''Officer James Bonneau Memorial Post Office''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3534

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

SECTION 1. OFFICER JAMES BONNEAU MEMORIAL POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 West Michigan Avenue in Jackson, Michigan, shall be known and designated as the ''Officer James Bonneau Memorial Post Office''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Officer James Bonneau Memorial Post Office''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GOSAR. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3534, introduced by my colleague, Representative TIM WALBERG of Michigan, will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 West Michigan Avenue in Jackson, Michigan, as the Officer James Bonneau Memorial Post Office.

Police Officer James Bonneau served in the Jackson Police Department in Michigan. While he was responding to a domestic disturbance call, he was shot and killed on March 9, 2010. A veteran with 2 years on the police force, he was loved and respected by his community. Officer Bonneau was 26 years old when he died doing his duty for his community and his country.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I am very pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 3534, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 West Michigan Avenue in Jackson, Michigan, as the Officer James Bonneau Memorial Post Office.

James Bonneau was a native of Canton, Michigan. He graduated with a degree in criminal justice from Eastern Michigan University in 2006. James graduated at the top of his class from Lansing Community College's Mid-Michigan Police Academy and subsequently joined the Jackson Police Department.

On March 9, 2010, Officer Bonneau was following up on a domestic disturbance call when he was tragically shot and killed.

Bonneau is survived by his parents, Marc and Amy Bonneau, as well as his fiancee, Rachael Maloney.

Passing this bill will help recognize Officer Bonneau's police service as well as his dedication and commitment to his family, the police department, and his community. I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation.

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

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from the State of Michigan (Mr. WALBERG).

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues from Arizona and Maryland for their support in bringing this forward.

It is with a heavy heart that I rise today in support of H.R. 3534, legislation I introduced to designate the postal facility located at 113 West Michigan Avenue in Jackson, Michigan, as the Officer James Bonneau Memorial Post Office.

Just after midnight on March 9, 2010, Officer James Bonneau was killed in

the line of duty as he and a fellow public safety officer responded to a domestic disturbance complaint. Although he later succumbed to his wounds, Officer Bonneau was able to call for help and relay information about the scene that saved the life of his fellow public safety officer who had also been shot, who I have met and talked to and who appreciates his colleague so much for saving his life.

In recognition of his exceptional acts of bravery, Officer Bonneau was awarded the Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery in 2011.

□ 1630

Four years after his passing, he remains in the hearts and minds of the Jackson community.

The Officer James Bonneau Memorial Scholarship fund was named in his honor and helps local students who are pursuing a degree in criminal justice.

A graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a degree in criminal justice, Bonneau went on to graduate from Lansing Community College's Mid-Michigan Police Academy at the top of his class academically before joining the Jackson police force.

Being an officer was a job he always wanted to do since he was a kid, according to Officer Bonneau's parents. To those who knew him best, he was described as loyal, genuine, and goodhearted.

In passing this legislation today, we take a small step forward in memorializing his sacrifice and ensurig that future generations remember the heroism of Officer Bonneau. To his mother and father, Amy and Marc Bonneau, and the rest of his family, we offer our sincere gratitude and condolences.

And to his fellow officers at the Jackson Police Department, we thank you, as well, for continuing to put your lives on the line each day as you protect our communities.

As Officer Bonneau's father put it:

> It is hard to say, but at least he died loving what he did. That was his dream. That was what he lived for.

Officer James David Bonneau gave his life in service to the Jackson community. We acknowledge his ultimate sacrifice, and we will never forget what he lived for—duty over self.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 3534, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3534.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HAROLD GEORGE BENNETT POST OFFICE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4355) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 B Street in Perryville, Arkansas, as the ''Harold George Bennett Post Office''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4355

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

SECTION 1. HAROLD GEORGE BENNETT POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 B Street in Perryville, Arkansas, shall be known and designated as the ''Harold George Bennett Post Office''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Harold George Bennett Post Office''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4355, introduced by Representative TIM GRIFFIN of Arkansas, would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 B Street in Perryville, Arkansas, as the Harold George Bennett Post Office.

Harold George Bennett was born in Thornburg, Arkansas, in 1940 and joined the Army in 1957 at the beginning of the Vietnam war. He continued his service when he volunteered to serve in South Vietnam as a Special Forces adviser. In late 1964, he was captured after a fierce firefight. After his capture, Bennett was a prisoner of war for 179 days. He was executed by the Viet Cong on June 25, 1965, after injuring an enemy soldier after his third escape attempt. Bennett was 24 years old when he died, and he was the first American POW murdered in Vietnam. His remains have never been returned to the United States, but his bravery and perseverance will be remembered.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 4355, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 B Street in Perryville, Arkansas, as the Harold George Bennett Post Office.

Harold Bennett was born on October 16, 1940, in Perryville, Arkansas. Bennett and his brothers served in the United States Army. Sergeant George Bennett was trained as an airborne infantryman and served with the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions.

While serving as an infantry adviser to South Vietnam's Army on December 29, 1964, he was airlifted to a village that had been overrun by the Viet Cong. Upon landing, Sergeant Bennett's unit was confronted by enemy forces, and Sergeant Bennett and his radio operator were captured. Sergeant Bennett was the first American prisoner of war to be executed by the Viet Cong.

As a prisoner of war, Sergeant Bennett displayed remarkable courage, resistance, and devotion to his country. He was reportedly executed for injuring one of his captors during one of his three escape attempts. Sergeant Bennett was posthumously awarded the Silver Star.

Mr. Speaker, we would urge all Members of the Congress to vote in favor of this legislation, and, with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. GRIFFIN), my distinguished colleague.

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 4355, to designate the U.S. Post Office located at 201 B Street in Perryville, Arkansas, as the ''Harold George Bennett Post Office.''

Staff Sergeant Harold George Bennett is one of Arkansas' finest sons, and he dedicated his life to serving our country. Sergeant Bennett was born on October 16, 1940, in Thornburg, Arkansas, a small town near the outskirts of the Ouachita National Forest. A graduate of Perryville High School, he enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1957.

Sergeant Bennett served as an airborne infantryman with the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions, where he earned his Master Parachute Wings and Expert Infantry Badge. He completed Special Forces training in 1963, and in 1964, volunteered to serve in South Vietnam as a Special Forces adviser with the Military Assistance Command.

On December 29, 1964, his unit was airlifted to a small village after it had been overrun by a division of Viet Cong. Immediately upon landing, Sergeant Bennett's unit was confronted by a well dug-in regiment of enemy forces, and despite fighting furiously and courageously throughout the afternoon, his unit was overrun. Concerned for the safety of his fellow servicemembers, he twice directed American helicopter pilots attempting to rescue him to stand down, and was captured by the Viet Cong.

Sergeant Bennett spent 179 days as a POW and attempted to escape three times. During his last attempt, he injured an enemy soldier, and his captors executed him on June 25, 1965. As a

prisoner of war, the only thing more remarkable than the courageous resistance he displayed throughout his captivity was his steadfast devotion to duty, honor, and country. His faith in God and the trust of his fellow prisoners was unshakeable. Only 24 years old, Sergeant Bennett was the first American POW killed in Vietnam, and, like many other U.S. servicemen who lost their lives there, his remains have never been returned home.

Nearly four decades later, in 2004, Sergeant Bennett was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame at Fort Benning. In 2006, his family was presented with his Combat Infantryman's Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Prisoner of War Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, and Purple Heart. And in 2010, Sergeant Bennett's family was presented with his Silver Star.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Bennett was a selfless young man who answered his Nation's call to service and placed duty and honor above all else. Although he may no longer be with us, the example and selflessness of this brave young Arkansan will forever live on in our hearts. While a grateful nation could never adequately express its indebtedness to men like Staff Sergeant Harold George Bennett, it should take every opportunity to honor them and their families for the sacrifice they have paid on our behalf.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 4355, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4355.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FOUNTAIN COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL POST OFFICE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2802) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 418 Liberty Street in Covington, Indiana, as the ''Fountain County Veterans Memorial Post Office''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2802

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

SECTION 1. FOUNTAIN COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 418 Liberty Street in Covington, Indiana, shall be known and designated as the ''Fountain County Veterans Memorial Post Office''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Fountain County Veterans Memorial Post Office''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. 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 on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2802, introduced by Representative TODD ROKITA of Indiana, would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 418 Liberty Street in Covington, Indiana, as the Fountain County Veterans Memorial Post Office.

America as a nation is indebted to those who have risked their lives to preserve the freedoms that each of us holds so dearly. This post office dedication in the county seat of Covington will remind the citizens of Fountain Valley of sacrifices made by its men and women in service of their country. Additionally, naming the post office after the Fountain County veterans honors the families and loved ones who made the unimaginable sacrifice of parting with, and for those still worrying about, cherished loved ones serving overseas.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in supporting H.R. 2802, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 418 Liberty Street in Covington, Indiana, as the Fountain County Veterans Memorial Post Office.

The legislation before us honors the brave men and women from Fountain County, Indiana, who have served in our Armed Forces. These servicemembers have put this country before themselves by dedicating their lives to defending the freedoms we as Americans hold so dear. Their sacrifices should never be taken for granted, nor should they ever be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation, and, with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield as many minutes as he may consume to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROKITA), a distinguished colleague.

Mr. ROKITA. Well, I thank, first of all, the gentleman from Arizona for yielding his time and for his leadership here in the House of Representatives, especially this evening with the good work that he is managing here on the floor. I know, being his friend, that it is a labor of love for him as it is for almost all of us, and so I just want to, here, on the record, thank him for his continued service in the House.

I also want to thank the ranking member for his willingness in addressing and considering this legislation. It is important to the people of Indiana, and I am grateful for his leadership as well.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this legislation that I was honored to introduce and support in memory of the fallen soldiers of Fountain County, Indiana.

Lance Corporal Josh Witsman was a marine from Covington, Indiana, and was so very proud to have been born in the United States, and especially Indiana, which he often referred to as ''God's country.''

Lance Corporal Witsman firmly believed in the freedoms enshrined in our founding documents that have helped define our American exceptionalism. He felt humbled by, honored to, and responsible for fighting to uphold those very freedoms and standards which we talk about so often here on the House floor, and that Americans talk about throughout the country. He was not only humbled to serve his country, but he was humbled to serve next to his fellow military brothers, whom he would often boast to about how great Indiana was.

And, Mr. Speaker, he loved his family. He would often call his mother at home and sing the song, ''Paint Me a Birmingham,'' only to swap in his hometown of Covington for Birmingham. He couldn't wait to return home to Indiana to be with all of them.

Sadly, Mr. Speaker, that day never came. You see, Lance Corporal Josh Witsman died in the line of duty during his second tour of duty in Afghanistan while serving with Weapons Company 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, on May 30, 2012. He was just 23.

□ 1645

Josh's service and sacrifice were the inspiration for this bill, and it started with an idea from one of Josh's close friends. That friend, Noah Townsend, was in the supermarket one day, and he overheard a young Hoosier ask her parents who Josh Witsman was.

The child's parents explained that Josh was a soldier who had given his life for her freedom. Noah knew he had to find a way to make sure Josh's memory and his sacrifice would be remembered in his hometown of Covington.

Noah racked his brain for a few days trying to think what would be a fitting memorial for Josh and his service. Later that week, Noah would be driving down Liberty Street, and as he drove past the post office, it hit him—Congress renames post offices for individuals who have made some contribution to their city, State, or country, undoubtedly all deserved.

Certainly, Josh's sacrifice and that of his family is worthy of recognition in any number of ways, including naming a post office in the city he called home, but recognition of his own work wasn't Josh's way.

Before Noah Townsend came to me with this idea, he talked with Josh's parents. Josh's mother, Kayla Witsman, was thankful for the gesture, but she could hear her son saying: Mom, it is not just about me.

This young man, who gave his life for his country, and his mother's interpretation of what his wishes would have been is correct. There are so many heroes that have given their lives for this country worthy of a similar recognition.

In Fountain County, there have been nearly 50 families who have lost someone in service to their country. Let me assure you, Fountain County is not a large population center in Indiana. As wonderful and as welcoming as it is, full of great Hoosiers, it is a farming community. It is not big, except in geography, and 50 families from that community had some die serving their country.

That is why this legislation does not mention Josh Witsman's name. I am proposing that we rename this post office on behalf of not only the Witsman family, but all of the nearly 50 families in Fountain County who have lost loved ones in service to our Nation.

It is my hope, Mr. Speaker, that this will serve as an everlasting tribute to the sacrifices of these soldiers and their families.

In closing, I would also like to thank the entire Indiana House delegation for their support of this legislation as well. On behalf of Josh Witsman's family and all those who have sacrificed, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to vote for this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2802.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BARRY M. GOLDWATER POST OFFICE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3027) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 442 Miller Valley Road in Prescott, Arizona, as the ''Barry M. Goldwater Post Office''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3027

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

SECTION 1. BARRY M. GOLDWATER POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 442 Miller Valley Road in Prescott, Arizona, shall be known and designated as the ''Barry M. Goldwater Post Office''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Barry M. Goldwater Post Office''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today as the House considers a piece of legislation I introduced, H.R. 3027, which would rename the postal facility at 442 Miller Valley Road in Prescott, Arizona, as the Barry M. Goldwater Post Office.

As we know, Barry Goldwater was a businessman turned statesman who served five terms in the United States Senate and was the Republican nominee for the Presidency in 1964.

He served Arizona and our Nation with honor and integrity for decades. Leading up to the 1964 Presidential election, he earned the moniker ''Mr. Conservative'' for being so influential in the revival of political conservatism. After the 1964 election, he returned to the Senate.

Because of his experience as a senior officer in the Army Air Force Reserve, he took particular interest in national security issues, serving as the chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence from 1981 to 1985 and then serving as chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee from 1985 to 1987.

He was instrumental in crafting the Goldwater-Nichols Act of 1986, which was the mechanism which brought about one of the most important Defense Department restructurings in U.S. history.

To honor Barry Goldwater's service to this Nation, I have sponsored this legislation which the House is considering today. The entire Arizona delegation, both Republicans and Democrats, are cosponsors of the bill, and for that, I thank each one of them.

It would be a fitting tribute to an honorable Arizonan, one who served this Nation in so many ways. I thank each of my colleagues for their support.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 3027, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 442 Miller Valley Road in Prescott, Arizona, as the Barry M. Goldwater Post Office.

I think we are all aware of the remarkable service from the five-term Senator from Arizona, Barry Morris Goldwater. Senator Goldwater was born in Phoenix, Arizona, on January 2, 1909. In 1930, Senator Goldwater took over his family's business, and in 1934, he married Margaret ''Peggy'' Johnson, with whom he had four children.

During World War II, Senator Goldwater served as a pilot and flew over the Himalayas to deliver supplies to the Republic of China in their fight against the Empire of Japan.

Senator Goldwater was a man of courage. He was a dedicated public servant who spoke his mind, stood firm on his beliefs, and worked tirelessly for his constituents.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to honor Senator Goldwater and remember his legislative accomplishments, his skill in forging compromises, and his commitment to saying what he believed, so I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

This is a fitting tribute for the citizens of Arizona and particularly those in Yavapai County—and specifically Prescott, Arizona—who want to pay tribute to one of our great Senators in Arizona history, Barry Goldwater.

He had a love affair with Arizona, from the Grand Canyon to its people, its indigenous people from the different tribes, to his way of communicating the art of conservatism to people across the country.

It is a paying tribute that we look to Barry Goldwater to honor us with his name on the post office in Prescott, Arizona.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3027.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CAPTAIN HERBERT JOHNSON MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3085) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3349 West 111th Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the ''Captain Herbert Johnson Memorial Post Office Building''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3085

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

SECTION 1. CAPTAIN HERBERT JOHNSON MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3349 West 111th Street in Chicago, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the ''Captain Herbert Johnson Memorial Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Captain Herbert Johnson Memorial Post Office Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 3085, proposed by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI), will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3349 West 111th Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the Captain Herbert Johnson Memorial Post Office Building.

Fire Captain Herbert Johnson was an outstanding member of Chicago's fire department, proudly serving the city and its people for 32 years as a firefighter. Tragically, Johnson passed away on November 2, 2012, while battling flames in Chicago's Englewood neighborhood.

A decorated firefighter, Johnson earned the Illinois Medal of Honor in 2007 for the rescue of several children from a burning apartment. Captain Johnson was only 54.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3085, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3349 West 111th Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the Captain Herbert Johnson Memorial Post Office Building.

I want to thank Representative DAN LIPINSKI for introducing this measure to honor a hero from the city of Chicago. Captain Johnson was a 32-year veteran firefighter who was remembered by friends and family as an all-around great guy and great fireman.

Johnson comes from a family of public servants. Three of his brothers serve as Chicago police officers. His sister is a retired policewoman, and another brother is a Chicago firefighter.

Captain Johnson died after sustaining heavy injuries while responding to a fire in the Gage Park neighborhood of Chicago.

Captain Johnson, who had just been promoted 3 months before his death, is survived by his wife, Susan, a daughter, and two sons.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this legislation. I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI), the distinguished sponsor of the bill.

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, today, I stand to ask my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3085, a bill I introduced to rename Chicago's Mount Greenwood Post Office at 3349 West 111th Street in honor of Chicago Fire Captain Herbert ''Herbie'' Johnson.

Captain Johnson died 2 years ago at the age of 54, while fighting a house fire on Chicago's South Side. Captain Johnson heroically served in the Chicago Fire Department for over 32 years. He learned public service from his family.

Three of his brothers are Chicago police officers. A sister is a retired Chicago police officer. Another brother is a Chicago firefighter. So his family knows the danger of being a first responder.

Captain Johnson served in almost every Chicago neighborhood as a firefighter, but his heart belonged to the southwest side, especially to the close-knit community of Mount Greenwood.

Over the years, Captain Johnson taught over 1,000 recruits as an instructor at the Robert J. Quinn Fire Academy. He is fondly remembered by those he taught.

After the horrible terrorist attacks of 9/11, Herbert Johnson went to New York City to volunteer with the rescue efforts. In 2007, he was awarded the State's highest honor for firefighters, the Illinois Medal of Honor, for rescuing several children from a burning apartment building.

Captain Johnson's life came to a tragic end on November 2, 2012, while battling flames in the attic of a two-story home on Chicago's South Side.

He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Susan; two sons, Thomas and Michael; and daughter, Laurie. He also left behind so many others in Mount Greenwood and the surrounding area who knew him well not only as a courageous and dedicated public servant, but also as an outgoing and caring neighbor and friend. The outpouring of grief after his death demonstrated the impact he had on so many people.

Naming a postal facility honoring Fire Captain Johnson is just a small tribute to our community's appreciation not only for him, but all first responders who bravely put their lives on the line every day for people they do not know.

This post office naming will ensure that Captain Herbie Johnson, his family, and the sacrifices of all first responders will always be remembered and appreciated. It will hopefully inspire more to follow in his footsteps.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank all of my colleagues from Illinois for cosponsoring this bill, and I ask all of my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3085 in honoring Captain Herbert ''Herbie'' Johnson.

□ 1700

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 3085, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3085.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

STAFF SERGEANT MANUEL V. MENDOZA POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4416) to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 161 Live Oak Street in Miami, Arizona, as the ''Staff Sergeant Manuel V. Mendoza Post Office Building''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4416

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

SECTION 1. STAFF SERGEANT MANUEL V. MENDOZA POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) REDESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 161 Live Oak Street in Miami, Arizona, shall be known and designated as the ''Staff Sergeant Manuel V. Mendoza Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Staff Sergeant Manuel V. Mendoza Post Office Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 4416, introduced by Representative ANN KIRPATRICK of Arizona, would redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 161 Live Oak Street in Miami, Arizona, as the Staff Sergeant Manuel V. Mendoza Post Office Building.

Staff Sergeant Mendoza was born in Arizona in 1922. Mendoza entered the United States Army in November of 1942, at the outset of the U.S.'s entry into World War II. Mendoza was a highly decorated soldier. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his action on Mount Battaglia in Italy on October 4, 1944, where it is said he broke up a German counterattack on his own. Mendoza also served with distinction in the Korean war. In addition to the Medal of Honor, Mendoza earned a number of other medals and the Bronze Star. Staff Sergeant Mendoza passed away in 2001.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlewoman from Arizona, Representative ANN KIRPATRICK, for introducing H.R. 4416, a bill to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 161 Live Oak Street in Miami, Arizona, as the Staff Sergeant Manuel V. Mendoza Post Office Building.

Manuel Verdugo Mendoza was born in 1922 in Miami, Arizona. Manuel was known as a man who worked hard to provide for his family.

He married his wife, Alice Gaona, in August 1942, and was drafted into the Army in November of that same year.

Just this year, Manuel was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions on October 4, 1944, in Italy. On that day, Staff Sergeant Mendoza is credited with breaking up a German counterattack of 200 troops.

After World War II, Staff Sergeant Mendoza went on to serve with distinction in the Korean war before being honorably discharged in 1954.

Staff Sergeant Mendoza passed away at the age of 79 in 2001. He was survived by his wife, two daughters, and a son. In addition to the Medal of Honor, he also received the Bronze Star, two Purple Hearts, and a host of other honors and distinctions.

We should pass this bill today to recognize Staff Sergeant Mendoza's service to our Nation and bravery in combat.

With that, I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. KIRKPATRICK), my distinguished colleague, the sponsor of the legislation.

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the late Staff Sergeant Manuel Mendoza, an American hero, who was born in my Arizona district, and to urge support for my bill to rename the United States Post Office in Miami, Arizona, in his honor.

Staff Sergeant Mendoza was born in 1922 in the eastern Arizona mining town of Miami. At the age of 20, he was drafted into the United States Army, where he was nicknamed ''the Arizona Kid'' for his heroism in battle.

Staff Sergeant Mendoza posthumously received the Medal of Honor for singlehandedly repelling a 1944 German assault on Italy's Mount Battaglia during World War II. That afternoon, the Germans launched a fierce counterattack against Allied forces, but due to Staff Sergeant Mendoza's determination, bravery, and selflessness, he was able to kill 30 enemy troops and successfully defend the Allied position.

Later in his service, he went on to fight in Korea. After retiring from the Armed Forces, Mr. Mendoza returned to Mesa, Arizona, where he died in 2001. He is survived by his wife and three children.

It is my honor to introduce H.R. 4416, which redesignates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 161 Live Oak Street in Miami, Arizona, as the Staff Sergeant Manuel V. Mendoza Post Office Building.

Staff Sergeant Mendoza's service was in keeping with the highest traditions of military service, as he demonstrated outstanding heroism above and beyond the call of duty.

To name a U.S. post office in my district after such a man is not only a credit to him, but to the State of Arizona and our Armed Forces.

On behalf of Arizona's entire delegation, I thank you, Mr. GOSAR, for your support on this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4416 when it comes to a vote later today.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for acknowledging all the members of the Arizona delegation for looking forward to the post office in Miami to be looked at in fond remembrance of ''the Arizona Kid.'' It is fitting that today is an Arizona day for post offices here on the House floor.

With that, I ask all Members of Congress to pass H.R. 4416, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAMALFA). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4416.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

VINCENT R. SOMBROTTO POST OFFICE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2291) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 450 Lexington Avenue in New York, New York, as the ''Vincent R. Sombrotto Post Office''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2291

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

SECTION 1. VINCENT R. SOMBROTTO POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 450 Lexington Avenue in New York, New York, shall be known and designated as the ''Vincent R. Sombrotto Post Office''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Vincent R. Sombrotto Post Office''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 2291, introduced by Representative CAROLYN MALONEY of New York, would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 450 Lexington Avenue in New York, New York, as the Vincent R. Sombrotto Post Office.

Vincent Sombrotto was born in Manhattan in 1923. Mr. Sombrotto was a longtime advocate for postal workers. He joined the National Association of Letter Carriers in 1947 and served as its 16th president from 1978 to 2002. He passed away in 2013 at the age of 89.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Congresswoman CAROLYN MALONEY of New York, for introducing H.R. 2291, and I join her in supporting this bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 450 Lexington Avenue in New York, New York, as the Vincent R. Sombrotto Post Office.

Mr. Vincent Raymond Sombrotto was born in New York on June 15, 1923. He joined what was then known as the Post Office Department in 1947 as a

part-time letter carrier after serving with distinction in the Navy during World War II.

In 1971, Sombrotto was elected president of the New York City branch of the National Association of Letter Carriers. In 1978, he was elected as NALC's national president, a position he held until 2002.

He was an active supporter of the Muscular Dystrophy Association, helping to raise millions of dollars to fight neuromuscular diseases.

Sombrotto passed away in 2013 at the age of 89. He was survived by his wife, seven children, and 14 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this legislation. I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), the distinguished sponsor of the legislation.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for his leadership on the Oversight Committee. I thank him and Chairman ISSA for moving this legislation through the committee. It would rename a United States Postal Service facility located in my district at 450 Lexington Avenue after Vincent R. Sombrotto, who is one of the most significant labor leaders of his generation.

Like many of his Postal Service colleagues, Vincent Sombrotto traded his military uniform for a letter carrier's uniform, and he wore both with great distinction.

As a letter carrier at New York City's Grand Central Station in the district I represent, Mr. Sombrotto led the 1970 wildcat postal strike that led Congress to reorganize the modern United States Postal Service.

Later elected as president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, their 16th president, serving from 1978 to 2002, Mr. Sombrotto worked to increase letter carrier wages, moving them from poverty level into middle class levels.

In 1992, he began the National Association of Letter Carrier's food drive, which has developed into the country's biggest 1-day food drive in the entire country. Since it started, the drive has provided more than 1.2 billion pounds of food for food banks in communities throughout the United States.

As a firm believer in civic responsibility, Mr. Sombrotto worked with the United States Postal Service and emergency services organizations to establish Carrier Alert. Carrier Alert is a nationwide program allowing postal carriers to perform humanitarian deeds on their routes, including saving lives, finding missing children and pets, and looking after the elderly.

I urge my colleagues to honor Mr. Sombrotto, who worked to improve the lives of letter carriers, their families, and their communities by supporting H.R. 2291.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. With that, I urge all Members to vote in favor of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to join me in support of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2291.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ALL CIRCUIT REVIEW EXTENSION ACT

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4197) to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend the period of certain authority with respect to judicial review of Merit Systems Protection Board decisions relating to whistleblowers, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4197

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 ''All Circuit Review Extension Act''.

SEC. 2. JUDICIAL REVIEW OF MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD DECISIONS RELATING TO WHISTLEBLOWERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7703(b)(1)(B) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking ''2-year'' and inserting ''5-year''.

(b) DIRECTOR REVIEW.—Section 7703(d)(2) of such title is amended by striking ''2-year'' and inserting ''5-year''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1715

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

In November 2012, the President signed into law the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act. This legislation was needed to update existing law to better help protect whistleblowers from retaliation for helping expose waste, fraud, and abuse in the Federal Government.

Unfortunately, some managers were using loopholes in existing law to punish well-intentioned employees for bringing bad behavior to the light of day. These actions likely dissuaded some whistleblowers from coming forward to end wasteful or corrupt activities.

In addition, during the Oversight Committee's work on this legislation, it became apparent that many whistleblowers also may not have been getting a fair shake in Federal circuit court. Therefore, the legislation created a 2-year pilot allowing for all circuit review of whistleblower appeals, enabling whistleblower cases to be appealed outside the Federal circuit.

In the 18 months since the law's enactment, very few appeals have been heard outside of the Federal circuit, giving Congress an insufficient sample size to judge whether the various courts are appropriate venues for whistleblower appeals.

H.R. 4197 simply extends the 2-year all circuit review pilot for an additional 3 years. Extending the pilot will provide additional evidence for Congress to consider as we seek to determine the fairest and most efficient way for whistleblower cases to be handled under the Federal court system.

We must do everything in our power to help defend those who seek to do the right thing by protecting Americans and their hard-earned tax dollars.

I want to thank Chairman ISSA and Ranking Member CUMMINGS for their work on this legislation, and I support this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I introduced this bipartisan bill to protect important due process rights for whistleblowers. I want to thank the original cosponsors of this bill, Oversight Committee Chairman DARRELL ISSA, Federal Workforce Subcommittee Chairman BLAKE FARENTHOLD, Ranking Member GERRY CONNOLLY, and longtime whistleblower advocate and fellow Member from the State of Maryland, Representative CHRIS VAN HOLLEN.

H.R. 4197 extends a provision in the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act that was signed into law on November 27, 2012. Under that law, whistleblowers were allowed to file appeals in any circuit court of appeals with jurisdiction during the 2 years following enactment. The 2-year period will expire on November 27 of this year.

This bill would extend the all circuit review provision for an additional 3 years. Without this provision, whistleblowers could only appeal a decision by the Merit Systems Protection Board to the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal circuit.

The Federal circuit has become increasingly restrictive of whistleblower

rights in its decisions over the years. Allowing other circuits to consider appeals in whistleblower cases provides a peer review process and check on the Federal circuit.

The Oversight Committee approved this bill on a bipartisan vote in March. Following the committee's action, the Make It Safe Coalition, a group of more than 50 organizations supporting whistleblower rights, issued a statement. Here is some of what they said:

> The House Government Reform Committee deserves credit for bipartisan leadership on its experiment in structural due process reforms. All circuit review is a sorely needed provision to ensure that the WPEA is in force as Congress intended.

Two years has not been enough time to evaluate whether the all circuit review provision works as intended, as only a few cases have made their way to other circuits so far.

I note this bill also would allow the Office of Personnel Management to file for reviews of MSPB decisions in circuits other than the Federal circuit for an additional 3 years.

Protecting the rights of whistleblowers fosters an environment where employees feel safe coming forward with information, including employees like the brave doctors, nurses, and administrative staff who have come forward to expose mismanagement in the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Federal whistleblowers are critical to exposing waste, fraud, and abuse in the government, and we need to do all that we can to support them.

With that, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from the State of California (Mr. ISSA).

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman and Ranking Member CUMMINGS.

Mr. Speaker, the most important function that the Oversight Committee does is, in fact, to expose waste, fraud, and abuse in the Federal bureaucracy. To that end, FOIA and whistleblowers are the two most important tools we have. Ultimately, whistleblowers coming forward to let us know something and the Freedom of Information Act, in addition to congressional powers, are the only way that we can wrench the truth out of a bureaucracy that often tends to be closed and, in fact, protecting of mistakes and outright failures, including fraud.

The ranking member, rightfully so and very kindly, mentioned a bipartisan effort that is underway here in the Congress to deal with the crisis in our veterans' hospitals. Only last week, whistleblowers testified under oath of the retaliation that they had seen when they came forward to explain the problems they had. Doctors, health care professionals, and administrators found that even in a caring organization like the Veterans Administration, as their hospital systems should be, if you simply talk about secret lists or failure to provide care, you might very well experience retaliation. And they did.

So I think this is a particularly appropriate time for our committee, under the leadership of our ranking member and this bill, H.R. 4197, to bring this bill to the floor to let people know that we intend on opening up further the protections for whistleblowers, because they are and have been critical to the American people's right to know, both through their Congress and through the public.

Mr. Speaker, I support the legislation, and I want to thank Mr. CUMMINGS for his work on it.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, again, I want to thank Chairman ISSA for all of his support. We couldn't have done it without him and his hard work on this issue.

There is something that we are clearly bipartisan on, and that is making sure that whistleblowers are protected. It is so very, very important. It plays such a vital role. There is certain information that we would never get under any circumstances if it were not for them. If they are not protected or they feel threatened by exposing problems in government they will be harmed, that is not healthy for our government. It is not healthy for our country and certainly makes it almost impossible for us to reach the highest level of effectiveness and efficiency in our committee.

I want to thank him and all the members of our committee.

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

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support H.R. 4197, a great attempt to make sure there is fair and equitable access to the fair facts so that justice can be served.

I urge all Members to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4197.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SMART SAVINGS ACT

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4193) to amend title 5, United States Code, to change the default investment fund under the Thrift Savings Plan, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4193

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 ''Smart Savings Act''.

SEC. 2. THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN DEFAULT INVESTMENT FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8438(c)(2) of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(2)(A) Consistent with the requirements of subparagraph (B), if an election has not been made with respect to any sums available for investment in the Thrift Savings Fund, the Executive Director shall invest such sums in an age-appropriate target date asset allocation investment fund, as determined by the Executive Director. Such investment fund shall consist of any of the funds described in subsection (b).

''(B) If an election has not been made by an eligible member under section 8440e with respect to any sums available for investment in such member's Thrift Savings Fund account, the Executive Director shall invest such sums in the Government Securities Investment Fund.''.

(b) ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISK.—Section 8439(d) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting ''(1)'' before ''Each employee''; and

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

''(2) Prior to enrollment in the Thrift Savings Fund, or as soon as practicable thereafter, an individual who is automatically enrolled pursuant to section 8432(b)(2) shall receive the risk acknowledgment information described under paragraph (1).''.

(c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 8472(g)(2) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking ''required by section 8438 of this title to be invested in securities of the Government'' and inserting ''under section 8438(c)(2)(B)''.

(d) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 9 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Executive Director (as that term is defined under section 8401(13) of title 5, United States Code) shall develop and issue guidance implementing the requirements of this Act.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION.—The amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) shall—

(1) take effect on the date that the Executive Director issues guidance under subsection (d); and

(2) apply to individuals enrolled in the Thrift Savings Plan on or after such date.

SEC. 3. CLARIFICATION OF FIDUCIARY PROTECTIONS.

Section 8477(e)(1)(C)(ii) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subclause (II)—

(A) by inserting ''or beneficiary'' after ''participant'';

(B) by inserting ''or option'' after ''fund''; and

(2) in subclause (III)—

(A) by inserting ''or beneficiary'' after ''participant''; and

(B) by inserting ''or beneficiaries' '' after ''participants' ''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. 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 on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

The Smart Savings Act, H.R. 4193, would change the default investment fund for Thrift Savings Plan, or TSP, participants from the G Fund to an age-appropriate asset allocation fund consistent with a recommendation from the TSP governing board. The change would help ensure TSP participants are better prepared for retirement by investing their contributions in a fund designed to yield higher returns over the course of their career.

Currently, new TSP participants are defaulted into the Government Securities Investment Fund, or the G Fund, and remain invested there until they can make an election reallocating their account balance into one or more of the other funding options.

The G Fund comes with some risk. The TSP warns G Fund investors that their account may not grow enough to offset the reduction in purchasing power that results from inflation.

The TSP's asset allocation funds are a mix of the TSP's offerings designed to help yield higher returns while decreasing risk as individual participants near retirement. While the funds expose participants to market risk, they address such risk in their design.

In making its legislative recommendation to Congress, the TSP found that, had the asset allocation funds been the default investment option since the beginning of the automatic enrollment in 2010, participants would have achieved greater returns.

Participants who do not want to assume the market risk associated with the L Fund will, of course, maintain their ability to determine their own allocation. That can include, for instance, transferring their entire balance to the G Fund if that is their desire.

I appreciate the bipartisan support of Representatives CUMMINGS, WOODALL, LYNCH, FARENTHOLD, CONNOLLY, and Delegate NORTON, and urge support for this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, as an original cosponsor of this bill, I want to thank Chairman ISSA and Congressmen FARENTHOLD and LYNCH for working with me on this bipartisan legislation.

The Smart Savings Act would amend current law to change the Thrift Savings Plan default investment option from the Government Securities Investment Fund, or the G Fund, to the Lifecycle Fund, or L Fund. This is a commonsense change that would help our Federal civilian employees save more effectively for their retirement.

The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, which manages the TSP, has indicated that many TSP participants are not actively managing their accounts and therefore not taking full advantage of their investment options.

Thrift Board data shows that 33 percent of participants who were automatically enrolled in TSP accounts when they were hired have not changed their investment allocations and remain totally invested in the G Fund. Many of these participants are young employees who would benefit most from long-term investments in a diversified portfolio such as the L Fund.

Although there is little to no risk in investing in the G Fund, over the long term, the return on investment is only about half of the L Fund. It does not make sense to have our Federal employees miss out on the potentially higher returns that the L Fund may provide over the long term.

There is precedent for this in the private sector. Surveys show that nearly 80 percent of private employers use lifecycle funds as the default investment option for the 401(k) plans offered to their employees.

In implementing this legislation, it would be important for the Thrift Board to thoroughly explain to TSP participants that the L Fund is subject to market fluctuations. I understand that there may be some workers who may be concerned about the market risks of the L Fund. This bill would preserve the ability of all employees to change their allocations and transfer their contributions to the G Fund if they so desired.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in supporting this bipartisan legislation.

I want to again thank Chairman ISSA and all the members of our committee for making this happen, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1730

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California, Chairman ISSA, my distinguished colleague and the chairman of the full Committee of Oversight and Government Reform.

Mr. ISSA. Thank you, Chairman.

Again, thank you, Ranking Member CUMMINGS.

Mr. Speaker, we are the board of directors for the Government of the United States. Our committee oversees the equivalent of an IRA or a 401(k) in the private sector, known as the TSP. It sounds like a lot of initials, perhaps, to people who are hearing this, or it is even, in some cases, confusing to the Federal workforce, but it is really quite simple.

We have through oversight discovered with the Thrift Investment Board that, in fact, we have done a disservice to the Federal workers by putting them into an absolutely, positively safe investment that does not keep up with inflation. Effectively, the dollars they contribute, and matching dollars from the government as an employer, are shrinking every year in constant dollars. Their investments are, in fact, smaller if they stay in that fund.

Now, near the end of people's careers—in those last couple of years—they may want to lock in with absolute certainty the size of their retirement funds to use in some way after they leave government, but in the first days, it is clear that, in the long run, the only way for an investment to grow greater than inflation is to make the kinds of investments that are possible in the other offerings under TSP, which, again, is the equivalent of a 401(k) in the private sector.

This recognition was well thought out by the Board, was well researched, and brought to our committee. It is one of those simple things that should have been done sooner, so I appreciate that the committee marked it up quickly and that we are bringing it to the floor only a short time later. I hope the Senate will hold it at the desk and will quickly allow the President to make it law because, once it is law, Federal workers will, for the first time, have a default that keeps up with or exceeds inflation.

The decision to make it quick is not because we are in a hurry. It is because, every day, Federal workers, by default and through no fault of their own, unwittingly, are finding themselves in inappropriate savings plans in their 401(k)s, known in government as the TSP. I know it is always one of those things where people say: Why are you in a hurry? In this case, we are in a hurry because we realize we should have gotten it right sooner, and we certainly are glad that we got it done now. On behalf of the committee that oversees the Federal workforce, we hope that they will appreciate that they have, if you will, a bit of an apology that we didn't act on this even quicker.

It is important to make sure that the Federal workforce has a good pay and benefits package, and in this case, they have a good retirement package through TSP that was underperforming for many of our Federal workforce. I believe, today, the default will make it perform better while taking away none of their inherent choices, including if they want to remain in the G Fund.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH), a distinguished member of our committee who has worked very hard on these issues and who has been a strong advocate for our Federal employees.

Mr. LYNCH. I thank the gentleman from Maryland for yielding and for his kind words.

Mr. Speaker, as ranking member of the Federal Workforce Subcommittee, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4193, the Smart Savings Act.

This legislation, as has been previously described, would change the default investment option for the Thrift Savings Plan participants from the G Fund to the Lifecycle Fund, or L Fund. The L Fund uses age-appropriate investment allocations, which result in

the higher returns that have been discussed here earlier.

First, I would like to thank my fellow cosponsors—the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA), Ranking Member CUMMINGS from Maryland, Congressman FARENTHOLD from Texas, Congressman CONNOLLY from Virginia, and Congressman WOODALL from Georgia—for working together on this bipartisan bill.

The Thrift Savings Plan is an important component of Federal workers' retirement assets. Given the negative impact of pay freezes, furloughs, and other challenges to the pay and benefits of our Federal workforce over the last few years, I feel it is appropriate for Congress to provide investment options that will help Federal employees maximize their retirement contributions and savings. Changing the default investment option to the L Fund makes a lot of sense because the L Funds have substantially outperformed the G Fund over the last several years. However, the bill would also allow employees who are risk averse the ability to opt out and change their investment options.

The House passed a substantially similar bill in the 110th Congress, but it was never enacted. This time around, I am hoping that this commonsense proposal will become law as a substantially similar bill in the Senate was recently approved in committee. H.R. 4193 is supported by many stakeholders, including the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, the Employees Thrift Advisory Council, and various employee organizations.

This legislation provides the dedicated men and women of our Federal workforce a reasonable option that, I believe, would help them more effectively provide for their own retirements. I urge my colleagues to join all of the cosponsors in supporting H.R. 4193.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, with that, I urge all of our Members to vote in favor of this very important legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to join me in support of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4193, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FEDERAL REGISTER MODERNIZATION ACT

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4195) to amend chapter 15 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the Federal Register Act), to modernize the Federal Register, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4195

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 ''Federal Register Modernization Act''.

SEC. 2. FEDERAL REGISTER MODERNIZATION.

(a) REFERENCES TO PRINTING.—Chapter 15 of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 1502—

(A) in the heading, by striking ''**printing**'' and inserting ''**publishing**''; and

(B) by striking ''printing and distribution'' and inserting ''publishing'';

(2) in section 1507 is amended—

(A) by striking ''the duplicate originals or certified copies of the document have'' and inserting ''the document has''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''printed'' and inserting ''published''; and

(3) in section 1509, in subsections (a) and (b) of, by striking ''printing, reprinting, wrapping, binding, and distributing'' and inserting ''publishing'', each place it appears.

(b) PUBLISH DEFINED.—Section 1501 of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''; and'' at the end of the definition for ''person'' and inserting a semicolon;

(2) by inserting after the definition for ''person'' the following:

''''publish' means to circulate for sale or distribution to the public; and''.

(c) FILING DOCUMENTS WITH OFFICE AMENDMENT.—Section 1503 of title 44, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''§ 1503. Filing documents with Office; notation of time; public inspection; transmission for publishing

''The original document required or authorized to be published by section 1505 of this title shall be filed with the Office of the Federal Register for publication at times established by the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register by regulation. The Archivist of the United States shall cause to be noted on the original of each document the day and hour of filing. Upon filing, the document shall be immediately available for public inspection in the Office. The original shall be retained by the National Archives and Records Administration and shall be available for inspection under regulations prescribed by the Archivist, unless such original is disposed of in accordance with disposal schedules submitted by the Administrative Committee and authorized by the Archivist pursuant to regulations issued under chapter 33 of this title; however, originals of proclamations of the President and Executive orders shall be permanently retained by the Administration as part of the National Archives of the United States. The Office shall transmit to the Government Printing Office, as provided by this chapter, each document required or authorized to be published by section 1505 of this title. Every Federal agency shall cause to be transmitted for filing the original of all such documents issued, prescribed, or promulgated by the agency.''.

(d) FEDERAL REGISTER AMENDMENT.—Section 1504 of title 44, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''§ 1504. 'Federal Register'; publishing; contents; distribution; price

''Documents required or authorized to be published by section 1505 of this title shall be published immediately by the Government Printing Office in a serial publication designated the 'Federal Register'. The Public Printer shall make available the facilities of the Government Printing Office for the prompt publication of the Federal Register in the manner and at the times required by this chapter and the regulations prescribed under it. The contents of the daily issues shall constitute all documents, required or authorized to be published, filed with the Office of the Federal Register up to the time of the day immediately preceding the day of publication fixed by regulations under this chapter. There shall be published with each document a copy of the notation, required to be made by section 1503 of this title, of the day and hour when, upon filing with the Office, the document was made available for public inspection. Distribution shall be made at a time in the morning of the day of distribution fixed by regulations prescribed under this chapter. The prices to be charged for the Federal Register may be fixed by the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register established by section 1506 of this title without reference to the restrictions placed upon and fixed for the sale of Government publications by sections 1705 and 1708 of this title.''.

(e) DOCUMENTS TO BE PUBLISHED IN FEDERAL REGISTER.—Section 1505 of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the heading, by striking ''COMMENTS'' and inserting ''NEWS COMMENTARY''; and

(B) by striking ''comments'' and inserting ''news commentary''; and

(2) in subsection (c), in the matter following paragraph (2)—

(A) by inserting ''telecommunications, the Internet,'' after ''the press, the radio,''; and

(B) by striking ''and two duplicate originals or two certified copies'' and inserting ''document''.

(f) ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FEDERAL REGISTER AMENDMENT.—Section 1506 of title 44, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''§ 1506. Administrative Committee of the Federal Register; establishment and composition; powers and duties

''The Administrative Committee of the Federal Register shall consist of the Archivist of the United States or Acting Archivist, who shall chair the committee, an officer of the Department of Justice designated by the Attorney General, and the Public Printer or Acting Public Printer. The Director of the Federal Register shall act as secretary of the committee. The committee shall prescribe, with the approval of the President, regulations for carrying out this chapter. The regulations shall provide for, among other things—

''(1) the documents which shall be authorized under section 1505(b) of this title to be published in the Federal Register;

''(2) the manner and form in which the Federal Register shall be published;

''(3) the manner of distribution to Members of Congress, officers and employees of the United States, or Federal agency, for official use, and the number which shall be available for distribution to the public;

''(4) the prices to be charged for individual copies of, and subscriptions to, the Federal Register and any reprints and bound volumes of it;

''(5) the manner and form by which the Federal Register may receive information and comments from the public, if practicable and efficient; and

''(6) special editions of the Federal Register.''.

(g) CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS AMENDMENT.—Section 1510 of title 44, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 1510. Code of Federal Regulations

''(a) SPECIAL EDITION FOR CODIFICATION OF AGENCY DOCUMENTS.—The Administrative Committee of the Federal Register, with the approval of the President, may require, from time to time as it considers necessary, the preparation and publication in a special edition of the Federal Register a complete codification of the documents of each agency of the Government having general applicability and legal effect, issued or promulgated by the agency by publication in the Federal Register or by filing with the Administrative Committee, and which are relied upon by the agency as authority for, or are invoked or used by it in the discharge of, its activities or functions, and are in effect as to facts arising on or after dates specified by the Administrative Committee.

''(b) CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS.—A codification prepared under subsection (a) of this section shall be published and shall be designated as the 'Code of Federal Regulations'. The Administrative Committee shall regulate the manner and forms of publishing this codification.

''(c) SUPPLEMENTATION, COLLATION, AND REPUBLICATION.—The Administrative Committee shall regulate the supplementation and the collation and republication of the codification with a view to keeping the Code of Federal Regulations as current as practicable. Each unit of codification shall be supplemented and republished at least once each calendar year. The Office of the Federal Register may create updates of each unit of codification from time to time and make the same available electronically or may provide public access using an electronic edition that allows a user to select a specific date and retrieve the version of the codification in effect as of that date.

''(d) PREPARATION AND PUBLICATION BY THE FEDERAL REGISTER.—The Office of the Federal Register shall prepare and publish the codifications, supplements, collations, and user aids authorized by this section.

''(e) PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE.—The codified documents of the several agencies published in the Code of Federal Regulations under this section, as amended by documents subsequently filed with the Office and published in the daily issues of the Federal Register, shall be prima facie evidence of the text of the documents and of the fact that they are in effect on and after the date of publication.

''(f) REGULATIONS.—The Administrative Committee, with approval of the President, shall issue regulations for carrying out this section.

''(g) EXCEPTION.—This section does not require codification of the text of Presidential documents published and periodically compiled in supplements to title 3 of the Code of Federal Regulations.''.

(h) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The table of sections for chapter 15 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by striking the items related to sections 1502, 1503, and 1504 and inserting the following:

''1502. Custody and publishing of Federal documents; appointment of Director.

''1503. Filing documents with Office; notation of time; public inspection; transmission for publishing.

''1504. 'Federal Register'; publishing; contents; distribution; price.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. 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 on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

The Federal Register Modernization Act is an important bill that will allow our government to better adapt to 21st century technology while both serving the public better and saving money. Much of the Federal recordkeeping and document publishing includes outdated requirements for printed version of documents. This is especially true for the Federal Register.

Today, there are only 124 paid subscribers to the print version of the Federal Register. Despite this fact, the Federal Government is legally required to continue to produce a print version of the Register. Moreover, statutes biased towards paper-based communication also require Federal agencies to submit multiple physical copies of the same document for publication. The result is a nonsensical situation in which agencies must hand-deliver CDs to the Office of the Federal Register with identical versions of the same documents saved on it.

This commonsense legislation will fix both of these issues. First, it will allow the Register to be published rather than printed, allowing for an eventual switch to a digital-only version, patterned off of the Federal Register's already award-winning Web site. Second, it will streamline the document submission process to eliminate the requirement for multiple copies and give the Register more freedom in how documents may be submitted.

Importantly, this bipartisan proposal has the support of the administration, and I encourage all Members to support this legislation.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I want to thank Chairman DARRELL ISSA for introducing this bill. I am happy to be an original cosponsor of the Federal Register Modernization Act.

This is a good government bill that will reduce waste and save taxpayers money. This bill is based on a legislative proposal from the National Archives and Records Administration.

The Archivist of the United States sent a letter to Congress last November that read:

> This legislation would modernize the Federal Register to take advantage of modern technology to increase efficiency.

The bill would give the Office of the Federal Register the flexibility to publish the Federal Register electronically. It also would allow agencies to stop sending unnecessary paper copies of documents when they send materials to be published in the Federal Register. The National Archives estimates that this one step could save almost $900,000 over 5 years.

This is exactly the kind of legislation Congress should be passing. It is bipartisan, noncontroversial, and will make a modest update that will make the government more efficient and effective with regard to information being accessible. I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

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

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California, Chairman ISSA, my distinguished colleague and the chairman of the committee.

Mr. ISSA. I would inquire if the ranking member is yielding back so that I can close.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Yes.

Mr. ISSA. Thank you. Then I will close.

Mr. Speaker, the Federal Register Modernization Act does exactly what the title suggests—it modernizes the Federal Register Act.

When you look at a well-intended bill that hasn't been addressed since the 1930s, it comes to mind how easy it is to ask something to go on and to have a Federal bureaucracy actually do a good job. The National Archives and many of the institutions here in Washington do work, but from time to time, you ask the question: At what cost?

The Modernization Act seeks to do two things: one, simply lower the cost for printing, which is no longer necessary in a digital age, and, in fact, to open the door for what I believe is the modernization that goes beyond that.

Since 1994, when the Office of the Federal Register first published its electronic edition of the Federal Register, we have, in fact, had an opening for our government to go digital beyond just any minor amount. Today, many people ask the question—and I am going to ask the question here today—if the IRS has 50 years' worth of your tax returns, why wouldn't we capture the workings of government digitally, hold them and, at the appropriate time, make them available for our children and our grandchildren for whatever purpose they may have in studying the history of what we do here today?

This small modernization is about cost savings, but it is also a recognition that, in this day and age, we can capture everything digitally, that we can store vast amounts of it and that we can make it searchable and valuable to the next generation. For that reason, this is a small recognition that it is time to get off paper, to save money and to have the Federal Register accessible online to offices, homes, and public libraries, and not simply to print paper because, in the 1930s, that is

what we said to do. I believe, when we look at the last decade, in which the annual page count exceeded 75,000 pages, we recognize that those pages were made possible by the same computers—the same automation—that allow us to no longer print paper.

I ask the Conference and the Congress to vote for H.R. 4195 in order to remove these outdated statutory requirements. I urge its passage.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the Homeland Security Committee, I rise to speak about H.R. 4195, the "Federal Register Modernization Act," which modernizes the Federal Register.

I want to thank Chairman DARRELL ISSA and Ranking Member ELIJAH CUMMINGS for their leadership and efforts in bringing this bill to the floor.

This bill will bring much needed transparency without compromising national security to the decisions, orders, and actions of federal agencies.

There are challenges to providing government information solely in digital format since there are constituents that lack access to technology or the skills necessary to locate information online.

Electronic documents can easily be changed and modified from original postings which challenges federal transparency.

Digital records can also challenge transparency by the capacity of systems to manage demand for accessing information online.

It would be good for transparency if we allow public and private achieving of federal registration content because constituents would have access to material in multiple ways.

This bill requires the Federal Register to be published (e.g., by electronic means), rather than printed, and that documents in the Federal Register be made available for sale or distribution to the public in published form.

This bill also revises the requirements for the filling of documents with the Office of the Federal Register for inclusion in the Federal Register and for the publication of the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the publication requirement.

The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) does a great job by informing citizens of their rights and obligations, documenting the actions of Federal Agencies, and providing a forum for public participation in the democratic process.

The Federal Register informs citizens by publishing the following entries:

Presidential Documents, including Executive orders and proclamations;

Rules and Regulations, including policy statements and interpretations of rules;

Proposed Rules, including petitions for rulemaking and other advance proposals; and

Notices, including scheduled hearings and meetings open to the public, grant applications, administrative orders, and other announcements of government actions.

Mr. Speaker, we need to make it easier for citizens and communities to understand the regulatory process and to participate in Government decision-making.

We can ensure that transparency our constituents demand by making material more searchable and easier to access.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting passage of H.R. 4195.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4195.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

□ 1745

REDESIGNATING MAMMOTH PEAK AS MOUNT JESSIE BENTON FREMONT

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1192) to redesignate Mammoth Peak in Yosemite National Park as "Mount Jessie Benton Fremont".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1192

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

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that Jessie Benton Frémont—

(1) was the daughter of United States Senator Thomas Hart Benton of Missouri, a leading proponent of the concept of Manifest Destiny that advocated for the Nation to expand its borders westward;

(2) became fluent in French and Spanish, was a gifted writer, and was at ease in any political discussion;

(3) married John C. Frémont, who was assigned to explore the West;

(4) transformed John C. Frémont's descriptions from his treks into prose that was used by pioneers to guide their route West;

(5) traveled to California in 1849 to join her husband at their Mariposa ranch, where gold had been discovered;

(6) became involved in John C. Frémont's 1856 campaign for Presidency, which proposed the abolition of slavery, a notion that Jessie Benton Frémont also supported;

(7) moved to Bear Valley, California, with her husband John C. Frémont in 1858 and thereafter realized the need to preserve the land that would become Yosemite National Park for future generations;

(8) entertained men such as Horace Greeley, Thomas Starr King, and United States Senator Edward Baker of Oregon, and urged them to begin a process that ultimately led to the establishment of Yosemite National Park;

(9) influenced President Abraham Lincoln to sign the Act entitled "An Act authorizing a Grant to the State of California of the 'Yo-Semite Valley' and of the Land embracing the 'Mariposa Big Tree Grove'", approved June 30, 1864 (commonly known as the Yosemite Grant), the first instance of land being set aside specifically for its preservation and public use by a national government; and

(10) set the foundation for the creation of national parks and California State parks through her advocacy for and influence on the Yosemite Grant.

SEC. 2. REDESIGNATION OF MAMMOTH PEAK AS MOUNT JESSIE BENTON FRÉMONT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The peak known as "Mammoth Peak" in Yosemite National Park (located at NPS coordinates 37.855° N, -119.264° W) shall be redesignated as "Mount Jessie Benton Frémont" and may be known informally as "Mt. Jessie" in honor of the contributions of Jessie Benton Frémont to the approval of the Yosemite Grant.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, record, or other paper of the United States to the peak described in subsection (a) shall be considered to be a reference to "Mount Jessie Benton Frémont".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1192 would redesignate Mammoth Peak in Yosemite National Park as Mount Jessie Benton Fremont.

The bill is brought to us by a group of local park enthusiasts and historians, with the support of the El Dorado County Historical Society. Its purpose is to recognize this pioneer who played a significant role in establishing Yosemite National Park.

Jessie Benton Fremont was the daughter of U.S. Senator Thomas Hart Benton, a prominent Democrat who was a leading proponent of the Nation's westward expansion. In 1841, she married John C. Fremont, a prominent Republican, an American military officer, explorer, and—later—a Presidential candidate.

She traveled to California in 1849 and, soon thereafter, became one of the most influential advocates for establishing Yosemite National Park.

When we think of Yosemite, we think of John Muir. Ironically, John Muir's first visit to the park didn't occur until 4 years after the park was established. It only came to his attention, as it came to the attention of so many, because Jessie Benton Fremont saw the beauty of the valley, she appreciated its importance, and she began a passionate crusade to preserve it for the American people to enjoy.

Jessie Benton Fremont was herself a gifted writer, and she used her skill to transform her husband's travel and exploration into popular narratives that were used by pioneers to guide their route west.

After she came to California in 1849, Yosemite became her passion. She published many accounts of the valley and

hosted scores of dignitaries to see its wonders.

It was her deep love of Yosemite, coupled with her ceaseless agitation, her boundless energy, and her political connections in both parties that set in motion and drove the events that led to Congress passing, and President Abraham Lincoln signing, the Yosemite Grant Act 150 years ago.

Remember, she did all of this in an age when women were expected to be seen and not heard. She set an example of leadership that gave inspiration and guidance to the next generation that ultimately produced the movement toward women's suffrage.

The Yosemite Grant Act was revolutionary in its day. It was the first time in the Nation's history that land had been set aside, in the words of the Act, ''on the express condition that the premises shall be held for public use, resort, and recreation . . . for all time.''

Now, this act led ultimately to the creation of the National Park Service in 1916 and to the preservation of so many other landscapes for the American people to enjoy for their use and resort and recreation.

The Norman and Plantagenet kings of old set aside vast tracts of land as their exclusive preserve, in which only a select few, with their blessing, could enjoy. The Yosemite grant was the very opposite of that. It set aside the most beautiful land in the Nation entirely for the people.

The current name of the peak, Mammoth Peak, has absolutely no historical significance. The name was originally conferred on that peak because it was big. That is it.

Furthermore, this naming will eliminate a constant source of confusion with Mammoth Mountain, a place that we have all heard of. That is the major ski resort just a few hours outside of Yosemite National Park. The Mammoth Peak we are referring to is inside Yosemite, and if you find that confusing, well, so too do many tourists.

The fine point of the matter comes down to this: other persons who had lesser or comparable roles in establishing Yosemite are all commemorated by attaching their names to prominent features of the park—Horace Greeley, Carlton Watkins, Thomas Starr King, and U.S. Senators John Conness and Edward Baker.

The name of the dynamic force that moved all of those people, Jessie Benton Fremont, is nowhere to be found on the names of features within the park. This is a century-and-a-half oversight that we can correct today by passing H.R. 1192.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1192 would designate Mammoth Peak in Yosemite National Park as Mount Jessie Benton Fremont to honor Jessie Fremont's role in the early preservation of the Yosemite Valley.

Jessie Fremont was enchanted by the beauty of Yosemite Valley and lobbied for its protection. Her efforts led to the passage of the Yosemite Grant Act and, ultimately, the creation of the Yosemite National Park.

Not only did she work to permanently protect the Yosemite Valley, many Americans of her time became familiar with the vast unexplored West from her recounting of her husband's early explorations of the American West with scout Kit Carson.

I would like to thank my colleague, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, for recognizing the contributions of American conservationists such as Jessie Fremont. She not only is an important figure in the conservation movement in this country, she is an important figure in women's history as well.

Her accomplishments came at a time when women faced severe discrimination, making her achievements even more remarkable, and so I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland for his kind words and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1192.

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 52 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TERRY) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5021, HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION FUNDING ACT OF 2014

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 113–521) on the resolution (H. Res. 669) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5021) to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 4195, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 5029, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The second electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

FEDERAL REGISTER MODERNIZATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4195) to amend chapter 15 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the Federal Register Act), to modernize the Federal Register, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 386, nays 0, not voting 46, as follows:

[Roll No. 405]

YEAS—386

Aderholt	Carson (IN)	Diaz-Balart
Amash	Carter	Dingell
Amodei	Cartwright	Doggett
Bachmann	Castor (FL)	Doyle
Barber	Castro (TX)	Duckworth
Barletta	Chabot	Duffy
Barr	Chaffetz	Duncan (SC)
Barrow (GA)	Chu	Duncan (TN)
Barton	Cicilline	Edwards
Bass	Clawson (FL)	Ellison
Beatty	Clay	Ellmers
Becerra	Cleaver	Engel
Benishek	Clyburn	Eshoo
Bentivolio	Coble	Esty
Bera (CA)	Coffman	Farenthold
Bilirakis	Cole	Farr
Bishop (GA)	Collins (GA)	Fattah
Bishop (NY)	Collins (NY)	Fincher
Bishop (UT)	Conaway	Fitzpatrick
Black	Connolly	Fleischmann
Blackburn	Conyers	Fleming
Blumenauer	Cook	Flores
Bonamici	Cooper	Forbes
Boustany	Costa	Fortenberry
Brady (PA)	Cotton	Foster
Brady (TX)	Courtney	Foxx
Braley (IA)	Cramer	Frankel (FL)
Bridenstine	Crawford	Franks (AZ)
Brooks (AL)	Crenshaw	Frelinghuysen
Brooks (IN)	Crowley	Fudge
Broun (GA)	Cuellar	Gabbard
Brown (FL)	Cummings	Garamendi
Brownley (CA)	Daines	Garcia
Bucshon	Davis (CA)	Gardner
Burgess	Davis, Rodney	Garrett
Bustos	DeFazio	Gerlach
Butterfield	DeGette	Gibbs
Calvert	Delaney	Gibson
Camp	DeLauro	Gohmert
Cantor	DelBene	Goodlatte
Capito	Denham	Gosar
Capps	Dent	Gowdy
Capuano	DeSantis	Graves (GA)
Cárdenas	Deutch	Grayson

Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guthrie
Hahn
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holding
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jolly
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Kuster
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lummis
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Massie
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Neugebauer
Noem
Nolan
Nugent
Nunes
O'Rourke
Olson
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters (CA)
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pittenger
Pitts
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Polis
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Reichert
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruiz
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Speier
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Terry
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Waxman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—46

Bachus
Buchanan
Byrne
Campbell
Carney
Cassidy
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cohen
Culberson
Davis, Danny
DesJarlais
Enyart
Gallego
Gingrey (GA)
Granger
Graves (MO)
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Hastings (WA)
Huelskamp
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (PA)
Kingston
Marino
McAllister
Miller, Gary
Nunnelee
Palazzo
Pastor (AZ)
Peters (MI)
Pompeo
Renacci
Rohrabacher
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sanford
Scott, Austin
Shea-Porter
Stutzman
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (PA)
Tsongas
Veasey
Williams

□ 1901

Mr. BURGESS changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and 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. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 405, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION ACT OF 2014

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5029) to provide for the establishment of a body to identify and coordinate international science and technology cooperation that can strengthen the domestic science and technology enterprise and support United States foreign policy goals, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 346, nays 41, not voting 45, as follows:

[Roll No. 406]

YEAS—346

Aderholt
Amodei
Bachmann
Barber
Barletta
Barr
Barrow (GA)
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bentivolio
Bera (CA)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bridenstine
Brooks (IN)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Bucshon
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chaffetz
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clawson (FL)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Cotton
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Daines
Davis (CA)
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Denham
Dent
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Engel
Eshoo
Esty
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Garamendi
Garcia
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Goodlatte
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guthrie
Hahn
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holding
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jolly
Joyce
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Kuster
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lummis
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Neugebauer
Noem
Nolan
Nugent
Nunes
O'Rourke
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (CA)
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pittenger
Pitts
Pocan
Polis
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Reichert
Richmond
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rokita
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruiz
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Sherman
Shimkus
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Speier
Stewart
Stivers
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Terry
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Waxman
Webster (FL)
Welch
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NAYS—41

Amash
Benishek
Brooks (AL)
Broun (GA)
Burgess
Chabot
Collins (GA)
DeSantis
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Gohmert
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Hudson
Huizenga (MI)
Jones
Jordan
Labrador
LaMalfa
Massie
McClintock
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Pearce
Perry
Poe (TX)
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rooney
Rothfus
Salmon
Sensenbrenner
Shuster
Stockman
Weber (TX)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Woodall
Yoho

NOT VOTING—45

Bachus	Graves (MO)	Peters (MI)
Buchanan	Gutiérrez	Pompeo
Byrne	Hanabusa	Renacci
Campbell	Hastings (WA)	Rohrabacher
Carney	Huelskamp	Rush
Cassidy	Kaptur	Ryan (OH)
Clarke (NY)	Keating	Sanford
Cohen	Kingston	Scott, Austin
Culberson	Marino	Shea-Porter
Davis, Danny	McAllister	Smith (TX)
DesJarlais	Miller, Gary	Stutzman
Enyart	Nunnelee	Thompson (CA)
Gallego	Olson	Tsongas
Gingrey (GA)	Palazzo	Veasey
Granger	Pastor (AZ)	Williams

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1909

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5016, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 661 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 5016.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from New York (Mr. COLLINS) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1911

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 5016) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, with Mr. COLLINS of New York in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

The gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

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

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to present to the House the fiscal year 2015 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill.

This subcommittee has jurisdiction over a great number of programs and activities, including the Federal Judiciary; the Treasury, which includes the IRS; the Federal Trade Commission; the Federal Communications Commission; the Small Business Administration; and several other activities.

All the agencies under this subcommittee's jurisdiction play an important role in the functioning of the Federal Government, and I think it is appropriate that all the Members of the House have a chance to offer germane amendments that impact the funding that is provided in this bill.

The bill that we are considering today provides $21.3 billion in discretionary funding, which is $566 million, or 2.6 percent less than last year, and $2.3 billion, or 9.6 percent less than the request.

The subcommittee's allocation has been reduced, but it is one that is necessary to live within the confines of the budget agreement that was put together under the Ryan-Murray agreement. The allocation is sufficient to fund priority programs while reducing some of the programs that are not essential to the operation of the Federal Government or have a history of wasting taxpayer resources.

One of the main provisions of this bill is funding for law enforcement. The bill provides increased funding over fiscal year 2014 for several law enforcement activities.

□ 1915

The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas program receives a $6.5 million increase. The Drug-Free Communities program receives a $3 million increase, and the Treasury's terrorism and financial intelligence activities—they are the ones who develop and enforce sanctions—receive an $18 million increase. In addition, we have ample funding for the operations of the Federal judiciary and the D.C. Courts. We also have money for the supervision of offenders and defendants who are living in our communities.

Another priority for the bill is supporting small businesses and assisting in private sector job creation. This bill provides $195 million for the Small Business Administration's business loan programs, and that supports $18.5 billion of lending under a program called 7(a), and it supports $7.5 billion under 504 lending. This bill also provides increases over the current year for the Small Business Development Centers. It provides increases for the Women's Business Centers and for the Treasury's Community Development Financial Institutions Fund program. In addition, this bill asks several of the regulatory agencies to report to this committee and to tell us how they are doing as they attempt to eliminate some of the burdensome, duplicative, and just plain unnecessary regulations.

In order to live within our allocation, we had to reduce funding in some areas. We actually eliminate funding for nine different programs, including the Christopher Columbus Foundation and the Election Assistance Commission. Those are activities that we feel are no longer necessary or are certainly not vital to the operation of the Federal Government. We further reduce funding for more than a dozen agencies and programs that, in our opinion, can operate on a little bit less, like the Bureau of the Fiscal Service, the Federal Trade Commission, and the Federal Communications Commission.

For the GSA, we reduce their funding for the Federal buildings fund by $240 million. We continue to require them to regularly report to us on their spending and on the state of their building portfolio. The bill provides the GSA with enough funds to operate their current building inventory, and it provides new funding for three land port of entry construction projects. We also continue to push the GSA to reduce their surplus and vacant space. We designate some funding to help them consolidate their projects and dispose of some of the projects, but we make sure that they do that only if there are going to be savings in the long run.

In an effort to increase transparency and accountability, we make the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the CFPB, subject to the annual appropriations process of this Congress. When Dodd-Frank set that agency up, they purposefully left it without any oversight from this Congress. We think that is not the best way to go. We think that that is an agency that ought to report to us what they are doing, how they are doing it, and how much money they are spending, and this bill will correct that flaw.

The bill freezes funding for the White House and the Office of Management and Budget. It includes a requirement that OMB submit the President's budget request on time, which is something they have not been able to do in the last couple of years, or they will face a withholding of approximately 7 months of their budget until the President's request is sent. In addition, the bill contains a prohibition on funding for the White House to prepare signing statements and executive orders which are contradictory to existing law.

I would like to touch on the IRS. This committee still remains outraged at some of the activities that we have seen from the IRS in recent times. First, we learned that they were singling out individuals and groups of individuals for additional scrutiny based on their political philosophies. Then we learned that they had wasted millions of dollars in having lavish conferences around the country and in making silly videos. Then we learned that the new Commissioner paid $63 million in bonuses and awards after the prior Commissioner had said we are not going to pay those. Then we find out that some of the people who were receiving those bonuses and awards were, in fact, delinquent in paying their own taxes. So,

last year, we had some reforms on spending, and we had reforms on the targeting, but work remains to be done.

This bill provides the IRS with $10.95 billion. That is $341 million below the level last year, and it is $1.5 billion below their request. Now, people say that is a pretty drastic cut, but that actually leaves the IRS funded at the same level at which they were prior to 2008. We have to remember that the IRS has betrayed the trust of the American people in a lot of different ways, and it is going to take some time for the IRS to restore that trust, because it seems like, just about every week, we read about a new revelation of some sort of IRS bureaucratic incompetence or, maybe, of a willful disregard for existing law—or sometimes even both.

We want to make sure that they begin to clean up their act, and this bill provides that they can no longer subject people to additional scrutiny. They can't waste money on lavish conferences anymore, and they can't pay bonuses and awards to people unless they at least consider the conduct of that individual and whether or not that individual is current on his taxes. We require a certain amount of reporting from the IRS, and we require them to tell us how much official time is being used on union activities.

We also have language in there of this new, revised regulation that they have put forward regarding the definition of what is an organization under 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, which was a rule that was promulgated based on the investigation that was taking place about the abuse of singling out individuals. In our opinion, the Treasury should wait until that investigation is conducted before any kind of new rule has been proposed. The rule was withdrawn after there were 150,000 comments, and a lot of those comments came from all sides of the political spectrum. We think there is plenty for the IRS to do in terms of time, in terms of energy, in terms of money before they spend that in trying to write a new rule. We also found out just recently that, while the IRS asks us to keep our records for 7 years, they couldn't keep their records for more than 7 months, so there is a provision in here that says they can't destroy any of their records if it is outside existing law.

Finally, I want to say something about the Affordable Care Act. This committee believes that the IRS should not have a role in implementing the individual mandate of the Affordable Care Act. The IRS, as I said, has betrayed the trust of the American people. There is not much trust in the IRS today. People don't trust the IRS with their taxes, and they are certainly not going to trust the IRS with their health care. At a time when the IRS hasn't demonstrated much ability to either self-correct or self-police, the bill says that they can't spend any money to implement the individual mandate of the Affordable Care Act and that they also can't transfer any money to fund it from the Department of Health and Human Services.

That is it in a nutshell, Mr. Chairman. I think this is a good bill. It takes the money that we have and makes some tough choices, sets the right priorities, and spends money in a wise and efficient way.

I want to thank all of the members of the subcommittee for the work that they have put in. I want to thank our staffs—both the majority and minority staffs—for the work that they have put in.

I want to say a special word of thanks to the ranking member, Mr. SERRANO, the gentleman from New York. His input has made this a better bill. Even though he thinks there should be more money and he doesn't agree with everything that is in the bill, he has been a great partner to work with in the spirit of cooperation and particularly in an effort to make sure that we return to regular order, where the appropriations bills are brought before this House, so I want to thank him for that.

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

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL 2015 (H.R. 5016)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY					
Departmental Offices					
Salaries and Expenses	312,400	308,734	175,000	-137,400	-133,734
Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence	---	---	120,000	+120,000	+120,000
Subtotal	312,400	308,734	295,000	-17,400	-13,734
Department-wide Systems and Capital Investments Programs	2,725	2,725	---	-2,725	-2,725
Office of Inspector General	34,800	35,351	35,351	+551	---
Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration	156,375	157,419	158,000	+1,625	+581
Special Inspector General for TARP	34,923	34,234	34,234	-689	---
Financial Crimes Enforcement Network	112,000	108,661	108,661	-3,339	---
Subtotal, Departmental Offices	653,223	647,124	631,246	-21,977	-15,878
Treasury Forfeiture Fund (rescission)	-736,000	-950,000	-750,000	-14,000	+200,000
Total, Departmental Offices	-82,777	-302,876	-118,754	-35,977	+184,122
Bureau of the Fiscal Service	360,165	348,184	348,184	-11,981	---
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau	99,000	96,000	96,000	-3,000	---
Community Development Financial Institutions Fund Program Account	226,000	224,900	230,000	+4,000	+5,100
Payment of Government Losses in Shipment	2,000	2,000	2,000	---	---
Total, Department of the Treasury, non-IRS	604,388	368,208	557,430	-46,958	+189,222
Internal Revenue Service					
Taxpayer Services	2,122,554	2,317,633	2,130,000	+7,446	-187,633
Enforcement	5,022,178	5,133,988	4,950,000	-72,178	-183,988
Program integrity initiatives	---	237,838	---	---	-237,838
Subtotal	5,022,178	5,371,826	4,950,000	-72,178	-421,826
Operations Support	3,740,942	4,215,169	3,620,000	-120,942	-595,169
Program integrity initiatives	---	241,689	---	---	-241,689
Subtotal	3,740,942	4,456,858	3,620,000	-120,942	-836,858
Business Systems Modernization	312,938	330,210	250,000	-62,938	-80,210
General Provision	92,000	---	---	-92,000	---
Total, Internal Revenue Service	11,290,612	12,476,527	10,950,000	-340,612	-1,526,527
Total, title I, Department of the Treasury	11,895,000	12,844,735	11,507,430	-387,570	-1,337,305
Appropriations	(12,631,000)	(13,315,208)	(12,257,430)	(-373,570)	(-1,057,778)
Rescissions	(-736,000)	(-950,000)	(-750,000)	(-14,000)	(+200,000)
(Mandatory)	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	---	---
(Discretionary)	(11,893,000)	(12,842,735)	(11,505,430)	(-387,570)	(-1,337,305)

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL 2015 (H.R. 5016)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE II - EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT					
The White House					
Salaries and Expenses	55,000	55,110	55,000	---	-110
Compensation of the President	---	450	---	---	-450
Sec. 624	(450)	---	(450)	---	(+450)
Executive Residence at the White House:					
Operating Expenses	12,700	12,700	12,700	---	---
White House Repair and Restoration	750	750	500	-250	-250
Subtotal	13,450	13,450	13,200	-250	-250
Council of Economic Advisers	4,184	4,192	3,765	-419	-427
National Security Council and Homeland Security Council	12,600	12,621	12,600	---	-21
Office of Administration	112,726	111,441	111,000	-1,726	-441
Total, The White House	197,960	197,264	195,565	-2,395	-1,699
Office of Management and Budget	89,300	93,450	89,300	---	-4,150
Office of National Drug Control Policy					
Salaries and Expenses	22,750	22,647	22,000	-750	-647
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program	238,522	193,400	245,000	+6,478	+51,600
Other Federal Drug Control Programs	105,394	95,376	108,250	+2,856	+12,874
Total, Office of National Drug Control Policy	366,666	311,423	375,250	+8,584	+63,827
Unanticipated Needs	800	1,000	---	-800	-1,000
Data-driven Innovation	2,000	---	---	-2,000	---
Information Technology Oversight and Reform	8,000	20,000	9,000	+1,000	-11,000
Special Assistance to the President and Official Residence of the Vice President:					
Salaries and Expenses	4,319	4,221	4,200	-119	-21
Operating Expenses	305	299	290	-15	-9
Subtotal	4,624	4,520	4,490	-134	-30
Total, title II, Executive Office of the President and Funds Appropriated to the President	669,350	627,657	673,605	+4,255	+45,948
(Mandatory)	---	(450)	---	---	(-450)
(Discretionary)	(669,350)	(627,207)	(673,605)	(+4,255)	(+46,398)

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL 2015 (H.R. 5016)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE III - THE JUDICIARY					
Supreme Court of the United States					
Salaries and Expenses:					
Salaries of Justices	2,442	2,527	2,527	+85	---
Other salaries and expenses	72,625	74,967	74,937	+2,312	-30
Subtotal	75,067	77,494	77,464	+2,397	-30
Care of the Building and Grounds	11,158	11,640	11,640	+482	---
Total, Supreme Court of the United States	86,225	89,134	89,104	+2,879	-30
United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit					
Salaries and Expenses:					
Salaries of judges	2,798	2,893	2,893	+95	---
Other salaries and expenses	29,600	30,212	30,192	+592	-20
Total, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit	32,398	33,105	33,085	+687	-20
United States Court of International Trade					
Salaries and Expenses:					
Salaries of judges	1,916	1,981	1,981	+65	---
Other salaries and expenses	19,200	17,807	17,807	-1,393	---
Total, U.S. Court of International Trade	21,116	19,788	19,788	-1,328	---
Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services					
Salaries and Expenses:					
Salaries of judges and bankruptcy judges	388,664	412,000	412,000	+23,336	---
Other salaries and expenses	4,658,830	4,827,588	4,784,659	+125,829	-42,929
Subtotal	5,047,494	5,239,588	5,196,659	+149,165	-42,929
Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund	5,327	5,423	5,423	+96	---
Defender Services	1,044,394	1,053,158	1,044,394	---	-8,764
Fees of Jurors and Commissioners	53,891	55,827	55,827	+1,936	---
Court Security	497,500	530,763	525,763	+28,263	-5,000
Total, Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services	6,648,606	6,884,759	6,828,066	+179,460	-56,693
Administrative Office of the United States Courts					
Salaries and Expenses	81,200	84,399	82,824	+1,624	-1,575
Federal Judicial Center					
Salaries and Expenses	26,200	26,959	26,724	+524	-235
Judicial Retirement Funds					
Payment to Judiciary Trust Funds	---	143,600	---	---	-143,600
(Sec. 624)	(126,931)	---	(143,600)	(+16,669)	(+143,600)
United States Sentencing Commission					
Salaries and Expenses	16,200	16,894	16,556	+356	-338
Total, title III, the Judiciary	6,911,945	7,298,638	7,096,147	+184,202	-202,491
(Mandatory)	(395,820)	(563,001)	(419,401)	(+23,581)	(-143,600)
(Discretionary)	(6,516,125)	(6,735,637)	(6,676,746)	(+160,621)	(-58,891)

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL 2015 (H.R. 5016)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE IV - DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA					
Federal Payment for Resident Tuition Support	30,000	40,000	20,000	-10,000	-20,000
Federal Payment for Emergency Planning and Security Costs in the District of Columbia	23,800	14,900	10,000	-13,800	-4,900
Federal Payment to the District of Columbia Courts	232,812	255,819	234,400	+1,588	-21,419
Federal Payment for Defender Services in District of Columbia Courts	49,890	49,890	49,890	---	---
Federal Payment to the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia	226,484	232,568	228,500	+2,016	-4,068
Federal Payment to the District of Columbia Public Defender Service	40,607	41,231	41,000	+393	-231
Federal Payment to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority	14,000	16,000	---	-14,000	-16,000
Federal Payment to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council	1,800	1,900	1,900	+100	---
Federal Payment for Judicial Commissions	500	565	550	+50	-15
Federal Payment for School Improvement	48,000	43,000	45,000	-3,000	+2,000
Federal Payment for the D.C. National Guard	375	435	375	---	-60
Federal Payment for Testing and Treatment of HIV/AIDS	5,000	5,000	5,000	---	---
Federal Payment for D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities Grants	---	1,000	---	---	-1,000
Total, Title IV, District of Columbia	673,268	702,308	636,615	-36,653	-65,693
TITLE V - OTHER INDEPENDENT AGENCIES					
Administrative Conference of the United States	3,000	3,200	3,000	---	-200
Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation	150	---	---	-150	---
Consumer Product Safety Commission	118,000	123,000	118,000	---	-5,000
Election Assistance Commission					
Salaries and Expenses	10,000	10,000	---	-10,000	-10,000
Federal Communications Commission					
Salaries and Expenses	339,844	375,380	322,748	-17,096	-52,632
Offsetting fee collections - current year	-339,844	-375,380	-322,748	+17,096	+52,632
Direct appropriation	---	---	---	---	---
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation: Office of Inspector General (by transfer)	(34,568)	(34,568)	(34,568)	---	---
Federal Election Commission	65,791	67,500	67,500	+1,709	---
Federal Labor Relations Authority	25,500	25,548	25,500	---	-48
Federal Trade Commission					
Salaries and Expenses	298,000	293,000	293,000	-5,000	---
Offsetting fee collections - current year	-103,300	-100,000	-100,000	+3,300	---
Offsetting fee collections, telephone database	-15,000	-14,000	-14,000	+1,000	---
Direct appropriation	179,700	179,000	179,000	-700	---
General Services Administration					
Federal Buildings Fund					
Limitations on Availability of Revenue:					
Construction and acquisition of facilities	506,178	745,449	420,460	-85,718	-324,989
Repairs and alterations	1,076,823	1,256,738	965,817	-111,006	-290,921
New construction and repair	69,500	---	---	-69,500	---
Installment acquisition payments	109,000	---	---	-109,000	---
Rental of space	5,387,109	5,671,348	5,500,000	+112,891	-171,348

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL 2015 (H.R. 5016)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Building operations	2,221,432	2,244,132	2,244,132	+22,700	---
Subtotal, Limitations on availability of revenue	9,370,042	9,917,667	9,130,409	-239,633	-787,258
Rental income to fund	-9,950,560	-9,917,667	-9,917,667	+32,893	---
Total, Federal Buildings Fund	-580,518	---	-787,258	-206,740	-787,258
Government-wide Policy	58,000	59,206	58,000	---	-1,206
Operating Expenses	63,466	61,049	61,049	-2,417	---
Office of Inspector General	65,000	66,978	65,000	---	-1,978
Electronic Government Fund	16,000	---	---	-16,000	---
Allowances and Office Staff for Former Presidents	3,550	3,344	1,672	-1,878	-1,672
Federal Citizen Services Fund	34,804	53,294	53,294	+18,490	---
Total, General Services Administration	-339,698	243,871	-548,243	-208,545	-792,114
Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation	750	---	---	-750	---
Merit Systems Protection Board					
Salaries and Expenses	42,740	40,300	40,655	-2,085	+355
Limitation on administrative expenses	2,345	2,345	2,345	---	---
Total, Merit Systems Protection Board	45,085	42,645	43,000	-2,085	+355
Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation					
Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund	2,100	1,995	---	-2,100	-1,995
Environmental Dispute Resolution Fund	3,400	3,420	---	-3,400	-3,420
Total, Morris K. Udall and Stewart L Udall Foundation	5,500	5,415	---	-5,500	-5,415
National Archives and Records Administration					
Operating Expenses	370,000	360,000	360,000	-10,000	---
Reduction of debt	-18,000	-20,000	-20,000	-2,000	---
Subtotal	352,000	340,000	340,000	-12,000	---
Office of the Inspector General	4,130	4,130	4,130	---	---
Repairs and Restoration	8,000	7,600	7,600	-400	---
National Historical Publications and Records Commission Grants Program	4,500	5,000	5,000	+500	---
Total, National Archives and Records Administration	368,630	356,730	356,730	-11,900	---
National Credit Union Administration					
Community Development Revolving Loan Fund	1,200	1,071	2,000	+800	+929
Office of Government Ethics	15,325	15,420	15,420	+95	---
Office of Personnel Management					
Salaries and Expenses	95,757	96,039	95,910	+153	-129
Limitation on administrative expenses	118,578	118,425	118,425	-153	---
Office of Inspector General	4,684	4,384	4,384	-300	---
Limitation on administrative expenses	21,340	21,340	21,340	---	---
Govt Payment for Annuitants, Employees Health Benefits	---	11,806,000	---	---	-11,806,000
(Sec. 624)	(11,404,000)	---	(11,806,000)	(+402,000)	(+11,806,000)
Govt Payment for Annuitants, Employee Life Insurance	---	55,000	---	---	-55,000
(Sec. 624)	(53,000)	---	(55,000)	(+2,000)	(+55,000)
Payment to Civil Svc Retirement and Disability Fund	---	8,975,000	---	---	-8,975,000
(Sec. 624)	(9,178,000)	---	(8,975,000)	(-203,000)	(+8,975,000)
Total, Office of Personnel Management	240,359	21,076,188	240,059	-300	-20,836,129
Mandatory	---	(20,836,000)	---	---	(-20,836,000)
Discretionary	(240,359)	(240,188)	(240,059)	(-300)	(-129)

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL 2015 (H.R. 5016)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Office of Special Counsel	20,639	21,452	21,452	+813	---
Prior year balances	125	---	---	-125	---
Postal Regulatory Commission	14,152	15,283	14,152	---	-1,131
Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board	3,100	8,008	4,500	+1,400	-3,508
Recovery and Accountability Transparency Board	20,000	20,000	15,000	-5,000	-5,000
Securities and Exchange Commission	1,350,000	1,700,000	1,400,000	+50,000	-300,000
SEC fees	-1,350,000	-1,700,000	-1,400,000	-50,000	+300,000
SEC Reserve Fund (rescission)	-25,000	---	---	+25,000	---
SEC Reserve Fund (limitation)	---	---	-70,000	-70,000	-70,000
Selective Service System	22,900	22,900	21,500	-1,400	-1,400
Small Business Administration					
Salaries and expenses	250,000	256,882	253,882	+3,882	-3,000
Entrepreneurial Development Programs	196,165	197,825	197,825	+1,660	---
Office of Inspector General	19,000	19,400	19,400	+400	---
Office of Advocacy	8,750	8,455	8,750	---	+295
Business Loans Program Account:					
Direct loans subsidy	4,600	2,500	2,500	-2,100	---
Guaranteed loans subsidy	107,000	45,000	45,000	-62,000	---
Administrative expenses	151,560	147,726	147,726	-3,834	---
Total, Business loans program account	263,160	195,226	195,226	-67,934	---
Disaster Loans Program Account:					
Administrative expenses	191,900	32,222	186,858	-5,042	+154,636
Disaster relief category	---	154,636	---	---	-154,636
Total, Small Business Administration	928,975	864,646	861,941	-67,034	-2,705
United States Postal Service					
Payment to the Postal Service Fund	---	---	58,342	+58,342	+58,342
Advance appropriations	70,751	70,371	---	-70,751	-70,371
Office of Inspector General	241,468	243,883	243,000	+1,532	-883
Total, United States Postal Service	312,219	314,254	301,342	-10,877	-12,912
United States Tax Court	53,453	52,300	50,000	-3,453	-2,300
Total, title V, Independent Agencies	2,089,855	23,468,431	1,721,853	-368,002	-21,746,578
Appropriations	(2,044,104)	(23,243,424)	(1,721,853)	(-322,251)	(-21,521,571)
Rescissions	(-25,000)	---	---	(+25,000)	---
Disaster relief category	---	(154,636)	---	---	(-154,636)
Advances	(70,751)	(70,371)	---	(-70,751)	(-70,371)
(by transfer)	(34,568)	(34,568)	(34,568)	---	---
(Mandatory)	---	(20,836,000)	---	---	(-20,836,000)
(Discretionary)	(2,089,855)	(2,632,431)	(1,721,853)	(-368,002)	(-910,578)
TITLE VI - GENERAL PROVISIONS					
Mandatory appropriations (Sec. 624)	20,762,381	---	20,980,050	+217,669	+20,980,050
Mandatory appropriations	---	(20,980,050)	---	---	(-20,980,050)
Grand total	43,001,799	44,941,769	42,615,700	-386,099	-2,326,069
Appropriations	(43,692,048)	(45,666,762)	(43,365,700)	(-326,348)	(-2,301,062)
Rescissions	(-761,000)	(-950,000)	(-750,000)	(+11,000)	(+200,000)
Disaster relief category	---	(154,636)	---	---	(-154,636)
Advances	(70,751)	(70,371)	---	(-70,751)	(-70,371)
(by transfer)	(34,568)	(34,568)	(34,568)	---	---
Discretionary total	21,851,000	23,541,698	21,285,000	-566,000	-2,256,698

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

I am saddened to have to rise in opposition to this legislation today. As a long-time appropriator, I remember the days when we were always able to come together to determine the funding levels for our government in a bipartisan manner and with little partisan warfare. Unfortunately, this bill is not a product of those times.

I do not say this to blame Chairman CRENSHAW or Chairman ROGERS, as they have always listened to the concerns that our side has had and have tried to accommodate us when they could. Mr. CRENSHAW is a great working partner, and he knows that that famous line is really true in this case: it is not personal; it is about this issue. There are many things we have been able to agree on as a result, but they have also been forced to listen to a portion of their caucus that is not interested in the business of governing, and as a result, the good portions of this bill are overwhelmed by the problems that this legislation has.

Let me discuss just a few of the more serious shortfalls of this bill, starting with a seriously inadequate allocation. This subcommittee received an unacceptably low 302(b) allocation that is $566 million below last year's bill. Percentage wise, this is a cut of 2.6 percent, a level that no other subcommittee has been forced to take. The result is that there are several agencies in this bill that are not funded properly.

Primary among these is the Internal Revenue Service. The IRS is funded at $10.95 billion, a cut of $341 million below last year. This means the agency would operate at a level that is below sequestration—funding levels that were already grossly inadequate. I assume this is being done both as some sort of collective punishment of the Exempt Organizations unit for the problems associated with their scrutiny of liberal and conservative 501(c)(4) organizations, and as one final attempt to hinder the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. We already heard from the chairman that they don't think this committee should be involved with the Affordable Care Act. We keep forgetting that it was passed by both Houses, signed by the President and upheld by the Supreme Court. These actions are irresponsible, and they do more to hurt the American people than does the IRS. Rather than investing in further training to prevent the problems that happened previously or ensuring that we have the resources to go after tax cheats, the majority has chosen to play politics with the agency that brings in the vast majority of our Nation's revenue. Unfortunately, these funding levels will prevent the agency from collecting money from tax cheats, expand the tax gap, and increase our deficit. Talk about fiscal irresponsibility.

The Securities and Exchange Commission is also severely underfunded at a level of $1.4 billion. This is $300 million below the request and is simply insufficient to allow the agency to properly oversee Wall Street and protect investors, including many retirees who have 401(k) and pension plans that are invested in the marketplace. Both parties have created additional responsibilities for the SEC in recent years, but funding has not kept pace. If we keep asking the agency to do more with less, then we cannot be surprised if we experience another financial crisis.

There are numerous other cuts to the bill that are harmful as well, including the elimination of the Election Assistance Commission, cuts to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the Federal Communications Commission, and the General Services Administration, all of which have negative impacts on the operations of our Federal Government and private sector job growth. However, I believe that the biggest impediment to reaching compromise on this bill is the large number of partisan riders that have been added. Let me name just a few of the more excessive, all of which are major concerns to our side of the aisle.

There are riders preventing the IRS from implementing the Affordable Care Act and from reforming the 501(c)(4) regulations, which have caused so much confusion and abuse. There is a rider limiting Americans' ability to travel to Cuba on people-to-people visas.

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There is a rider preventing the SEC from requiring publicly-traded companies to disclose their campaign donations to their shareholders, even though there is no indication that the agency has plans to do so.

There is a rider that prevents the provision of abortion services in multistate health plans under the Affordable Care Act.

There are riders preventing the District of Columbia from using its own funds to provide legal abortion services to low-income women and to determine its own local criminal justice laws with regard to marijuana.

This is, by no means, an exhaustive list. The number of riders on this bill seems endless. I have no doubt that we will be asked to add even more to this list during debate on this bill.

Before we do that, I would point out that we have spent a lot of time this year discussing how to ensure a return to regular order in the appropriations process. I would suggest that it is extremely difficult to do so when the majority attempts to pack legislation with a laundry list of partisan priorities.

This is irresponsible governing, at best, and they make a mockery of one of this institution's most important functions, to fund the Federal Government.

When we choose politics over the needs of the American people, we should not be surprised when those same people become cynical about their elected representatives. The appropriations process is not and should not be the place to add every partisan priority that the other side cannot pass through the regular legislative process.

I feel confident that the American people would rather just have us get on with our jobs, instead of rehashing the same arguments over the Affordable Care Act, Dodd-Frank, and many other issues.

Our side will attempt to remedy some of these defects through the amendment process; although with the inadequate allocation, it will be difficult to do so. Unfortunately, as it is currently written, this is not a bill that I can support.

Before I finish, let me take a moment to thank the staff on both sides of the aisle for their hard work on this bill. They have all devoted many hours to creating this bill and report, and I know I speak for all the Members on our side when I say that we are grateful for the hard work that they have put into this bill.

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

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS), the chairman of the full Appropriations Committee.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I urge Members to support this bill. This is a good bill. It provides $21.3 billion to fund many, many important programs and services that help our government function and our economy grow.

For example, the bill includes $862 million for the Small Business Administration, to assist our small businesses—and we all know those small businesses are the backbone of our economy—to help them prosper.

It also includes $6.7 billion for our Federal courts, to ensure the faithful execution of our laws and the timely processing of Federal cases.

The bill also demonstrates a commitment to keeping poor-performing or misbehaving agencies and programs in check. It cuts funding for the IRS, as the chairman has said, by $341 million from last year, nearly 12 percent below the President's request.

This funding level will allow the agency to perform its core duties, but will require IRS management to streamline and make the very best use of its allocated dollars.

We have also included language that will help ensure that each and every dollar spent by the IRS is spent legally, responsibly, and appropriately. For instance, the bill prohibits funding for the production of inappropriate videos and conferences that many of us have seen on television and for employee bonuses or awards, unless their performance is considered.

The bill also prohibits funding for the IRS to implement the ObamaCare individual health care mandate on the

American people. In light of the chaotic and dysfunctional rollout of the Affordable Care Act, I don't see how, in good conscience, we can possibly allow the IRS to fine American citizens when many are just trying to comply with this flawed law.

Due to the past inappropriate actions by the IRS, we have also prohibited funding for certain activities to prevent a repeat of these abuses, including targeting individuals based on their political beliefs, determining the tax-exempt status of organizations under 501(c)(4), and several other provisions that will help preserve the First Amendment rights of all Americans.

The bill is designed to make sure the government works for the people, not against the people or our laws. Billwide, the bill includes stringent oversight, accountability, and transparency measures to make sure each and every agency toes the line.

This includes prohibitions on funding for the Executive Office of the President to prepare signing statements and executive orders that contradict existing law and a provision that will bring the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and the Office of Financial Research under the annual appropriations process, so we can have oversight for the American people, ensuring that these agencies will remain accountable to the taxpayer.

These actions fulfill our congressional duty to the American people, to act as faithful shepherds of Federal tax dollars, to force these agencies to respect our laws and our budgets, and to encourage a more streamlined, efficient Federal Government.

Now, I want to take a minute to thank Chairman CRENSHAW and Ranking Member SERRANO for their dedicated work on this bill. This is a tough bill to write.

In fact, this is the first time, Mr. Chairman, that the Financial Services bill has been brought to the floor, I think, since 2007, roughly; and so these gentlemen and the staff and members of their subcommittee—and gentleladies—have worked hard. They have worked together.

I know Mr. SERRANO is not perfectly happy with every provision in the bill. None of us are perfectly happy with it either.

However, we need to thank them for their hard work. We appreciate it very much—and the staff, of course, who labored mightily to bring this bill out.

This legislation, I think, reflects commonsense decisions to prioritize programs and services that are effective, efficient, and responsible with taxpayer dollars. I urge all the Members to support it.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 5 minutes to my colleague from New York (Mrs. LOWEY), the ranking member of the full committee.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the bill, which fails to prioritize the middle class, create jobs, and provide opportunity for every citizen to succeed, yet it contains a misguided political agenda, unworkable funding levels, and unnecessary riders that inhibit agencies' ability to crack down on special interest abuses.

For our economy to succeed, investors must have faith that regulators do their jobs, especially when we are still recovering from the economic harm caused by risky industry practice, yet this bill could put mom-and-pop investors and our entire economy at risk with inadequate funding authority for the SEC at $300 million below the request.

This is outrageous when you consider that the SEC's funding does not take a dime of U.S. taxpayer dollars or impact the deficit in any way because it is entirely fee-funded.

In the last fiscal year, due to budget constraints, the SEC examined only about 9 percent of registered investment advisers. The number of investment advisers has increased by 40 percent over the past decade, and assets under management have more than doubled, yet the SEC's funding has not kept up with the need.

It is clear this bill should do more to protect investors and ensure that industry does not resume practices that endanger Americans' hard-earned money.

This bill would cut the IRS budget by more than $340 million, to below fiscal year 2008 levels. These cuts would force the IRS to operate with 9,500 fewer staff.

The rate of response for taxpayers who call the IRS for assistance, which is currently a dismal 61 percent, would fall to less than 50 percent. Small business owners, taxpayers would waste their time on hold, instead of using that time to focus on strengthening their businesses and the economic security of their families or creating jobs. Disturbingly, these cuts would result in $2 billion in uncollected revenue compared to the request level.

While actions at the IRS warrant further oversight and reform, these cuts are excessive. The IRS should receive the resources it needs to train its workforce to uphold the highest standards, not cut it for the sake of making a political point.

These IRS cuts will only make it easier for tax cheats to go undetected and more difficult for law-abiding taxpayers to get assistance.

Other troublesome measures attempt to dictate local government decisions for Washington, D.C., and prohibit implementation of health reforms that have given millions of Americans affordable health coverage for the first time. It is also full of riders that unnecessarily involve women's health, needle exchanges, even a denial of funds for D.C. voting rights.

If Congress imposed these demands on any other area of the country, and particularly areas represented by some of my Republican friends, I expect many would yell from the rooftops that the Federal Government was imposing on your way of life and in your local decisions. These efforts are unfair to the citizens of Washington, D.C.

What frustrates me most is that my Republican friends know that government agencies cannot function at the levels they would impose, but would rather vote to slash funding even lower because it suits their political purposes. Our constituents deserve better than this cynical political exercise.

Vote ''no'' on this shameful bill that prioritizes special interests over the middle class.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WOMACK), a valued member of the subcommittee.

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Chairman, thanks to my chairman of this very important subcommittee for giving me the opportunity to speak on behalf and even a friendly gesture to my friend from New York down there, who reminds me, from time to time, about the Yankee dominance in baseball. It is great to have his association on this committee.

Mr. Chairman, our subcommittee is aware of our Nation's fiscal situation, and we closely evaluated the budget requests for the diverse group of agencies funded in this bill. We held numerous hearings. We listened to the agencies about their priorities and needs. We challenged them with tough questions that reflect the realities of the choices we, as appropriators, have to make on a daily basis.

Using this information, Mr. Chairman, the subcommittee produced a bill that provides a little over $21 billion in total funding and sees to it that every agency funded under the bill can carry out its core functions.

Take, for example, our Federal courts which, because of this bill, will have the resources they need to ensure that our courtrooms are safe and justice is served; or the Small Business Administration, which will be able to make entrepreneurs' dreams become a reality, leading to new business, more jobs, thriving communities, and a 21st century economy with the funds that the agency receives through this legislation.

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Mr. Chairman, as Members of Congress, and especially as appropriators, we have an obligation to carefully steward each and every taxpayer dollar, and in this bill, transparency and accountability rule the day.

In this bill, the CFPB, an agency that has operated in the shadows with unfettered power and no accountability, is brought under the appropriations process. Agencies, Mr. Chairman, that have violated the public's trust and misused taxpayer dollars, such as the GSA and the IRS, they are held accountable. As an example, the IRS budget is returned to below fiscal 2008 levels, ensuring the agency does not have extra funding to target Americans

based on their political beliefs without hampering the IRS' ability to enforce our Nation's tax laws.

In closing, Mr. Chairman, I commend the gentleman from Florida, Chairman CRENSHAW, and the subcommittee staff for producing a bill that is worthy of this Chamber's support. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, the gentleman mentioned baseball. I would like to remind folks that we are so committed and dedicated to our job that we are not watching the Home Run Derby right now.

With the way we treat Washington, D.C., you would think we were members of the city council. But I am going to shock everyone by actually yielding 2 minutes of time to the gentlewoman from Washington, D.C. (Ms. NORTON), who was elected by the folks from D.C.

Ms. NORTON. I thank my friend for yielding and for his work, and I thank my friends from Florida and from New York for their work on the D.C. portion and regret that two riders mar that portion of the bill.

Mr. Chairman, Congress disallows Federal money for abortions, but 17 States assert their local prerogative to do so in our Federal Republic, which treasures local autonomy above all.

Congress maintains that marijuana must be criminally penalized, but 18 States have taken State leadership to decriminalize marijuana. The administration's Statement of Administration Policy respects D.C.'s equal right to do what 18 States have already done, and so should this House.

The abortion ban deprives D.C.'s low-income women of the reproductive rights exercised by other American women. And the marijuana decriminalization law deprives African Americans in the District of equal rights under the law.

Yet Blacks and Whites use marijuana at the same rate, but 90 percent of those arrested for possession in D.C. are Black. A Black kid in America with a ''drug conviction'' has his life ruined.

Abusing pot is a bad idea, but penalizing it is worse.

D.C. puts fines collected from civil violations of its new law in a substance abuse prevention and treatment fund. A D.C. bill authorizes public education on marijuana use and abuse. That beats what most decriminalization jurisdictions have done.

The gentleman from Maryland, ANDY HARRIS, the sponsor of this bill, has suspended his own professed State devolution principles. This House should not follow him.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, at this time, I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) for a colloquy.

Mr. GOSAR. I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today to thank Chairman CRENSHAW and, indeed, Ranking Member SERRANO for their leadership and the hard work that they have dedicated to the subcommittee.

I would further like to thank the committee for including in the markup a language request I made during the programmatic request period. The policy I mentioned would preclude the agencies funded by this bill from hiring or contracting with outside organizations for the purpose of teaching the employees of those agencies how to support or defeat legislation being considered here in Congress.

I first learned of this practice when reviewing Senator TOM COBURN's annual Wastebook and found that NASA and other agencies had multimillion-dollar contracts out so that their employees could learn more about Congress and the legislative process.

Though I appreciate anyone's interest in Congress and the processes involved with conducting legislative business, I do not find this a prudent use of taxpayer money. So today I humbly request that, in any conference committee proceedings between the House and Senate, the chairman push to include such language in the government-wide provisions title of any final bill that would be voted upon by both Chambers rather than limiting this policy to those agencies funded directly by this bill.

It is important to me and to my constituents that Congress does not appropriate any money to Federal agencies so that those Federal agencies can use the money to pay outside organizations to teach agency personnel to support or defeat legislation before Congress or so that they may learn about the legislative process.

There are endless no-cost resources available on legislative process, committee memberships, budget outlays, and the like. My office has taken meetings with representatives from many agencies, and during those meetings, those agency representatives are free to ask about the legislative process. It should not take multimillion-dollar contracts and symposiums to achieve these ends.

Again, I thank the chairman and the ranking member for their work and their consideration of this request.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Well, I thank the gentleman for yielding and engaging in this colloquy. I also thank him for his leadership on this particular issue and for making great strides regarding the rooting out of government waste, fraud, and abuse. The committee did include the language in question, and we were happy to do so.

As the gentleman stated, this type of practice surely fits within the same realm of government propaganda which is barred by law. When the conference committee is selected and meets to discuss all spending programs and priorities, I will work to see the gentleman's request is considered appropriately and amongst all conferees.

So again, I thank the gentleman for his efforts. I look forward to working with him on this item and others.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, may I inquire as to how much time remains on both sides.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from New York has 16 minutes remaining, and the gentleman from Florida has 8½ minutes remaining.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) for the purpose of a colloquy.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Chair, I want to thank Ranking SERRANO for providing me the opportunity to enter into a colloquy on the topic of cybersecurity, specifically, SEC disclosure guidance relating to cybersecurity risks and cyber incidents. This is an issue that is of critical importance not only to our national security, but also to our economic security, affecting every American consumer and investor.

It is no secret to anyone here that the challenges we face in the cyber realm are immense. Certainly, the news is rife with attacks, be it the massive Target breach of personal information by cyber criminals, Iran's reported denial-of-service attacks on U.S. banks, or the recently disclosed ongoing attacks on the hedge fund industry. The Center for Strategic and International Studies recently estimated that almost 1 percent of global income, or $445 billion, is lost each year to cyber crime and economic espionage. That is a stunning tally, yet such costs are rarely, if ever, reflected in financial statements.

Protecting intellectual property, trade secrets, and custom information must be a priority for government, corporations, and consumers. I know this is a concern of yours, and I hope it is of equal concern to the committee.

Institutional investors, consumers, private investors, and public pension funds need sufficient information to make informed decisions concerning a firm's cyber controls, just as Members of Congress and our staffs must have access to the best information possible to conduct proper oversight and make the best public policy decisions.

The committee rightfully points out that ''corporate disclosures are at the core of investor protection''; however, there are real questions about the disclosures that companies are making to their boards and shareholders regarding their vulnerabilities in cyberspace. While the SEC made some limited efforts in 2011 with cybersecurity, there is no finish line. So it is incumbent on all of us to continue evolving as the threat evolves.

In my current positions on the Armed Services and Intelligence Committees, I devote a significant amount of time to tackling this continuing problem. I remain extraordinarily concerned about the systematic and wholesale theft of corporate property for economic advantage.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. SERRANO. I yield the gentleman an additional 15 seconds.

Mr. LANGEVIN. I firmly believe that we need to do more as a country to secure our Nation against the threat of cyber penetrations and attacks, and we must do more so that investors can have the very best information available when making their investment decisions.

I yield to the gentleman from New York for any comments he would have.

Mr. SERRANO. I thank the gentleman for bringing this issue to our attention.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has again expired.

Mr. SERRANO. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Cybersecurity is of critical importance to our national security and our economic security. I look forward to working with you as we move to conference to ensure that the SEC can effectively address cybersecurity issues.

I yield 15 seconds to the gentleman from Rhode Island to close.

Mr. LANGEVIN. I thank you, Ranking SERRANO, for your continued interest in this issue. I look forward to working with you as we move to conference to ensure that the SEC has the tools necessary to update their cybersecurity disclosure guidance and that the SEC includes an update on cybersecurity disclosure guidance in the report to the committee.

Mr. CRENSHAW. I will continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) for a colloquy.

Mr. COHEN. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I rise on the provision in this bill that would deny the D.C. Council the right to have a different policy on marijuana than they have had in the past.

I can understand politically the other side not wanting the people of D.C. to have Senators and Reps because the likelihood is they would be Democrats, but not to let them have self-rule smacks of colonialism, colonialism that is of another era, colonialism that is of the days of Jim Crow.

To not allow D.C. to have the right to pass their own laws and to have the same opportunity to have laboratories of democracy, as Louis Brandeis talked about, is wrong. What it will do is it will not stop teens from doing marijuana, but it will put more teens in jail with a scarlet letter and an expense and maybe prevent them from having the opportunity to get a scholarship, housing, and a job.

It is against the wrong side of history for them to stop D.C.'s Council from having the authority and for putting African Americans, who are disproportionately affected, in jail and ruining their lives. I object to what has been included and wish that they would reconsider.

Mr. CRENSHAW. I will continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I would just like to take a second in closing to say that Mr. COHEN's comments were very well taken. I think the mistake we make here is that we continue to add riders to this bill, and a lot of riders in the past had to do with Washington, D.C.

Now, as I have said on many occasions, for me, this is more than a legislative issue. It is a personal issue. I was born in Puerto Rico, raised in New York, and at times I haven't been pleased with the relationship and the way Puerto Rico has been treated by this Federal Government.

So I would just hope that, as we go along, people will continue, continue, continue to realize that the District of Columbia has its own folks, its own elected officials at the local level, and they should be able to conduct their own business.

Lastly, we do this because this country that we love so well and this country that I love so well and that we serve on a daily basis should not treat any segment of its citizens in a different way than it treats other people. I realize that we have a constitutional responsibility, but we don't have to misuse that responsibility.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CRENSHAW. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of Chairman CRENSHAW and this bill.

This bill is a first step toward holding the IRS accountable for its targeting of conservative tax-exempt applicants for their political beliefs.

The Oversight and Government Reform Committee is conducting a thorough investigation of the IRS targeting.

This investigation is ongoing. But from what we know so far, it is clear that the IRS is in serious need of reform.

We have found an agency that worked in fall 2010 to target conservative tax-exempt groups in wake of the President's campaign against the Supreme Court case, Citizens United.

We have found an agency that called these conservative groups "very dangerous" and put them through an unprecedented "multi-tier" review.

We have found an agency that coordinated with the Justice Department in October 2010 about the prosecution of tax-exempt groups for their political speech activities.

We have found an agency that sent a 1.1 million-page registry, including confidential taxpayer information, to the FBI.

We have found an agency that has been politicized by its excessive role in a highly partisan law, ObamaCare.

We have found an agency that mysteriously lost two years of e-mail records and an agency that cautions its employees about what they say in e-mail for fear of congressional oversight.

In short, we have found an agency that has become a arm of the Obama Administration rather than an independent administrator of federal tax law.

This bill takes the first steps toward making the IRS work for the American people.

This bill will ensure that the IRS will never again target tax-exempt applicants for their political beliefs.

This bill will prevent the IRS from finalizing a proposed rule that would make permanent in federal regulations its targeting of conservatives.

This bill will also cut back on the misuse of taxpayer dollars for inappropriate conferences and employee bonuses.

Most importantly, Mr. Chair, this bill will begin the long road toward restoring public trust and accountability in the Obama IRS.

I applaud Chairman CRENSHAW for his leadership and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Chair, I speak today regarding section 131 of the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015.

This section is a very important provision that requires the Treasury to report to Congress each month on the number of individuals who have failed to pay their Obamacare insurance premiums.

Earlier this year the House passed my bill, H.R. 3362, the Exchange Information Disclosure Act—which also sought basic information on the exchanges.

This should be easy.

What we're talking about today is basic transparency and accountability.

We are asking for information that any entity overseeing a health insurance operation should have at the tip of their fingers at all times.

If my friends on the other side of the aisle are so confident about health care reform, this will prove it's working as intended.

The CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

During consideration of the bill for amendment, each amendment shall be debatable for 10 minutes, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to amendment. No pro forma amendment shall be in order except that the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations, or their respective designees, may offer up to 10 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate. The Chair of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD designated for that purpose. Amendments so printed shall be considered read.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5016

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Departmental Offices including operation and

maintenance of the Treasury Building and Annex; hire of passenger motor vehicles; maintenance, repairs, and improvements of, and purchase of commercial insurance policies for, real properties leased or owned overseas, when necessary for the performance of official business, $175,000,000: *Provided*, That, of the amount appropriated under this heading—

(1) not to exceed $2,000,000 is for the Office of the Secretary/Deputy Secretary;

(2) not to exceed $2,000,000 is for the Office of Legislative Affairs;

(3) not to exceed $200,000 is for official reception and representation expenses;

(4) not to exceed $258,000 is for unforeseen emergencies of a confidential nature to be allocated and expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury and to be accounted for solely on the Secretary's certificate; and

(5) up to $21,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

□ 2000

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. SESSIONS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 2, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,750,000)''.

Page 152, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $1,750,000)''.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentleman from Texas and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the young chairman of the subcommittee, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW) for not only his great work that he has done on this bill but also presenting this bill before the Rules Committee along with the gentleman, Mr. SERRANO, who not only ably spoke about their bill but defended its process and the attempt that they are trying to make today to pass this into law.

Mr. Chairman, my amendment will reduce Department of the Treasury funding for salaries and expenses of departmental offices by 1 percent. This $1.75 million cut will not only reasonably save the government much-needed funds but will also send a clear signal to the Treasury Department that they must take seriously their oversight responsibilities over the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, known as the OCC.

I have been engaged in a process on behalf of a constituent of mine for a number of years, and I am here finally on the floor today as a result of frustration and what I think is an outright lack of effectively doing their job in the OCC.

Beginning in 2007, the OCC opened an action against T Bank, NA, with regard to their relationship with a payment processor, specifically investigating the bank's CEO, a gentleman from Dallas, Texas, Patrick Adams. The investigation culminated in a trial before an administrative law judge. That administrative law judge was picked specifically by the OCC as the administrative judge.

On November 8, 2012, the judge recommended that all charges brought by the Comptroller of the Currency against Mr. Adams be dismissed on November 8, 2012. Most disturbing is that the Comptroller has refused to render a decision, leaving Mr. Adams all this time in legal limbo.

12 CFR 109.40 clearly states the Comptroller ''shall render a final decision within 90 days after notification of the parties that the case has been submitted for final decision.''

Despite being required by law, the Comptroller has refused to render a final decision 15 months after the official submission by the administrative judge. Instead, the Comptroller has extended the 90-day period four times, most recently in May of this year. The Code of Federal Regulations provides no avenue for the Comptroller to extend such a decision.

I believe this delay represents a significant deficiency in the operations of an agency under the purview of the Treasury Department. Mr. Chairman, I will tell you that I have tried to work tirelessly through this problem with the gentleman from Dallas, Texas, my constituent, and it is the Federal Government, through the OCC, who refuses to abide by a decision made by an administrative judge that they chose and has waited 15 months, holding this gentleman in limbo at a time of his life when he has spent millions of dollars to protect himself against the Federal Government, and the administrative judge ruled against the Federal Government.

Mr. Chairman, it is time that the OCC do their job. And since they are not, I am here on the floor today, and I am asking Members of this body to take the action that is necessary, regular, and, I consider, reasonable. So I urge all of my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I would yield, at this time, to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW), the subcommittee chair.

Mr. CRENSHAW. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I just want to thank him for bringing this to our attention and let him know that I am happy to support this amendment.

Mr. SESSIONS. I thank the gentleman. And, Mr. Chairman, I want you to know that I would appreciate not only his help, but also the help of the inspector general of the Treasury Department, who has been advised of this circumstance, and we are waiting for their final decision. Even though it is 15 months late, I believe we should move forward and take the $1.7 million away from an agency that does not live within the law.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I rise to oppose the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, departmental salaries and expenses of Treasury have already been cut by $17.4 million this year as compared to last year. That includes the departmental offices account. That means that this portion of the bill is 4.4 percent below what the administration requested.

Mr. Chairman, there is no need to cut it any further. I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS).

The amendment was agreed to.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

OFFICE OF TERRORISM AND FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the necessary expenses of the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence to safeguard the financial system against illicit use and to combat rogue nations, terrorist facilitators, weapons of mass destruction proliferators, money launderers, drug kingpins, and other national security threats, $120,000,000: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading: (1) not to exceed $28,000,000 is available for administrative expenses; and (2) $15,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided further*, That the unobligated balances of prior year appropriations made available for terrorism and financial intelligence activities under the heading ''Department of the Treasury—Departmental Offices—Salaries and Expenses'' shall be transferred to, and merged with, this account.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GRAYSON

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 3, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $5,000,000).''

Page 4, line 21, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(decreased by $5,000,000).''

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentleman from Florida and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank my colleague from Florida and the gentleman from New York for consideration of this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, budgets are about choices. We have a choice to make here that is an interesting one, and I wanted to point it out in the form of presenting this amendment.

The Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence is one of the most important functions of the Treasury Department. Economic and trade sanctions are issued and enforced by the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, and they protect the financial system from criminal and illicit activities and counteract national security threats from drug lords, terrorists, weapons of mass destruction,

proliferators, and rogue nations, among others.

In addition to that, this office provides vital analysis with regard to foreign intelligence and counterintelligence across all elements of the national security community. I think it is fair to say that this office has done excellent work in connection with the Iran Sanctions Act, which is an act within the jurisdiction of my committee, the Foreign Affairs Committee.

The committee involved here directs the Department of the Treasury to post online and disseminate publicly those companies that are not compliant with the Iran Sanctions Act as well as any foreign entities doing business with the Iran Revolutionary Guard Corps. In addition to that, this office has done excellent work with regard to cutting back on the threat of genocide in Sudan, South Sudan, the Central African Republic, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Despite the essential functioning of this office for the purpose of our carrying out American foreign policy, this office has a budget of only $120 million for the entire year. I contrast that with the budget being proposed of $158 million for the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration.

In short, we are spending, or proposing to spend, $38 million more for the Treasury inspector general to inspect the IRS than we are proposing to spend for the Treasury to carry out its essential functions of economic trade and trade sanctions. These functions basically make our troops safe and keep America safe. Without the economic sanctions that we imposed against Iran, we might see American troops fighting today in the Middle East. It is essential and important that these functions be carried out without being curtailed for a lack of money.

I don't suggest that we equalize these two accounts, although I think a good argument could be made to do that. Rather, I suggest that we reduce the disparity between these two accounts by adding $5 million to allow the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence to carry out its essential functions for U.S. foreign policy and reduce the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration budget by a corresponding $5 million.

Again, budgets are about choices. I think that our national security is our number one priority, and I think that whatever may be that is being done by the Treasury inspector general to investigate the IRS, it can wait as long as that money is needed to keep America safe.

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

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this amendment because the bill strongly supports the Treasury's Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence and actually provides $14 million above the request, and that is to make sure there are robust and forceful sanction programs. This bill also supports the TIGTA. It provides $581,000 above the request to ensure that the inspector general can keep a careful and close eye on the IRS activities.

So I appreciate the gentleman's support for the TFI, but it cannot come at the expense of the IRS watchdog. Everyone knows what has been happening with the IRS, and we need a strong IG to oversee the IRS. They are doing good and much-needed oversight, and the bill already provides Treasury's financial intelligence programs with a significant increase.

So, Mr. Chairman, I would encourage my colleagues to vote ''no'' on the amendment. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GRAYSON).

The amendment was rejected.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $35,351,000, including hire of passenger motor vehicles; of which not to exceed $100,000 shall be available for unforeseen emergencies of a confidential nature, to be allocated and expended under the direction of the Inspector General of the Treasury; and of which not to exceed $1,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

TREASURY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR TAX ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, including purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles (31 U.S.C. 1343(b)); and services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, at such rates as may be determined by the Inspector General for Tax Administration; $158,000,000, of which $5,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016; of which not to exceed $500,000 shall be available for unforeseen emergencies of a confidential nature, to be allocated and expended under the direction of the Inspector General for Tax Administration; and of which not to exceed $1,500 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. POSEY

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 4, line 21, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $1,000,000)''.

Page 10, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,000,000)''.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentleman from Florida and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank Chairman CRENSHAW for his help on this amendment and for his support on this issue of critical importance to the Florida financial industry.

My amendment transfers $1 million from the Internal Revenue Service enforcement division to the IRS office of the inspector general. It is my intent that this money be used to study the impact of IRS nonresident alien bank account reporting and requirements on the United States economy.

The IRS has issued a final regulation requiring all banks in the United States to report to the IRS the amount of interest paid to nonresident alien individual depositors. Now these are people who are not taxpayers, and they do not owe us taxes.

These payments are not subject to U.S. taxes, so these reports do not collect a single penny of additional revenue. This regulation also reverses a 90-year policy that the interest earned by foreign depositors in American banks would not be taxed or reported.

□ 2015

When the IRS first proposed this regulation in 2001, a bipartisan coalition of more than 100 Members of Congress opposed it. The IRS eventually withdrew the crazy proposal.

In 2011, the entire Florida delegation signed a letter to the Internal Revenue Service expressing concern with the economic impact of this policy, and I thank my colleague, DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, for taking the lead on that initiative.

On July 25, 2012, the House passed my amendment to H.R. 4078, the Red Tape Reduction and Small Business Job Creation Act, which would have prevented the IRS from enforcing the IRS nonresident alien reporting requirement. The amendment was passed with bipartisan support, but the Senate failed to take up the bill.

The IRS regulation places United States banks at a global disadvantage relative to foreign banks that lack such reporting requirements. Furthermore, United States banks hold $500 billion in nonresident alien bank accounts.

Millions of dollars have already been withdrawn by foreign depositors, and it only promises to get worse. Because every dollar in bank deposits generates nearly $9 in lending, these withdrawals will reduce the amount of credit available to individual and commercial borrowers, hurting the United States' economy at a time when we need to be recovering, not suffering worse.

A similar IRS program imposes a requirement on foreign financial institutions to report information on accounts held by Americans overseas. This has already resulted in foreign banks canceling banking services to U.S. citizens to avoid compliance costs.

For these reasons, I ask that the money transferred to the IRS inspector general be used to conduct an economic impact study of these policies, including an analysis of the effect on capital

levels, capital flight, safety and soundness, and changes to public confidence in depository financial institutions, something Treasury is arguably required to do already under current law, but has refused to do.

I include a letter of support from the Credit Union National Association and the World Council of Credit Unions to be entered into the RECORD.

CREDIT UNION NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, INC., AND WORLD COUNCIL OF CREDIT UNIONS, INC.,

July 14, 2014.

Hon. BILL POSEY,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE POSEY: On behalf of the Credit Union National Association (CUNA) and the World Council of Credit Unions (World Council), we are writing to thank you for your efforts to address the difficulties and compliance costs associated with the newly-implemented Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA). CUNA is the largest credit union advocacy organization in the United States, representing America's state and federally chartered credit unions and their 99 million members. World Council is the leading trade association and development organization for the international credit union movement. Worldwide, there are nearly 56,000 cooperatively owned credit unions in 101 countries with approximately $1.7 trillion in total assets and 200 million credit union members.

FATCA is designed to create a tax information reporting and withholding system for certain payments that are made to financial institutions and other entities. The FATCA statute passed by Congress in 2010 requires foreign financial institutions to register with the IRS and detect taxable account activity by U.S. citizens in foreign countries; these requirements are making it difficult for U.S. citizens living overseas, including American credit union members, to maintain access to financial services in the countries where they live. The Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) FATCA regulation also requires U.S.-based financial institutions, including U.S. credit unions, to conduct due diligence and tax withholding on international funds transfers even though the FATCA statute passed by Congress made no mention of U.S.-based credit unions or banks.

CUNA and the World Council support the amendment you intend to offer to HR. 5016, the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act of 2015. Your amendment would transfer $1 million in finding for the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) enforcement division and instead provide $1 million to the IRS Inspector General's office to conduct an economic impact study of FATCA. We believe this study is necessary given the complexity of implementing FATCA, the complex rulemaking that has taken place, and the myriad unintended consequences of the law on U.S. financial institutions and U.S. citizens living abroad.

We appreciate all of your work to ensure that credit unions remain focused on their mission of serving their members rather than spending precious time and resources complying with unduly burdensome regulations.

On behalf of America's credit unions and around the globe, thank you for offering this amendment. We look forward to its consideration and enactment.

Sincerely,

BILL HAMPEL,
President & CEO, Credit Union National Association, Inc.

BRIAN BRANCH,
President & CEO, World Council of Credit Unions, Inc.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. POSEY. I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW).

Mr. CRENSHAW. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I appreciate the gentleman from Florida working with the committee on this amendment. We are glad to accept it.

Recently, the IRS began enforcement of this new regulation requiring U.S. banks to report the amount of interest earned on deposits made by nonresident aliens, and this new regulation is detrimental to Florida's economy and the U.S. economy as a whole because it weakens the competitiveness of the U.S. financial institutions and forces foreign capital to flee our country.

The regulation burdens U.S. financial firms with additional paperwork and has the unintended consequence of causing many of these foreign depositors to take their business and capital elsewhere, so hundreds of billions of dollars will flee the economy.

That will impede small business lending and affect local communities. Both Congress and the administration will benefit from a fuller understanding of how the regulation affects banks, their clientele, and all of the communities, so I urge a ''yes'' vote in support of this amendment.

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

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I urge opposition to this amendment. The IRS has already been cut overall by $341 million from last year's funding level. This will prevent the IRS from going after tax cheats and helping those who are attempting to obey the law.

The Taxpayer Advocate has even said that insufficient funding of the IRS is one of the most serious problems facing taxpayers. This underfunding will force the IRS to operate with 9,500 fewer staff, which means that less than 50 percent of taxpayers who reach out to the IRS for assistance on the telephone help line will be able to get it, while waiting times for those who do get answers will rise to 35 minutes or longer.

As many as 24 million taxpayers would be unable to reach the IRS for assistance. That is unacceptable.

The cuts in this bill will also result in $2 billion in uncollected revenue compared to what could have been collected at the requested level, thereby increasing the deficit by that amount.

Take as contrast funding at more than $1.6 million above last year's level and over half a million more than was requested. I am not sure what they have done to deserve an increase that they didn't even ask for.

During our hearing, it became clear that the IG didn't fairly represent the findings of its own investigator. Its lead investigator reviewed 5,500 emails and concluded that there was no indication of political motivation, yet the IG failed to mention that until months later after his order was released, and you will certainly not hear Republicans mention it now.

So I am not sure what they are trying to reward, but it certainly is not good work. I oppose this amendment and urge that everyone else do so as well.

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

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

This legislation would not be necessary if the IRS or the Treasury had already done what was required by law. When you promulgate a rule that has over a $100 million impact on the private sector, you are supposed to do a cost-benefit analysis, and they refused to do it in this case.

They took the position that, well, it doesn't cost that much money just to fill out a little form and try and rat out foreign bank depositors here.

The reality is studies show it clearly will have a multibillion-dollar impact.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. POSEY).

The amendment was agreed to.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR THE TROUBLED ASSET RELIEF PROGRAM

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Special Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–343), $34,234,000.

FINANCIAL CRIMES ENFORCEMENT NETWORK

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, including hire of passenger motor vehicles; travel and training expenses of non-Federal and foreign government personnel to attend meetings and training concerned with domestic and foreign financial intelligence activities, law enforcement, and financial regulation; services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; not to exceed $7,000 for official reception and representation expenses; and for assistance to Federal law enforcement agencies, with or without reimbursement, $108,661,000, of which not to exceed $34,335,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 5, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $200,000)''.

Page 9, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $100,000)''.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentlewoman from Texas and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the chairman and the ranking member of this Appropriations Committee for their hard work and working together, Mr. CRENSHAW and Mr. SERRANO. These are important matters, and I thank them for the opportunity to present this amendment.

My amendment is a simple theory, but a very important one. This amendment provides $100,000 to the IRS taxpayer services account to assist parents who have lost dependent children during the tax year with assistance in filing income taxes and supports one-stop IRS tax preparation support for parents of deceased dependent children whose child's SS number has been stolen and used by identity thieves to steal tax refunds.

I am the founder and cochair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, and in many instances, we find in our work the issues of giving children incentives and worrying about children's health, but this is a very devastating posture for parents to be in.

At a hearing held by Chairman SAM JOHNSON on the Ways and Means Committee, a hearing on Social Security death records dated February 2, 2012, and I will read—the testimony of the statement said:

> We will hear the heartbreaking story of one family whose 4-year-old daughter had her identity stolen shortly after she passed away. Only when their tax return was rejected by the IRS did they learn that an identity thief had already filed a return claiming their child as a dependent.

In an article regarding this terrible tragedy, it indicates that this little girl had fought for 33 months to fight brain cancer. The parents were overwhelmed with grief and medical bills. The mourning parents decided to file for a tax extension to get their paperwork in order, but within 24 hours of filing in October, the family's return was rejected. Someone had already fraudulently claimed their daughter's Social Security number.

My colleagues, I would ask that this amendment be considered because in actuality it deals with this very question; it provides more resources to address the question of protecting identity and the identity theft that occurs.

My amendment, as I indicated, increases it by $100,000. As parents and grandparents, most of us may not know the pain these parents are feeling, but we can do something to make a necessary obligation easier for them to fulfill.

The IRS operates a 1–800 help line and provides tax assistance at no charge to tens of thousands of families who prepare their own taxes. The funds provided in this bill are intended to be used to allow training to assist the IRS to do a better job of meeting the needs of parents who have lost a dependent child during the tax year or prior to their filing of taxes.

Just put ourselves in the shoes of this family whose little 4-year-old fought for 33 months and in their distress, with all of these overwhelming bills, to come and find this dastardly act of someone stealing the child's ID.

This amendment would address these cases where the Social Security number of a recently deceased child is stolen and is used by thieves to claim tax funds that should have gone to the family.

Identity theft is a terrible crime that violates the privacy of victims. All of us, no matter what committees we are involved in, in the Judiciary Committee which I sit on, Homeland Security, we are grappling with the issues of privacy and identity theft.

How many of us have had the impact of such, but it has not been as devastating, I would imagine, as the identity theft of your deceased child.

The crime first came to the attention of several House committees in 2011. As I made note of, SAM JOHNSON, the chairman of the Social Security Subcommittee on the Ways and Means Committee, had this issue in 2012.

They only need a Social Security number, a date of birth, and name of the child. This information would be found on medical records, school records, or other forms completed by parents in the course of registering a child for various activities.

This is a crime. This is a shame. My amendment would give some comfort to help the IRS to help these parents. I ask my colleagues to approve this amendment.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. WEBER of Texas). The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the intent of the gentlewoman's amendment. I have great sympathy for the situation that the family found itself in, but I have to remind my colleagues that the bill already cuts FinCEN by $3.3 million compared to 2014, and our bill increases taxpayer services by $7.5 million.

So I wish the IRS could do a better job of dealing with taxpayer services. That is one of the areas that they really need to get a handle on because there are too many stories like the one she just told, but FinCEN does good work.

They work with industry to detect and discourage and apprehend money launderers, so I don't think we should cut them any further. As I pointed out, we have increased the funding for taxpayer services, and so for that reason, I have to oppose the gentlewoman's amendment.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chairman, let me say to my colleagues, I don't think there is much more that I can say than repeat the story of the 33-month fight by their little girl.

It is $100,000 that we are asking to help these parents who are desperate and mourning. I ask my colleagues to step a moment in the shoes of those mourning parents, to help avoid the identity theft that comes from a child because a child is dead and they have a Social Security number.

So I ask my colleagues, again, to support the Jackson Lee amendment. I ask both sides of the aisle to consider the pain of parents who experience this.

I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 2030

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I just want to say one final thing. In terms of taxpayer services, this bill already provides $2.1 billion for taxpayer services. As I point out, that is an increase over last year. We have already cut FinCEN by $3.3 million.

So, for that reason, Mr. Chairman, I would urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. LYNCH

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

> Page 5, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $3,339,000)''.
>
> Page 67, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,339,000)''.
>
> Page 68, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,669,500)''.
>
> Page 68, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,669,500)''.
>
> Page 71, line 3, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,669,500)''.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentleman from Massachusetts and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Chairman, I thank the chairman and ranking member.

Mr. Chairman, this amendment would increase the funding provided to the Treasury Department's Office of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, also known as FinCEN, by $3.339 million so that it remains at its current level of $112 million.

This amendment would offset this necessary increase through corresponding decreases in the funding provided for the repairs and alterations and the rental of space accounts within the General Services Administration.

If adopted, the amendment would have no effect on budget authority and would reduce outlays by $1 million.

As cochair of the bipartisan Task Force on Antiterrorism and Proliferation Financing, I have worked closely with our cochair, ED ROYCE, the gentleman from California, and with FinCEN, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, to help strengthen our national antiterrorist finance strategy, and I realize the increased need to be able to quickly and efficiently track and stop the flow of funds to terrorist groups in doing this important work.

Through the task force, we have witnessed the critical and important work that the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network engages in. The skilled staff at FinCEN works tirelessly every day to track and stop the flow of elicit funds that would otherwise be used to aid terrorism in order to safeguard our financial system from evolving money laundering and mounting national security threats. We all know very well the risks presented by Hezbollah in Syria, al Qaeda in Yemen, ISIS in Iraq, and Boko Haram in Nigeria.

By sharing financial intelligence with law enforcement, private industry, and its foreign counterparts, FinCEN supports financial crime investigations throughout the world. Congress has taken significant steps towards utilizing terrorist financing as a viable intelligence tool, as well as disrupting the financing of terrorist activities. Nevertheless, terrorists' proven ability to move money through innovative means necessitates continued progress in this critical counterterrorism area.

As the chairman pointed out, FinCEN does incredibly important work. Most recently, FinCEN has played an instrumental role on the ground in Ukraine in support of international efforts to recover billions of dollars in missing Ukrainian funds that were misappropriated by former Ukrainian Government officials, including former President Viktor Yanukovych.

With today's increasingly complex and rapidly evolving terrorist networks, we cannot risk our national security by reducing funding for this important department.

I appreciate the chairman's challenges and the ranking member's challenges in trying to balance priorities within this bill, and I respect both of those gentlemen, but I do urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this amendment in order to make sure that the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network is properly funded. The balance here is funding for the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network versus a reduction in the repairs and alterations account and the rental space account for the General Services Administration. I think that we recognize where the real priorities of this Congress should be. This is not what the chairman mentioned in his opening remarks. This is not nonessential funding. This is not wasteful funding. This is very important funding with respect to the national security of our country.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LYNCH. I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. CRENSHAW. I just want to thank you for bringing this to our attention and am pleased to support the amendment.

Mr. LYNCH. I thank the chairman.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

TREASURY FORFEITURE FUND

(RESCISSION)

Of the unobligated balances available under this heading, $750,000,000 are rescinded.

BUREAU OF THE FISCAL SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of operations of the Bureau of the Fiscal Service, $348,184,000; of which not to exceed $4,210,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017, is for information systems modernization initiatives; and of which $5,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

In addition, $165,000, to be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to reimburse administrative and personnel expenses for financial management of the Fund, as authorized by section 1012 of Public Law 101–380.

ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO TAX AND TRADE BUREAU

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of carrying out section 1111 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, including hire of passenger motor vehicles, $96,000,000; of which not to exceed $6,000 for official reception and representation expenses; not to exceed $50,000 for cooperative research and development programs for laboratory services; and provision of laboratory assistance to State and local agencies with or without reimbursement.

UNITED STATES MINT

UNITED STATES MINT PUBLIC ENTERPRISE FUND

Pursuant to section 5136 of title 31, United States Code, the United States Mint is provided funding through the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund for costs associated with the production of circulating coins, numismatic coins, and protective services, including both operating expenses and capital investments: *Provided*, That the aggregate amount of new liabilities and obligations incurred during fiscal year 2015 under such section 5136 for circulating coinage and protective service capital investments of the United States Mint shall not exceed $20,000,000.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

To carry out the Riegle Community Development and Regulatory Improvements Act of 1994 (subtitle A of title I of Public Law 103–325), including services authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the rate for EX-3, $230,000,000. Of the amount appropriated under this heading—

(1) not less than $177,000,000 is available until September 30, 2016, for financial assistance and technical assistance under sections 108(a)(1)(A) and 108(a)(1)(B), respectively, of Public Law 103-325, of which up to $3,102,500 may be used for the cost of direct loans: *Provided*, That the cost of direct loans, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed $25,000,000;

(2) not less than $15,000,000 is available until September 30, 2016, for financial assistance, technical assistance, training and outreach programs, designed to benefit Native American, Native Hawaiian, and Alaskan Native communities and provided primarily through qualified community development lender organizations with experience and expertise in community development banking and lending in Indian country, Native American organizations, tribes and tribal organizations and other suitable providers;

(3) not less than $18,000,000 is available until September 30, 2016, for the Bank Enterprise Award program; and

(4) up to $20,000,000 may be used for administrative expenses, of which up to $300,000 for the administrative expenses of a direct loan program.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 7, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $500,000)''.

Page 9, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,000,000)''.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentlewoman from Texas and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chairman, I want to again thank the chairman and ranking member of the subcommittee for the work that they are doing on H.R. 5016.

I want to indicate that I think this is an important amendment, as was the previous one. It increased funding by $500,000 to the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund program for people receiving financial assistance and for the responsibilities that this very important subagency has.

Treasury's Community Development Financial Institutions Fund program administers the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, the CDFI. Through its various programs, the CDFI Fund enables locally-based organizations to further goals such as: economic development—job creation, business development, and commercial real estate development; affordable housing—housing development and homeownership; and community development financial services—provision of basic banking services to underserved communities and financial literacy training.

The good news, Mr. Chairman, is that this spreads across the Nation, regardless of whether you are an urban center or whether you are a rural center, in particular, through these programs, direct investment in supporting and

training financial institutions that provide loans, investment financial services, and technical assistance to underserved populations and communities.

Basically, it is a yes rather than a stop sign to job creation beyond the borders of the urban community and into our rural communities as well. From the perspective of Texas, this is a good thing because it emphasizes overall investment and development.

It also is good for Native Americans through its Native initiative by taking action to provide financial assistance, technical assistance, and training to Native CDFIs and other Native entities proposing to become or create Native CDFIs.

I am very glad for the support that has been given by this committee for this particular fund. I believe that the Jackson Lee amendment, with the addition of the amount of $500,000, will again help expand the opportunity for there to be increased investment.

Let me make this final point. The loss of wealth in rural communities that are creating hardships should not be forgotten where a substantial portion of their wealth, like urban dwellers, was in their homes. This restores and continues to restore opportunities to develop wealth among our individual families and communities. I ask that the Jackson Lee amendment be supported.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. JACKSON LEE. I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. CRENSHAW. I just want you to know that we have no objection to your amendment.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. I thank the gentleman very much.

With that, Mr. Chairman, let me thank the members of this committee.

As I indicated, this will be a good amendment to help the people of this great Nation continue their restoration of wealth and economic development. I ask for support of the Jackson Lee amendment.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

TAXPAYER SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Internal Revenue Service to provide taxpayer services, including pre-filing assistance and education, filing and account services, taxpayer advocacy services, the operating expenses of the Taxpayer Advocate Service, and other services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, at such rates as may be determined by the Commissioner, $2,130,000,000, of which not less than $5,600,000 shall be for the Tax Counseling for the Elderly Program, of which not less than $10,000,000 shall be available for low-income taxpayer clinic grants, and of which not less than $12,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, shall be available for a Community Volunteer Income Tax Assistance matching grants program for tax return preparation assistance.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. ROSKAM

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 9, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $10,000,000)''.

Page 10, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $10,000,000)''.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentleman from Illinois and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

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

Mr. Chairman, we have had a great deal of discussion today on the floor about the activity of the IRS, and these stories have been known to us. We have had a great deal of testimony—hours and hours and hours of testimony—in the Ways and Means Committee overseen by Chairman CAMP.

What we know is this: that the IRS has grossly overstepped its bounds in asking questions of groups filing for tax-exempt status that go so far as to ask about the content of an organization's prayers.

Now, think about this, Mr. Chairman. The First Amendment to the Constitution has as its first freedom our freedom of religion in this country, and what have we seen? We have seen the Internal Revenue Service reach its long arm into different tax-exempt organizations and have made inquiries about what is happening as it relates to prayers.

Here is an example, Mr. Chairman, that I have. This is a document, official document from the Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, et cetera, et cetera, to the Coalition for Life of Iowa. Under Penalties of Perjury, on page 2, Mr. Chairman, of this official document from the Internal Revenue Service, the IRS asked this in writing:

Please explain in detail the activities at these prayer meetings. Also, provide the percentage of your time with organizations spent on prayer groups as compared with other activities of the organization.

Mr. Chairman, are you kidding me?

The Internal Revenue Service is using its power and its influence to try and intimidate organizations, organizations that have as their base the faith that they freely wish to extend and they wish to communicate. Some lists were lists of questions that the IRS was so onerous that they asked for list after list after list.

Here is another one. They went after a group and they said, well, tell us all about whether each person, board member, officer, key employee, or member of their family, has, was, or plans to be a candidate for public office.

Now, of all the ridiculous inquiries. Do you know what that tells me? It tells me, Mr. Chairman, the enforcement division of the IRS has too much money, that is what it tells me.

What I am trying to do with this amendment is to follow up on action that the House has already taken, and a House that took this action unanimously not long ago in February by passing a bill that I introduced, Protecting Taxpayers from Intrusive IRS Requests Act, that is now pending in the other body.

I am very simply trying to get the attention of the Internal Revenue Service, the attention of the employees, the attention of the Commissioner that is all to say that you don't have this kind of authority; and if you have got this kind of money to spend messing around with American groups and so forth, and as the Internal Revenue Service is now declaring itself to be the entity that decides who gets to participate in the public square and who doesn't get to participate in the public square, then they clearly have too much money.

□ 2045

Very simply, Mr. Chairman, here is what I am trying to do. I am trying to take money out of that enforcement fund, which excludes the exempt services, which has been up to their eyeballs in this whole mess, and direct it over to an area that can actually defend taxpayers.

I urge its consideration.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ROSKAM. I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. CRENSHAW. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I am pleased to support his amendment.

Mr. ROSKAM. Reclaiming my time, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SERRANO. The gentleman says that the IRS has too much money. I haven't done the math totally, but I think if we were to accept every amendment that will come up in the next couple of days against the IRS, we would not only reach zero on the budget for the IRS, we would probably go under and create a crisis that we don't know how to handle.

The enforcement account at IRS has already been cut by $72 million above last year and is more than $421 million below the President's request. The taxpayer service account is already funded above last year's level.

Given the lack of funding for the IRS, there should be no need to plus-up an account that has actually increased while the overall funding for the agency has decreased. That is just a simple statement to understand.

I understand the need to continue to attack the IRS under this belief that they went after just a certain kind of organization. They went after no one. They asked questions of both sides, both conservative groups and liberal groups. I guess we are not going to hear the end of it for the next couple of days. It might be 3 days of bashing the IRS.

So I urge opposition to the amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Chairman, there is no need to attack the IRS if the IRS doesn't attack the American public. The IRS is the manipulator. The IRS is the entity that used this power of manipulation to ask this question:

Explain in detail the activities at your prayer meetings.

That is nothing that the IRS has anything to do with. That is nothing that they should have anything to do with.

And I am not for a second saying that we need to continue to go after the IRS until the IRS says, Here's all the emails, we've come clean, and so forth, but somehow the IRS being a victim here, I don't know. The IRS is no victim. The people that are being targeted unfairly are the victims. When they sought to assert their First Amendment right, Mr. Chairman, they are the victims.

I am not asking you to accept every amendment. I am just asking you to accept the Roskam amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GRAYSON

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 9, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $2,800,000)''.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentleman from Florida and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Chairman, I would like a few more dimes and nickles for the Tax Counseling for the Elderly program. The Tax Counseling for the Elderly program offers free tax help to individuals who are age 60 years old or older. I am not there yet, but I hope to be there one day.

Cooperative grant agreements are entered into between the IRS and eligible organizations to provide tax assistance to elderly taxpayers. The funds provided by the IRS are used by organizations to reimburse volunteers for their out-of-pocket expenses, including transportation, meals, and other expenses incurred by them in providing tax counseling assistance at locations convenient to the taxpayers.

This is very important because what we are saying here is that this money leverages volunteer help. There are tens of thousands of volunteers all around the country, including in my district in Orlando, that rely upon this funding to be able to provide the services that are needed by our elderly citizens.

One of the good things about my proposal here, Mr. Chairman, is that we are not taking this $2.8 million from any other account. Rather, there is a $2.13 billion account for taxpayer services, and this simply adds the carveout from that total for Tax Counseling for the Elderly.

Let's think about this. There are over 50 million seniors who qualify around the country for this program—that is one-quarter of our adult population—but the percentage of this account for taxpayer services, this $2 billion account, is not one-quarter for this program. It is not even 1 percent for this program. It is one-quarter of 1 percent of the total amount that we are allocating here for taxpayer services.

I modestly propose that we increase that amount from one-quarter of 1 percent to three-eighths of 1 percent.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GRAYSON. I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. CRENSHAW. I think tax counseling for the elderly is very important, and I am happy to accept your amendment.

Mr. GRAYSON. Reclaiming my time, I am happy to accept your acceptance of this amendment. I am very grateful to you, Mr. Chairman.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GRAYSON).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

ENFORCEMENT

For necessary expenses for tax enforcement activities of the Internal Revenue Service to determine and collect owed taxes, to provide legal and litigation support, to conduct criminal investigations, to enforce criminal statutes related to violations of internal revenue laws and other financial crimes, to purchase and hire passenger motor vehicles (31 U.S.C. 1343(b)), and to provide other services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, at such rates as may be determined by the Commissioner, $4,950,000,000, of which not less than $60,257,000 shall be for the Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement program.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MRS. BLACKBURN

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 10, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $2,000,000)''.

Page 62, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $1,000,000)''.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentlewoman from Tennessee and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Chairman, I bring a very simple amendment. As the Clerk read, you saw it is just two lines.

Let's reduce another $2 million of that IRS enforcement account, and let's move this over to help another Federal agency do its job. Because we have had one agency that is making life difficult for taxpayers and business owners, now let's have an agency that is supposed to be doing their job. Let's make certain that they do it.

What we are doing is redirecting this million dollars over to the Consumer Product Safety Commission's budget for third-party testing relief to assist them in completing and meeting their statutory requirements.

What has happened, in August, 2011, Congress passed an amendment to the CPSC Improvement Act mandating that they identify ways to reduce the third-party testing burdens that are facing our American businesses. That was to reduce the burden.

After soliciting comments in November of 2011, CPSC staff identified 14 ways in which this could be done. In October of the following year, 2012, they approved eight of the 14 recommendations, suggesting ways that the Commission could move forward. However, as we stand here 2 years later after that period, I am sure few are surprised to hear that CPSC still has not followed through with this mandate. In fact, the only action taken thus far has been a single workshop held on April 3 to identify materials that may not require testing. In fact, the only action taken thus far on these approved recommendations has been to solicit comments from industry on three separate occasions and to hold one workshop. It is clear that the agency has placed the requirements of burden reduction on the industry, not on the bureaucrats at the CPSC.

It is important to note why Congress passed our CPSC amendment in the first place. Our current economic situation is indeed dire. It was then and continues to be. The American people depend immensely on our American businesses to provide jobs. Even more so, the American people are depending on us to help create the environment that will spur job growth.

The third-party testing burden hinders the ability of these companies to hire more employees and to expand their product lines. It hinders the ability of these businesses to grow the

economy. It is detrimental to our workforce. Additionally, the testing hinders Americans who own small businesses, as they are the ones who are having to absorb these extra costs.

The Commission claims that these third-party testing regulations are paramount to our safety when, in fact, our domestic industries spend millions of dollars each and every year on unnecessary testing, including on materials known to never contain harmful chemicals.

Congress recognized this back in 2011. We took action. We expect the CPSC to follow through and to take the necessary actions. It has been 3 years since the mandate went into effect, and it is time that we encourage the CPSC to get their act together and move forward with the implementation on the mandate.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Will the gentlewoman yield?

Mrs. BLACKBURN. I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I want the gentlewoman to know that this is a very good amendment. I support it, and I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes.''

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Reclaiming my time, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, for a minute there, I was almost convinced that they are not after the IRS, but they are even willing to give money to an agency they traditionally do not support just to get at the IRS.

The IRS has already been cut overall by $341 million from last year's funding level. This will prevent the IRS from going after tax cheats and helping those who are attempting to obey the law.

The Taxpayer Advocate has even said that insufficient funding of the IRS is one of the most serious problems facing taxpayers. This IRS needs more funding, not less.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission is funded $5 million below last year's level, and we are supportive of remedying that in conference. However, we simply cannot support this offset.

It is my understanding that the sponsor of this amendment would like the money to be used for the CPSC to prescribe new or revised third-party testing regulations. Hearing a Republican offering an amendment to fund regulations makes it very tempting for me to support this amendment, since it is such a rare event.

It is also ironic in that there is another possible Republican amendment preventing the CPSC from even proceeding to review comments submitted by the public on another regulation.

These dueling amendments point out the obvious problem when Congress doesn't allow the proper process to proceed and instead cherry-picks where and when it wants to interfere. This is clearly just another attack on the IRS, and I oppose the amendment and hope all my colleagues will also do the same.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Chairman, in the interest of time, I think it would be instructive to my colleague to realize what we are doing is saying the agency doesn't have the right to continue to cherry-pick. Fourteen suggestions 3 years ago; we have been waiting for 2 years. They have said eight were approved.

What we have is businesses who would like to expand the business, businesses that would like to bring American products to the American marketplace, and the third-party testing burden is placed on these businesses. The CPSC is not doing their job to create the right environment.

I would encourage everyone to support this amendment. Let's make certain that these agencies do their job and work with the industry to be certain that we create the environment for jobs growth to take place in this country.

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

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN).

The amendment was agreed to.

□ 2100

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk, No. 178.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 10, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $353,000,000)''.

Page 152, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $353,000,000)''.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentleman from Arizona and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to offer a simple but important amendment which will save taxpayer money and demand accountability for one of the Federal Government's most invasive and rogue agencies—the IRS.

This amendment reduces overall appropriations in the bill for the Internal Revenue Service by approximately 3 percent and brings funding for the IRS down to the FY 2007 appropriations. Current funding is between 2007 and 2008 levels. Additionally, my amendment still allows for more than $10.5 billion to go to the IRS. In this time during which we have over $7 trillion in debt and a deficit this year exceeding $500 billion, this is a modest reduction at best. Again, this amendment only makes a 3 percent reduction to bring the appropriations in line with the 2007 appropriations.

More directly than the financial condition of the country is the fact that this agency has shown contempt for the American taxpayer. It has ignored Congress and ignored subpoenas. It has stonewalled. It has destroyed evidence. It has lied. It has abused its powers and targeted honest Americans for exercising their political beliefs. The list of scandals and examples of mismanagement within the IRS seems to grow every day. This agency, which aggressively pursues American citizens it believes deserve extra scrutiny, must understand that the IRS is, first and foremost, accountable to the American people, not the other way around.

John Adams said that facts are stubborn things. In April, this body held former IRS Commissioner Lois Lerner in contempt of Congress for her role and testimony in relation to the IRS' targeting of conservative groups. Ms. Lerner acted with reckless disregard for the constitutional rights of United States citizens while working at the IRS, and she must be held accountable. The blatant disregard of basic liberties and the use of a government agency to harass, target, intimidate, and threaten lawful, honest citizens was the worst form of authoritarianism.

President Obama erroneously claimed that there isn't even a ''smidgen of corruption'' in the IRS targeting scandal, and yet a trail of emails proves otherwise. Further, Ms. Lerner is still refusing to testify on the grounds that she fears criminal prosecution. She should. She lied to Congress. She abused her position. She violated the rights of Americans. She tried to harm the electoral process and intimidate voters.

Getting the truth and demanding accountability from President Obama's IRS should not be too much to ask for. Yet officials in this administration continue to offer excuses and half-truths for what has developed into a disturbing trend of waste, fraud, and abuse. Tax information about the President's political opponents has been leaked, Americans were targeted for their political beliefs, and senior executives were given bonuses for their work. Waste and inefficiency have plagued the agency for years. The Treasury inspector general has reported the IRS has been wasting upwards of $15 billion a year—yes, that is 15 billion with a ''b''—more than $140 billion since 2003, due to its failure to comply with Federal law to curb improper payments.

Democrats and Republicans across the country have been demanding that Congress do something other than hold hearing after hearing about the problems at the IRS. This amendment does something that Congress has the complete power to do—it uses the power of the purse. As you know, we don't have a lot of other options, but we do know that the IRS scandal is one of the most serious scandals ever engaged in by any administration.

How can the American people trust the Federal Government to use their tax dollars efficiently when the agency tasked with collecting them squanders billions before they can even be appropriated?

This amendment simply brings IRS funding to the 2007 levels. The IRS must prove that it can be trusted with the hard-earned tax dollars of the American people before it asks Congress to increase its budget.

If you disapprove of the IRS' targeting of conservative groups for their political beliefs, then support my amendment. If you disapprove of the IRS' ignoring of congressional subpoenas, then support my amendment. If you disapprove of this agency's stonewalling of Congress, destroying evidence, and lying to the American people, then support my amendment.

I thank the chairman and the ranking member for their continued work on the committee.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, the good news is that the whole bill is not on the IRS, so, eventually, we will move on to something else, and we won't see any more of these attacks.

The IRS has already been cut overall by $341 million from last year's funding level. This will prevent the IRS from going after tax cheats—I know it is repetitious, but it is a fact—and from helping those who are attempting to obey the law. The Taxpayer Advocate has even said that the insufficient funding of the IRS is one of the most serious problems facing taxpayers.

This underfunding will force the IRS to operate with 9,500 fewer staff, which means that less than 50 percent of taxpayers who reach out to the IRS for assistance on the telephone help line will be able to get it, and the waiting times for those who do get answers will rise to 35 minutes or longer. As many as 24 million taxpayers will be unable to reach the IRS for assistance, and that is unacceptable. The cuts in this bill will also result in $2 billion in uncollected revenue compared to what could have been collected at the requested level, thereby increasing the deficit by that amount.

I think what is being missed here tonight with all of these amendments is that, yes, there is a concern on the other side—and there was a concern here also, and there still may be—in terms of what went on and what needs to be straightened out, but the answer is not to cut the IRS down to bare bones, because our next problem will be that the deficit will continue to grow because we won't be able to do the proper collecting of tax dollars in this country.

I oppose this amendment, and I urge that everyone else do so as well.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out that this is a 3 percent reduction, and it brings it back to 2007 levels. The Treasury inspector general has reported that the IRS has been wasting upwards of $15 billion a year—more than $140 billion since 2003—due to its failure to comply with Federal law to curb improper payments.

I think what we could do is save taxpayers a lot more money if they just didn't call the IRS. This is a blatant disregard of basic civil liberties in the use of a government agency to harass, target, intimidate, and threaten lawful, honest citizens. We need to bring the IRS into compliance.

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

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois). The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. HUIZENGA OF MICHIGAN

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 10, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $788,111,800)''.

Page 152, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $788,111,800)''.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentleman from Michigan and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, my friend from New York was pointing out that, at some point, we are going to move on from the IRS, but I want to point out that this section is specifically about the enforcement of what the IRS has been doing.

Last year, we learned that the IRS has been targeting American taxpayers for their political beliefs for the last 4 or 5 years. During this period, a culture of shading the truth was fostered and developed by directors and administrators throughout the IRS. Now this culture within the IRS has grown to one of stonewalling, doubletalk, and mistrust.

It is up to Congress to use the power of the purse, Mr. Chairman, to rein in the IRS and force them to conduct their analysis in an unbiased manner. This is our constitutional tool. The IRS has proven itself to be unable to do so, which is why I am introducing this amendment that cuts more than $788 million from the IRS' budget. With the combined cuts in the underlying bill of $341 million, this will approximately cut the IRS' budget by 10 percent from its current funding levels. The underlying legislation takes a good step in the right direction, and many of the amendments, including the last one that was just adopted, are a step in the right direction, but I believe, unfortunately, that this doesn't go far enough.

We need to keep in mind that the IRS is one of the most feared agencies within the Federal Government—left, right or center. They can freeze bank accounts, garnish wages, and seize assets with a flick of a pen. Congress needs to utilize the power of the purse—our constitutional tool and responsibility, I might add—to send the IRS a message to put an end to this newfound ''business as usual.''

It is up to Congress to prevent the IRS from ever slipping back into its targeting practices. The best way to do that is to force them to consolidate their resources and prioritize. Congress, itself, has been forced to do this. Our own offices, Mr. Chairman, have been forced to do this over the last number of years, and there is no reason why the IRS cannot follow suit.

We cannot allow the IRS to be used as a political weapon because, as I had pointed out, it doesn't matter if an American's political views are left of the spectrum, right of the spectrum or somewhere in between. The IRS is one of the most powerful agencies that we have, and for them to be injected into this process as a political weapon is simply wrong. Political targeting is not the only example, however, and this is not the real problem I am trying to get at. I believe there is another problem, which is a tax on those who cannot defend themselves. Political targeting is only a part of the story.

The other one is, in 2012, a Taxpayer Advocate Service report found that 69 percent of individuals who claimed the adoption tax credit were audited by the IRS. Okay. That seems like a pretty aggressive move. Unfortunately, for the IRS, only 1.5 percent of the credits claimed were ever disallowed. The Taxpayer Advocate Service and the Government Accountability Office, the GAO, have both noted that the adoption credit claims represented less than one-tenth of 1 percent of all individual returns for the 2011 filing season. By comparison, the IRS spent approximately 3.5 percent of its total staff days on the initial reviews, correspondence, and audits of these adoption tax claims. Let me repeat that. One-tenth of 1 percent are the total claims, yet the IRS spends 3.5 percent of all of its staff days in pursuing these. This is not about tax cheats. This is about harassment. In essence, the IRS spent 35 times the number of work hours investigating adoptive parents compared to other tax filers.

West Michigan, which is the area I represent, is blessed to have one of the highest adoption rates in the entire Nation, hardworking families who want to bring another into their homes, someone who has been abused or neglected. They should not have to be burdened by the echoing footsteps of the taxman.

I am angry, Mr. Chairman. The American people are angry, and they should be. Clearly, the IRS has too much time on its hands and not enough focus. The recklessness with which the

IRS is acting by targeting Americans for their political views or as to whether they have adopted a child is simply wrong, and it must be stopped immediately.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, my early math tells me that, if the amendments that we just passed stick in conference, we have already cut $1.154 billion from enforcement. Those are the folks who are going to collect taxes from people who don't want to pay taxes.

I continue to make my comments—again, sounding repetitious—that there has to be a moment when this stops, when we realize that, yes, there are issues that have to be dealt with at the IRS. There have always been issues that have had to be dealt with at the IRS, but the idea of zeroing out this account and zeroing out the enforcement account just does not make any sense. I would hope that we would just pay attention to that and pay attention to the fact that, while we may have differences with an agency, we have never, ever in the years that I have been here seen anyone, any party or any group, go after a particular agency the way we have gone after the IRS, not only tonight, but in the last few months.

I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 2115

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, I am stunned that my amendment would be characterized as zeroing it out. In fact, my amendment provides $4.16 billion for IRS enforcement budget.

I want to know what employer would reward unacceptable behavior. I think we have the answer, Mr. Chairman, and that is my colleagues across the aisle.

This is a 19 percent cut to the enforcement budget, 10 percent cut overall. This brings us back to 2004–2005 levels and, in fact, this House approved a budget last year of $3.87 billion, so my amendment doesn't even bring us down as low as what had been passed by the House just last year.

I urge passage of my amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

OPERATIONS SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Internal Revenue Service to support taxpayer services and enforcement programs, including rent payments; facilities services; printing; postage; physical security; headquarters and other IRS-wide administration activities; research and statistics of income; telecommunications; information technology development, enhancement, operations, maintenance, and security; the hire of passenger motor vehicles (31 U.S.C. 1343(b)); the operations of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board; and other services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, at such rates as may be determined by the Commissioner; $3,620,000,000, of which not to exceed $300,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016, of which not to exceed $10,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided*, That not later than 30 days after the end of each quarter, the Internal Revenue Service shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate and the Comptroller General of the United States detailing the cost and schedule performance for its major information technology investments, including the purpose and life-cycle stages of the investments; the reasons for any cost and schedule variances; the risks of such investments and strategies the Internal Revenue Service is using to mitigate such risks; and the expected developmental milestones to be achieved and costs to be incurred in the next quarter: *Provided further*, That the Internal Revenue Service shall include, in its budget justification for fiscal year 2016, a summary of cost and schedule performance information for its major information technology systems.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CAMP

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 10, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $2,000,000)''.

Page 152, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $2,000,000)''.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentleman from Michigan and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Chairman, on Friday, June 13, the IRS admitted to Congress that it had destroyed 2 years of Lois Lerner's documents—documents at the very center of the IRS targeting individuals for their beliefs.

The IRS buried this fact on page 15 of a 27-page document, 4 months after political appointees in the Obama administration had been informed that the emails were destroyed.

When IRS Commissioner Koskinen came before the Ways and Means Committee earlier this year, he pledged transparency, stating, ''When I find out something, you will be the first to know.''

Well, we now know that is not true, as the IRS has misled Congress and obstructed our investigation for months. The IRS even went so far as promising the Ways and Means Committee that it would receive all Lerner documents in May, after knowing that thousands of Lerner emails were destroyed and they could not possibly fulfill our request. This is inexcusable.

Once the Ways and Means Committee learned of the destroyed emails, we asked that the IRS provide all information and documents related to the emails, as well as make IT employees available for interview. The IRS has refused this request and will not make IT employees available for interview.

I come to the floor today to reduce by $2 million the IRS' funds for the Office of the Commissioner and Office of Legislative Affairs, who recently have attempted to obstruct this investigation and who have misled Congress and the American people.

The Committee on Ways and Means will continue to pursue this investigation until we understand the full scope of the targeting and obtain all of the documents and interviews the committee has requested.

The American people have lost trust in the IRS, and a full accounting of the targeting and those responsible is necessary before the IRS can hope to rebuild that trust.

Mr. Chairman, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW).

Mr. CRENSHAW. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I just want him to know that I rise in strong support of this amendment.

We have talked about the fact that the IRS has betrayed the trust of the American people, and if they are just going to circle the wagons, that is just going to raise more suspicion, so I urge adoption of this amendment.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Chairman, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY).

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Chairman, the Ways and Means Oversight Subcommittee, which I chair, launched this investigation about 2 years ago into the targeting of conservative organizations, and the IRS has continued to be evasive and obstructive. It is unacceptable.

We have kept pressure on, and cracks are now showing, illustrating a culture at this agency that tolerates and even encourages politically motivated activity.

Mr. Chairman, the IRS has lost credibility with the American people. Today, the American people view this agency as a tool of political intimidation and retribution, instead of an unbiased nonpolitical agency.

The American people demand truth and justice in this matter, and so do I. No American should live in fear of an administration willing to use the IRS to inflict pain on those who they do not agree with ideologically. This amendment will help solve some of that.

By reducing the commissioner and the Office of Legislative Affairs by $2 million, we will use the power of the purse to put them further on notice that they have to come clean on this. We will not stop until we get the answers.

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

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, this amendment is completely irresponsible and unnecessary.

My colleague may be angry at the Internal Revenue Service, but defunding the very entities that would supply the information he is requesting is not going to get him that information any faster. These offices actually have nothing to do with setting a policy with regard to email retention.

This amendment is simply another attempt to find a conspiracy where the Republican Party has been unable to find one previously.

At this point, the IRS has spent at least $14 million providing hundreds of thousands of pages of information to the committees of jurisdiction here, and, instead of providing them with more money to provide more information, the majority wants to cut the IRS further.

This is not a well-thought-out or responsible amendment, and I urge my colleagues to oppose it because it does exactly the opposite of what my colleague claims it would do.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Chairman, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. BRADY), a member of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Chairman, Chairman CAMP's amendment simply seeks the truth. It seeks the truth about what the IRS knew, what they targeted, what they offered up—more importantly, simply to make available those on the staff who dealt with, supposedly, the loss of these emails.

The fact of the matter is no government should ever try to silence the voices of Americans who simply disagree with it. Chairman CAMP's investigation seeks the truth, to hold those accountable who violated the law, and to make sure this never happens again to any American, Republican, Democrat, any partisan stripe or independent thought.

We deserve the truth. This amendment gets to the truth, and it should be accepted by Republicans and Democrats.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

BUSINESS SYSTEMS MODERNIZATION

For necessary expenses of the Internal Revenue Service's business systems modernization program, $250,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017, for the capital asset acquisition of information technology systems, including management and related contractual costs of said acquisitions, including related Internal Revenue Service labor costs, and contractual costs associated with operations authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109: *Provided*, That not later than 30 days after the end of each quarter, the Internal Revenue Service shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate and the Comptroller General of the United States detailing the cost and schedule performance for CADE 2 and Modernized e-File information technology investments, including the purposes and life-cycle stages of the investments; the reasons for any cost and schedule variances; the risks of such investments and the strategies the Internal Revenue Service is using to mitigate such risks; and the expected developmental milestones to be achieved and costs to be incurred in the next quarter.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 101. Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available in this Act to the Internal Revenue Service may be transferred to any other Internal Revenue Service appropriation upon the advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 102. The Internal Revenue Service shall maintain an employee training program, which shall include the following topics: taxpayers' rights, dealing courteously with taxpayers, cross-cultural relations, ethics, and the impartial application of tax law.

SEC. 103. The Internal Revenue Service shall institute and enforce policies and procedures that will safeguard the confidentiality of taxpayer information and protect taxpayers against identity theft.

SEC. 104. Funds made available by this or any other Act to the Internal Revenue Service shall be available for improved facilities and increased staffing to provide sufficient and effective 1–800 help line service for taxpayers. The Commissioner shall continue to make improvements to the Internal Revenue Service 1–800 help line service a priority and allocate resources necessary to enhance the response time to taxpayer communications, particularly with regard to victims of tax-related crimes.

SEC. 105. None of the funds made available to the Internal Revenue Service by this Act may be used to make a video unless the Service-Wide Video Editorial Board determines in advance that making the video is appropriate, taking into account the cost, topic, tone, and purpose of the video.

SEC. 106. The Internal Revenue Service shall issue a notice of confirmation of any address change relating to an employer making employment tax payments, and such notice shall be sent to both the employer's former and new address and an officer or employee of the Internal Revenue Service shall give special consideration to an offer-in-compromise from a taxpayer who has been the victim of fraud by a third party payroll tax preparer.

SEC. 107. None of the funds made available under this Act may be used by the Internal Revenue Service to target citizens of the United States for exercising any right guaranteed under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

SEC. 108. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Internal Revenue Service to target groups for regulatory scrutiny based on their ideological beliefs.

SEC. 109. None of funds made available by this Act to the Internal Revenue Service shall be obligated or expended on conferences that do not adhere to the procedures, verification processes, documentation requirements, and policies issued by the Chief Financial Officer, Human Capital Office, and Agency-Wide Shared Services as a result of the recommendations in the report published on May 31, 2013, by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration entitled ''Review of the August 2010 Small Business/Self-Employed Division's Conference in Anaheim, California'' (Reference Number 2013-10-037).

SEC. 110. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay the salaries or expenses of any individual to carry out any transfer of funds to the Internal Revenue Service under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111–148) or the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–152).

SEC. 111. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Internal Revenue Service to implement or enforce section 5000A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, section 6055 of such Code, section 1502(c) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111–148), or any amendments made by section 1502(b) of such Act.

SEC. 112. None of the funds made available in this Act to the Internal Revenue Service may be obligated or expended under any bonus, award, or recognition program that does not consider, with respect to determining whether an employee should receive such program funds, the conduct and Federal tax compliance of such employee.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 113. Appropriations to the Department of the Treasury in this Act shall be available for uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901), including maintenance, repairs, and cleaning; purchase of insurance for official motor vehicles operated in foreign countries; purchase of motor vehicles without regard to the general purchase price limitations for vehicles purchased and used overseas for the current fiscal year; entering into contracts with the Department of State for the furnishing of health and medical services to employees and their dependents serving in foreign countries; and services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109.

SEC. 114. Not to exceed 2 percent of any appropriations in this title made available under the headings ''Departmental Offices—Salaries and Expenses'', ''Office of Inspector General'', ''Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program'', ''Financial Crimes Enforcement Network'', ''Bureau of the Fiscal Service'', ''Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau'' and ''Community Development Financial Institutions Fund Program Account'' may be transferred between such appropriations upon the advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided*, That no transfer under this section may increase or decrease any such appropriation by more than 2 percent.

SEC. 115. Not to exceed 2 percent of any appropriation made available in this Act to the Internal Revenue Service may be transferred to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration's appropriation upon the advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided*, That no transfer may increase or decrease any such appropriation by more than 2 percent.

SEC. 116. None of the funds appropriated in this Act or otherwise available to the Department of the Treasury or the Bureau of Engraving and Printing may be used to redesign the $1 Federal Reserve note.

SEC. 117. The Secretary of the Treasury may transfer funds from the ''Bureau of the Fiscal Service-Salaries and Expenses'' to the Debt Collection Fund as necessary to cover the costs of debt collection: *Provided*, That such amounts shall be reimbursed to such salaries and expenses account from debt collections received in the Debt Collection Fund.

SEC. 118. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any

other Act may be used by the United States Mint to construct or operate any museum without the explicit approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the House Committee on Financial Services, and the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SEC. 119. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act or source to the Department of the Treasury, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and the United States Mint, individually or collectively, may be used to consolidate any or all functions of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and the United States Mint without the explicit approval of the House Committee on Financial Services; the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 120. Funds appropriated by this Act, or made available by the transfer of funds in this Act, for the Department of the Treasury's intelligence or intelligence related activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 414) during fiscal year 2015 until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015.

SEC. 121. Not to exceed $5,000 shall be made available from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing's Industrial Revolving Fund for necessary official reception and representation expenses.

SEC. 122. The Secretary of the Treasury shall submit a Capital Investment Plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than 30 days following the submission of the annual budget submitted by the President: *Provided*, That such Capital Investment Plan shall include capital investment spending from all accounts within the Department of the Treasury, including but not limited to the Department-wide Systems and Capital Investment Programs account, Treasury Franchise Fund account, and the Treasury Forfeiture Fund account: *Provided further*, That such Capital Investment Plan shall include expenditures occurring in previous fiscal years for each capital investment project that has not been fully completed.

SEC. 123. (a) Not later than 2 weeks after the end of each quarter, the Office of Financial Stability and the Office of Financial Research shall submit reports on their activities to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

(b) The reports required under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) the obligations made during the previous quarter by object class, office, and activity;

(2) the estimated obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year by object class, office, and activity;

(3) the number of full-time equivalents within each office during the previous quarter;

(4) the estimated number of full-time equivalents within each office for the remainder of the fiscal year; and

(5) actions taken to achieve the goals, objectives, and performance measures of each office.

(c) At the request of any such Committees specified in subsection (a), the Office of Financial Stability and the Office of Financial Research shall make officials available to testify on the contents of the reports required under subsection (a).

SEC. 124. Within 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit an itemized report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the amount of total funds charged to each office by the Franchise Fund including the amount charged for each service provided by the Franchise Fund to each office, a detailed description of the services, a detailed explanation of how each charge for each service is calculated, and a description of the role customers have in governing in the Franchise Fund.

SEC. 125. (a) Section 155 of Public Law 111–203 is amended as follows:

(1) In subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''immediately''; and

(ii) by inserting ''as provided for in appropriations Acts'' after ''to the Office'';

(B) by striking paragraph (2); and

(C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (2).

(2) In subsection (d), by striking the heading and inserting ''ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE.—''.

(b) The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on October 1, 2015.

SEC. 126. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to approve, license, facilitate, authorize, or otherwise allow, whether by general or specific license, travel-related or other transactions incident to non-academic educational exchanges described in section 515.565(b)(2) of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 127. (a) The Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide a joint report not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act regarding travel pursuant to sections 515.560(a)(1), 515.560(c)(4)(i), and 515.561 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations.

(b) Such report shall include, for each fiscal year beginning with 2007 under the aforementioned category of travel:

(1) number of travelers; average duration of stay for each trip;

(2) average amount of U.S. dollars spent per traveler;

(3) number of return trips per year; and

(4) total sum of U.S. dollars spent collectively in each fiscal year.

SEC. 128. During fiscal year 2015—

(1) none of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used by the Department of the Treasury, including the Internal Revenue Service, to issue, revise, or finalize any regulation, revenue ruling, or other guidance not limited to a particular taxpayer relating to the standard which is used to determine whether an organization is operated exclusively for the promotion of social welfare for purposes of section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (including the proposed regulations published at 78 Fed. Reg. 71535 (November 29, 2013)); and

(2) the standard and definitions as in effect on January 1, 2010, which are used to make such determinations shall apply after the date of the enactment of this Act for purposes of determining status under section 501(c)(4) of such Code of organizations created on, before, or after such date.

SEC. 129. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be obligated or expended to provide for the enforcement of any rule, regulation, policy, or guideline implemented pursuant to the Department of the Treasury Guidance for U.S. Positions on MDBs Engaging with Developing Countries on Coal-Fired Power Generation dated October 29, 2013, when enforcement of such rule, regulation, policy, or guideline would prohibit, or have the effect of prohibiting, the carrying out of any coal-fired or other power-generation project the purpose of which is to increase exports of goods and services from the United States or prevent the loss of jobs from the United States.

SEC. 130. The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the appropriate agencies, departments, bureaus, and commissions that have expertise in terrorism and complex financial instruments, shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate, the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act on economic warfare and financial terrorism.

SEC. 131. Each calendar month beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Finance of the Senate an accounting of the number of individuals who have not paid the full amount of any premium owed for the preceding month for coverage under a qualified health plan that was enrolled in through an Exchange under title I of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

This title may be cited as the ''Department of the Treasury Appropriations Act, 2015''.

TITLE II

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the White House as authorized by law, including not to exceed $3,850,000 for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 and 3 U.S.C. 105; subsistence expenses as authorized by 3 U.S.C. 105, which shall be expended and accounted for as provided in that section; hire of passenger motor vehicles, and travel (not to exceed $100,000 to be expended and accounted for as provided by 3 U.S.C. 103); and not to exceed $19,000 for official reception and representation expenses, to be available for allocation within the Executive Office of the President; and for necessary expenses of the Office of Policy Development, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 and 3 U.S.C. 107, $55,000,000.

EXECUTIVE RESIDENCE AT THE WHITE HOUSE

OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Executive Residence at the White House, $12,700,000, to be expended and accounted for as provided by 3 U.S.C. 105, 109, 110, and 112–114.

REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES

For the reimbursable expenses of the Executive Residence at the White House, such sums as may be necessary: *Provided*, That all reimbursable operating expenses of the Executive Residence shall be made in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, such amount for reimbursable operating expenses shall be the exclusive authority of the Executive Residence to incur obligations and to receive offsetting collections, for such expenses: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall require each person sponsoring a reimbursable political event to pay in advance an amount equal to the estimated cost of the event, and all such advance payments shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall require the national committee of the political party of the President to maintain on deposit $25,000,

to be separately accounted for and available for expenses relating to reimbursable political events sponsored by such committee during such fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall ensure that a written notice of any amount owed for a reimbursable operating expense under this paragraph is submitted to the person owing such amount within 60 days after such expense is incurred, and that such amount is collected within 30 days after the submission of such notice: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall charge interest and assess penalties and other charges on any such amount that is not reimbursed within such 30 days, in accordance with the interest and penalty provisions applicable to an outstanding debt on a United States Government claim under 31 U.S.C. 3717: *Provided further*, That each such amount that is reimbursed, and any accompanying interest and charges, shall be deposited in the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall prepare and submit to the Committees on Appropriations, by not later than 90 days after the end of the fiscal year covered by this Act, a report setting forth the reimbursable operating expenses of the Executive Residence during the preceding fiscal year, including the total amount of such expenses, the amount of such total that consists of reimbursable official and ceremonial events, the amount of such total that consists of reimbursable political events, and the portion of each such amount that has been reimbursed as of the date of the report: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall maintain a system for the tracking of expenses related to reimbursable events within the Executive Residence that includes a standard for the classification of any such expense as political or nonpolitical: *Provided further*, That no provision of this paragraph may be construed to exempt the Executive Residence from any other applicable requirement of subchapter I or II of chapter 37 of title 31, United States Code.

WHITE HOUSE REPAIR AND RESTORATION

For the repair, alteration, and improvement of the Executive Residence at the White House pursuant to 3 U.S.C. 105(d), $500,000, to remain available until expended, for required maintenance, resolution of safety and health issues, and continued preventative maintenance.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Council of Economic Advisers in carrying out its functions under the Employment Act of 1946 (15 U.S.C. 1021 et seq.), $3,765,000.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL AND HOMELAND SECURITY COUNCIL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the National Security Council and the Homeland Security Council, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, $12,600,000.

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Administration, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 and 3 U.S.C. 107, and hire of passenger motor vehicles, $111,000,000, of which not to exceed $12,006,000 shall remain available until expended for continued modernization of the information technology infrastructure within the Executive Office of the President.

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Management and Budget, including hire of passenger motor vehicles and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, to carry out the provisions of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, and to prepare and submit the budget of the United States Government, in accordance with section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, $89,300,000, of which not to exceed $3,000 shall be available for official representation expenses: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated in this Act for the Office of Management and Budget may be used for the purpose of reviewing any agricultural marketing orders or any activities or regulations under the provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 (7 U.S.C. 601 et seq.): *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available for the Office of Management and Budget by this Act may be expended for the altering of the transcript of actual testimony of witnesses, except for testimony of officials of the Office of Management and Budget, before the Committees on Appropriations or their subcommittees: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this or prior Acts shall be used, directly or indirectly, by the Office of Management and Budget, for evaluating or determining if water resource project or study reports submitted by the Chief of Engineers acting through the Secretary of the Army are in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and requirements relevant to the Civil Works water resource planning process: *Provided further*, That the Office of Management and Budget shall have not more than 60 days in which to perform budgetary policy reviews of water resource matters on which the Chief of Engineers has reported: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall notify the appropriate authorizing and appropriating committees when the 60-day review is initiated: *Provided further*, That if water resource reports have not been transmitted to the appropriate authorizing and appropriating committees within 15 days after the end of the Office of Management and Budget review period based on the notification from the Director, Congress shall assume Office of Management and Budget concurrence with the report and act accordingly: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall: (1) consult with each standing committee in the House of Representatives and the Senate with respect to the number of printed and electronic copies (including the appendix, historical tables, and analytical perspectives) of the President's fiscal year 2016 budget request that each such committee requires; and (2) provide, using the funds made available under this heading, each such committee with the requisite number of copies by no later than the date that the President submits such budget to Congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, $52,000,000 shall not be available for obligation until the President submits to Congress the budget of the United States Government for fiscal year 2016, in accordance with section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code.

OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of National Drug Control Policy; for research activities pursuant to the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–469); not to exceed $10,000 for official reception and representation expenses; and for participation in joint projects or in the provision of services on matters of mutual interest with nonprofit, research, or public organizations or agencies, with or without reimbursement, $22,000,000: *Provided*, That the Office is authorized to accept, hold, administer, and utilize gifts, both real and personal, public and private, without fiscal year limitation, for the purpose of aiding or facilitating the work of the Office.

FEDERAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMS

HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREAS PROGRAM

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of National Drug Control Policy's High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program, $245,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, for drug control activities consistent with the approved strategy for each of the designated High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (''HIDTAs''), of which not less than 51 percent shall be transferred to State and local entities for drug control activities and shall be obligated not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act: *Provided*, That up to 49 percent may be transferred to Federal agencies and departments in amounts determined by the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, of which up to $2,700,000 may be used for auditing services and associated activities: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding the requirements of Public Law 106–58, any unexpended funds obligated prior to fiscal year 2013 may be used for any other approved activities of that HIDTA, subject to reprogramming requirements: *Provided further*, That each HIDTA designated as of September 30, 2014, shall be funded at not less than the fiscal year 2014 base level, unless the Director submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate justification for changes to those levels based on clearly articulated priorities and published Office of National Drug Control Policy performance measures of effectiveness: *Provided further*, That the Director shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the initial allocation of fiscal year 2015 funding among HIDTAs not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, and shall notify the Committees of planned uses of discretionary HIDTA funding, as determined in consultation with the HIDTA Directors, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

OTHER FEDERAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For other drug control activities authorized by the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–469), $108,250,000, to remain available until expended, which shall be available as follows: $95,000,000 for the Drug-Free Communities Program, of which $2,000,000 shall be made available as directed by section 4 of Public Law 107–82, as amended by Public Law 109–469 (21 U.S.C. 1521 note); $1,400,000 for drug court training and technical assistance; $8,600,000 for anti-doping activities; $2,000,000 for the United States membership dues to the World Anti-Doping Agency; and $1,250,000 shall be made available as directed by section 1105 of Public Law 109–469: *Provided*, That amounts made available under this heading may be transferred to other Federal departments and agencies to carry out such activities.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for the furtherance of integrated, efficient, secure, and effective uses of information technology in the Federal Government, $9,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Director of the Office of Management and Budget may transfer these funds to one or more other agencies to carry out projects to meet these purposes: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Office of Management

and Budget shall submit quarterly reports not later than 45 days after the end of each quarter to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate and the Government Accountability Office identifying the savings achieved by the Office of Management and Budget's government-wide information technology reform efforts: *Provided further*, That such reports shall include savings identified by fiscal year, agency, and appropriation.

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE PRESIDENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to enable the Vice President to provide assistance to the President in connection with specially assigned functions; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 and 3 U.S.C. 106, including subsistence expenses as authorized by 3 U.S.C. 106, which shall be expended and accounted for as provided in that section; and hire of passenger motor vehicles, $4,200,000.

OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

OPERATING EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the care, operation, refurnishing, improvement, and to the extent not otherwise provided for, heating and lighting, including electric power and fixtures, of the official residence of the Vice President; the hire of passenger motor vehicles; and not to exceed $81,000 pursuant to 3 U.S.C. 106(b)(2), $290,000: *Provided*, That advances, repayments, or transfers from this appropriation may be made to any department or agency for expenses of carrying out such activities.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 201. From funds made available in this Act under the headings ''The White House'', ''Executive Residence at the White House'', ''White House Repair and Restoration'', ''Council of Economic Advisers'', ''National Security Council and Homeland Security Council'', ''Office of Administration'', ''Special Assistance to the President'', and ''Official Residence of the Vice President'', the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (or such other officer as the President may designate in writing), may, with advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, transfer not to exceed 10 percent of any such appropriation to any other such appropriation, to be merged with and available for the same time and for the same purposes as the appropriation to which transferred: *Provided*, That the amount of an appropriation shall not be increased by more than 50 percent by such transfers: *Provided further*, That no amount shall be transferred from ''Special Assistance to the President'' or ''Official Residence of the Vice President'' without the approval of the Vice President.

SEC. 202. Within 90 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the costs of implementing the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Public Law 111–203). Such report shall include—

(1) the estimated mandatory and discretionary obligations of funds through fiscal year 2019, by Federal agency and by fiscal year, including—

(A) the estimated obligations by cost inputs such as rent, information technology, contracts, and personnel;

(B) the methodology and data sources used to calculate such estimated obligations; and

(C) the specific section of such Act that requires the obligation of funds; and

(2) the estimated receipts through fiscal year 2019 from assessments, user fees, and other fees by the Federal agency making the collections, by fiscal year, including—

(A) the methodology and data sources used to calculate such estimated collections; and

(B) the specific section of such Act that authorizes the collection of funds.

SEC. 203. None of funds made available in this Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses of any officer or employee of the Executive Office of the President to prepare, sign, or approve statements abrogating legislation passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate and signed by the President.

SEC. 204. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses of any officer or employee of the Executive Office of the President to prepare or implement an Executive Order that contravenes existing law.

SEC. 205. (a) During fiscal year 2015, any Executive Order issued by the President shall include a statement from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget on the budgetary impact of the Executive Order.

(b) Any such statement shall include—

(1) a narrative summary of the costs and revenue impacts of such order on the Federal Government;

(2) the impact on mandatory and discretionary obligations and outlays, listed by Federal agency, for each year in the 5-fiscal year period beginning in fiscal year 2015; and

(3) the impact on revenues of the Federal Government over the 5-fiscal year period beginning in fiscal year 2015.

(c) If an Executive Order is issued during fiscal year 2015 due to a national emergency, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget may issue the statement required by subsection (a) not later than 15 days after the date that the Executive Order is issued.

This title may be cited as the ''Executive Office of the President Appropriations Act, 2015''.

TITLE III

THE JUDICIARY

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the operation of the Supreme Court, as required by law, excluding care of the building and grounds, including hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1343 and 1344; not to exceed $10,000 for official reception and representation expenses; and for miscellaneous expenses, to be expended as the Chief Justice may approve, $74,937,000, of which $2,000,000 shall remain available until expended.

In addition, there are appropriated such sums as may be necessary under current law for the salaries of the chief justice and associate justices of the court.

CARE OF THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS

For such expenditures as may be necessary to enable the Architect of the Capitol to carry out the duties imposed upon the Architect by 40 U.S.C. 6111 and 6112, $11,640,000, to remain available until expended.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FEDERAL CIRCUIT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries of officers and employees, and for necessary expenses of the court, as authorized by law, $30,192,000.

In addition, there are appropriated such sums as may be necessary under current law for the salaries of the chief judge and judges of the court.

UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries of officers and employees of the court, services, and necessary expenses of the court, as authorized by law, $17,807,000.

In addition, there are appropriated such sums as may be necessary under current law for the salaries of the chief judge and judges of the court.

COURTS OF APPEALS, DISTRICT COURTS, AND OTHER JUDICIAL SERVICES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For the salaries of judges of the United States Court of Federal Claims, magistrate judges, and all other officers and employees of the Federal Judiciary not otherwise specifically provided for, necessary expenses of the courts, and the purchase, rental, repair, and cleaning of uniforms for Probation and Pretrial Services Office staff, as authorized by law, $4,784,659,000 (including the purchase of firearms and ammunition); of which not to exceed $27,817,000 shall remain available until expended for space alteration projects and for costs related to new space alteration and construction projects; and of which not to exceed $10,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016, for the Integrated Workplace Initiative: *Provided*, That the amount provided for the Integrated Workplace Initiative shall not be available for obligation until the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts submits a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate showing that the estimated cost savings resulting from the Initiative will exceed the estimated amounts obligated for the Initiative.

□ 2130

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 41, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $42,000,000)''.

Page 67, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $43,000,000)''.

Page 71, line 3, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $43,000,000)''.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentleman from Arizona and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to offer an amendment to the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act for the fiscal year 2015.

My amendment is simple. It transfers resources from the General Services Administration, also known as GSA, to the U.S. Court of Appeals, the U.S. district courts, our Nation's bankruptcy courts, and other related judicial programs.

Specifically, it gives the U.S. court system an additional $42 million, and it comes directly from the wasteful spending within the GSA. The $42 million transfer to the courts will put their budget in line with the budget request for fiscal year '15.

Let me say that I have taken issue with government waste since my very first days in Congress. I knew it was

bad, but I did not fully comprehend how bad things were until I actually got here and started to get my hands dirty while digging around for waste, fraud, and abuse.

I take particular issue with the GSA. The mission of the GSA is to ''deliver the best value in real estate, acquisition, and technology services to government and the American people.''

Given the major GSA scandal involving wasting hundreds of thousands of dollars on conferences with clowns and fortunetellers and on YouTube rap videos, it is clear employees within this agency have lost sight of this mission.

Furthermore, by our government's own estimates, there may be 77,000 empty or underutilized buildings across the country. The Office of Management and Budget estimates these buildings could be wasting hard-earned taxpayer dollars at a rate of up to $1.7 billion a year—yes, $1.7 billion. That is astonishing.

We are even spending money on buildings that are completely empty because the grass needs mowing, the pipes must be maintained, the fences surrounding the buildings must be checked and repaired, and the list goes on and on.

Again, I truly appreciate and applaud the excellent work the committee has done on this bill. It is a particularly tough one to craft this year in the wake of the IRS scandals and others.

I do take issue with any increase whatsoever to GSA's budget for rental of space. We are wasting billions on empty buildings, and we are worried about billions in rental agreements—$5.5 billion in rental agreements.

I would also like to note that the amount proposed in the underlying bill is over $700 million more than the entire court system of the United States. We are talking the Supreme Court, appellate courts, circuit courts, bankruptcy courts, and other Justice offices and initiatives.

They are the third branch of government, and their budget is still $700 million less than the money spent on rental agreements.

The judiciary enforces the rule of law, and it administers justice in a fair and impartial manner. In fact, it is our justice system that is possibly America's most attractive component to others around the world that yearn to be free and have a fair day in court, those who yearn for rights under the law.

So, you see, there is something wrong with this disproportionate appropriation. One is for billions in waste, while the courts struggle with a steady rise in their caseload. Again, we are spending more than $700 million more on rent space than our courts, and we are wasting nearly $2 billion a year on buildings being empty or underutilized.

At this point, this amendment should speak for itself. We are wasting billions on rent when we have empty spaces all over the place. We must either sell the empty buildings or cut GSA's rental of space budget. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of my commonsense amendment.

I thank the chairman and ranking member for their continued leadership on the committee, and with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

In addition, there are appropriated such sums as may be necessary under current law for the salaries of circuit and district judges (including judges of the territorial courts of the United States), bankruptcy judges, and justices and judges retired from office or from regular active service.

In addition, for expenses of the United States Court of Federal Claims associated with processing cases under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986 (Public Law 99–660), not to exceed $5,423,000, to be appropriated from the Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund.

DEFENDER SERVICES

For the operation of Federal Defender organizations; the compensation and reimbursement of expenses of attorneys appointed to represent persons under 18 U.S.C. 3006A and 3599, and for the compensation and reimbursement of expenses of persons furnishing investigative, expert, and other services for such representations as authorized by law; the compensation (in accordance with the maximums under 18 U.S.C. 3006A) and reimbursement of expenses of attorneys appointed to assist the court in criminal cases where the defendant has waived representation by counsel; the compensation and reimbursement of expenses of attorneys appointed to represent jurors in civil actions for the protection of their employment, as authorized by 28 U.S.C. 1875(d)(1); the compensation and reimbursement of expenses of attorneys appointed under 18 U.S.C. 983(b)(1) in connection with certain judicial civil forfeiture proceedings; the compensation and reimbursement of travel expenses of guardians ad litem appointed under 18 U.S.C. 4100(b); and for necessary training and general administrative expenses, $1,044,394,000, to remain available until expended.

FEES OF JURORS AND COMMISSIONERS

For fees and expenses of jurors as authorized by 28 U.S.C. 1871 and 1876; compensation of jury commissioners as authorized by 28 U.S.C. 1863; and compensation of commissioners appointed in condemnation cases pursuant to rule 71.1(h) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (28 U.S.C. Appendix Rule 71.1(h)), $55,827,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the compensation of land commissioners shall not exceed the daily equivalent of the highest rate payable under 5 U.S.C. 5332.

COURT SECURITY

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, incident to the provision of protective guard services for United States courthouses and other facilities housing Federal court operations, and the procurement, installation, and maintenance of security systems and equipment for United States courthouses and other facilities housing Federal court operations, including building ingress-egress control, inspection of mail and packages, directed security patrols, perimeter security, basic security services provided by the Federal Protective Service, and other similar activities as authorized by section 1010 of the Judicial Improvement and Access to Justice Act (Public Law 100–702), $525,763,000, of which not to exceed $15,000,000 shall remain available until expended, to be expended directly or transferred to the United States Marshals Service, which shall be responsible for administering the Judicial Facility Security Program consistent with standards or guidelines agreed to by the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts and the Attorney General.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES COURTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts as authorized by law, including travel as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1345, hire of a passenger motor vehicle as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1343(b), advertising and rent in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, $82,824,000, of which not to exceed $8,500 is authorized for official reception and representation expenses.

FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Judicial Center, as authorized by Public Law 90–219, $26,724,000; of which $1,800,000 shall remain available through September 30, 2016, to provide education and training to Federal court personnel; and of which not to exceed $1,500 is authorized for official reception and representation expenses.

UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For the salaries and expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of chapter 58 of title 28, United States Code, $16,556,000, of which not to exceed $1,000 is authorized for official reception and representation expenses.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—THE JUDICIARY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 301. Appropriations and authorizations made in this title which are available for salaries and expenses shall be available for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109.

SEC. 302. Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Judiciary in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except ''Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services, Defender Services'' and ''Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services, Fees of Jurors and Commissioners'', shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers: *Provided*, That any transfer pursuant to this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under sections 604 and 608 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in section 608.

SEC. 303. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the salaries and expenses appropriation for ''Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services'' shall be available for official reception and representation expenses of the Judicial Conference of the United States: *Provided*, That such available funds shall not exceed $11,000 and shall be administered by the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts in the capacity as Secretary of the Judicial Conference.

SEC. 304. Section 3314(a) of title 40, United States Code, shall be applied by substituting ''Federal'' for ''executive'' each place it appears.

SEC. 305. In accordance with 28 U.S.C. 561–569, and notwithstanding any other provision

of law, the United States Marshals Service shall provide, for such courthouses as its Director may designate in consultation with the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, for purposes of a pilot program, the security services that 40 U.S.C. 1315 authorizes the Department of Homeland Security to provide, except for the services specified in 40 U.S.C. 1315(b)(2)(E). For building-specific security services at these courthouses, the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts shall reimburse the United States Marshals Service rather than the Department of Homeland Security.

SEC. 306. (a) Section 203(c) of the Judicial Improvements Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–650; 28 U.S.C. 133 note), is amended in the second sentence (relating to the District of Kansas) following paragraph (12), by striking ''23 years and 6 months'' and inserting ''24 years and 6 months''.

(b) Section 406 of the Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, the District of Columbia, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109-115; 119 Stat. 2470; 28 U.S.C. 133 note) is amended in the second sentence (relating to the eastern District of Missouri) by striking ''21 years and 6 months'' and inserting ''22 years and 6 months''.

(c) Section 312(c)(2) of the 21st Century Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act (Public Law 107–273; 28 U.S.C. 133 note), is amended—

(1) in the first sentence by striking ''12 years'' and inserting ''13 years'';

(2) in the second sentence (relating to the central District of California), by striking ''11 years and 6 months'' and inserting ''12 years and 6 months''; and

(3) in the third sentence (relating to the western District of North Carolina), by striking ''10 years'' and inserting ''11 years''.

SEC. 307. Section 84(b) of title 28, United States Code, is amended in the second sentence by inserting ''Bakersfield,'' after ''shall be held at''.

This title may be cited as the ''Judiciary Appropriations Act, 2015''.

TITLE IV

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FEDERAL FUNDS

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR RESIDENT TUITION SUPPORT

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia, to be deposited into a dedicated account, for a nationwide program to be administered by the Mayor, for District of Columbia resident tuition support, $20,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such funds, including any interest accrued thereon, may be used on behalf of eligible District of Columbia residents to pay an amount based upon the difference between in-State and out-of-State tuition at public institutions of higher education, or to pay up to $2,500 each year at eligible private institutions of higher education: *Provided further*, That the awarding of such funds may be prioritized on the basis of a resident's academic merit, the income and need of eligible students and such other factors as may be authorized: *Provided further*, That the District of Columbia government shall maintain a dedicated account for the Resident Tuition Support Program that shall consist of the Federal funds appropriated to the Program in this Act and any subsequent appropriations, any unobligated balances from prior fiscal years, and any interest earned in this or any fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the account shall be under the control of the District of Columbia Chief Financial Officer, who shall use those funds solely for the purposes of carrying out the Resident Tuition Support Program: *Provided further*, That the Office of the Chief Financial Officer shall provide a quarterly financial report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for these funds showing, by object class, the expenditures made and the purpose therefor.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR EMERGENCY PLANNING AND SECURITY COSTS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

For a Federal payment of necessary expenses, as determined by the Mayor of the District of Columbia in written consultation with the elected county or city officials of surrounding jurisdictions, $10,000,000, to remain available until expended, for the costs of providing public safety at events related to the presence of the National Capital in the District of Columbia, including support requested by the Director of the United States Secret Service in carrying out protective duties under the direction of the Secretary of Homeland Security, and for the costs of providing support to respond to immediate and specific terrorist threats or attacks in the District of Columbia or surrounding jurisdictions.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS

For salaries and expenses for the District of Columbia Courts, $234,400,000 to be allocated as follows: for the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, $13,400,000, of which not to exceed $2,500 is for official reception and representation expenses; for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, $115,000,000, of which not to exceed $2,500 is for official reception and representation expenses; for the District of Columbia Court System, $70,000,000, of which not to exceed $2,500 is for official reception and representation expenses; and $36,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, for capital improvements for District of Columbia courthouse facilities: *Provided*, That funds made available for capital improvements shall be expended consistent with the District of Columbia Courts master plan study and facilities condition assessment: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, all amounts under this heading shall be apportioned quarterly by the Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same manner as funds appropriated for salaries and expenses of other Federal agencies: *Provided further*, That, 30 days after providing written notice to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the District of Columbia Courts may reallocate not more than $6,000,000 of the funds provided under this heading among the items and entities funded under this heading: *Provided further*, That, the Joint Committee on Judicial Administration in the District of Columbia may, by regulation, establish a program substantially similar to the program set forth in subchapter II of chapter 35 of title 5, United States Code, for employees of the District of Columbia Courts.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR DEFENDER SERVICES IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS

For payments authorized under section 11–2604 and section 11–2605, D.C. Official Code (relating to representation provided under the District of Columbia Criminal Justice Act), payments for counsel appointed in proceedings in the Family Court of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia under chapter 23 of title 16, D.C. Official Code, or pursuant to contractual agreements to provide guardian ad litem representation, training, technical assistance, and such other services as are necessary to improve the quality of guardian ad litem representation, payments for counsel appointed in adoption proceedings under chapter 3 of title 16, D.C. Official Code, and payments authorized under section 21–2060, D.C. Official Code (relating to services provided under the District of Columbia Guardianship, Protective Proceedings, and Durable Power of Attorney Act of 1986), $49,890,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds provided under this heading shall be administered by the Joint Committee on Judicial Administration in the District of Columbia: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, this appropriation shall be apportioned quarterly by the Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same manner as funds appropriated for expenses of other Federal agencies.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE COURT SERVICES AND OFFENDER SUPERVISION AGENCY FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

For salaries and expenses, including the transfer and hire of motor vehicles, of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia, as authorized by the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997, $228,500,000, of which not to exceed $2,000 is for official reception and representation expenses related to Community Supervision and Pretrial Services Agency program, of which not to exceed $25,000 is for dues and assessments relating to the implementation of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency Interstate Supervision Act of 2002; of which $169,000,000 shall be for necessary expenses of Community Supervision and Sex Offender Registration, to include expenses relating to the supervision of adults subject to protection orders or the provision of services for or related to such persons, of which up to $6,990,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017, for the relocation of an offender supervision field office; and of which $59,500,000 shall be available to the Pretrial Services Agency: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, all amounts under this heading shall be apportioned quarterly by the Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same manner as funds appropriated for salaries and expenses of other Federal agencies: *Provided further*, That amounts under this heading may be used for programmatic incentives for offenders and defendants successfully meeting terms of supervision: *Provided further*, That the Director is authorized to accept and use gifts in the form of in-kind contributions of the following: space and hospitality to support offender and defendant programs; equipment, supplies, and vocational training services necessary to sustain, educate, and train offenders and defendants, including their dependent children; and programmatic incentives for offenders and defendants meeting terms of supervision: *Provided further*, That the Director shall keep accurate and detailed records of the acceptance and use of any gift under the previous proviso, and shall make such records available for audit and public inspection: *Provided further*, That the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency Director is authorized to accept and use reimbursement from the District of Columbia Government for space and services provided on a cost reimbursable basis.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE

For salaries and expenses, including the transfer and hire of motor vehicles, of the District of Columbia Public Defender Service, as authorized by the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997, $41,000,000: *Provided*,

That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, all amounts under this heading shall be apportioned quarterly by the Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same manner as funds appropriated for salaries and expenses of Federal agencies: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding section 1342 of title 31, United States Code, and in addition to the authority provided by section 307(b) of the District of Columbia Court Reform and Criminal Procedure Act (sec. 2-1607(b), D.C. Official Code), upon approval of the Board of Trustees of the District of Columbia Public Defender Service, the District of Columbia Public Defender Service may accept and use voluntary and uncompensated services for the purpose of aiding or facilitating the work of the District of Columbia Public Defender Service.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

For a Federal payment to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, $1,900,000, to remain available until expended, to support initiatives related to the coordination of Federal and local criminal justice resources in the District of Columbia.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR JUDICIAL COMMISSIONS

For a Federal payment, to remain available until September 30, 2016, to the Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure, $295,000, and for the Judicial Nomination Commission, $255,000.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

For a Federal payment for a school improvement program in the District of Columbia, $45,000,000, to remain available until expended, for payments authorized under the Scholarship for Opportunity and Results Act (division C of Public Law 112–10): *Provided*, That, to the extent that funds are available for opportunity scholarships and following the priorities included in section 3006 of such Act, the Secretary of Education shall make scholarships available to students eligible under section 3013(3) of such Act (Public Law 112–10; 125 Stat. 211) including students who were not offered a scholarship during any previous school year: *Provided further*, That within funds provided for opportunity scholarships $3,000,000 shall be for the activities specified in sections 3007(b) through 3007(d) and 3009 of the Act.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NATIONAL GUARD

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia National Guard, $375,000, to remain available until expended for the Major General David F. Wherley, Jr. District of Columbia National Guard Retention and College Access Program.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR TESTING AND TREATMENT OF HIV/AIDS

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia for the testing of individuals for, and the treatment of individuals with, human immunodeficiency virus and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome in the District of Columbia, $5,000,000.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FUNDS

Local funds are appropriated for the District of Columbia for the current fiscal year out of the General Fund of the District of Columbia (''General Fund'') for programs and activities set forth under the heading ''District of Columbia Funds Summary of Expenses'' and at the rate set forth under such heading, as included in the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Request Act of 2014 submitted to the Congress by the District of Columbia as amended as of the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, except as provided in section 450A of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (section 1-204.50a, D.C. Official Code), sections 816 and 817 of the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2009 (secs. 47-369.01 and 47-369.02, D.C. Official Code), and provisions of this Act, the total amount appropriated in this Act for operating expenses for the District of Columbia for fiscal year 2015 under this heading shall not exceed the estimates included in the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Request Act of 2014 submitted to Congress by the District of Columbia as amended as of the date of enactment of this Act or the sum of the total revenues of the District of Columbia for such fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the amount appropriated may be increased by proceeds of one-time transactions, which are expended for emergency or unanticipated operating or capital needs: *Provided further*, That such increases shall be approved by enactment of local District law and shall comply with all reserve requirements contained in the District of Columbia Home Rule Act: *Provided further*, That the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia shall take such steps as are necessary to assure that the District of Columbia meets these requirements, including the apportioning by the Chief Financial Officer of the appropriations and funds made available to the District during fiscal year 2015, except that the Chief Financial Officer may not reprogram for operating expenses any funds derived from bonds, notes, or other obligations issued for capital projects.

This title may be cited as the ''District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2015''.

TITLE V

INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Administrative Conference of the United States, authorized by 5 U.S.C. 591 et seq., $3,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which not to exceed $1,000 is for official reception and representation expenses.

BUREAU OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 501. Section 1017(a)(2)(C) of Public Law 111–203 is repealed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. MOORE

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 59, beginning on line 20, strike section 501.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentlewoman from Wisconsin and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wisconsin.

Ms. MOORE. I will tell you, Mr. Chair, if the Affordable Care Act, so-called ObamaCare, is the ultimate tempest for the Tea Party pot, then I guess the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the CFPB, is a very, very close second.

Since assuming the majority in 2010, House Republicans have passed bill after bill to gut and undermine the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Frankly, I have just lost track of all the bills and attempts by the majority to undermine our Nation's top financial consumer watchdog.

It is well documented that Congress wanted its funding to be free of political influence when it created the Bureau. In order to protect the consumers, it needed to be free of political influence.

So, Mr. Chair, my amendment strikes the provision in the Financial Services Appropriations bill, section 501, that the House is considering today, as it is nothing more than yet another effort by the majority to derail the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau from its mission to protect consumers.

Originally, I had my staff draft an amendment to delete sections 501 and 502, but after consulting with the CBO, I was informed that striking section 502 would score as a cost to the bill.

I wanted to make sure that there would be no objection based on adding a cost to the bill, so in order to make my amendment in order, my amendment just strikes section 501 and not 502.

Let me be clear, Mr. Chairman, both sections 501 and 502 of the bill before us today undermine the CFPB. They would alter the independent funding process and vision for the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau that was established in Dodd-Frank, the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

This is consistent with other independent banking regulatory agencies. Other independent banking regulatory agencies are not at the beck and call of the Appropriations Committee and whoever is in control of the political environment.

What has the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, our Nation's consumer watchdog, done for us lately? What has it done for consumers?

Well, Mr. Chair, the agency has refunded $3 billion to 9.7 million victims of unfair, deceptive, and abusive practices in financial markets since 2011. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has helped millions of people and has stopped fraud.

The dedicated mission of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, to protect consumers of financial products from fraud and deceptive schemes, inspires trust in our markets, which attracts capital and promotes the allocation of capital to productive, legitimate endeavors.

□ 2145

The CFPB is the tough cop on Wall Street, but it is also the fair cop on the Wall Street beat.

The amendment before you, Mr. Chair, that I am offering affirms the current independent funding source for the CFPB, which is the best way to preserve the integrity and independence of the agency.

Now, I know that Republicans plead that this provision is about oversight or transparency. But when you scratch the surface, you will realize that the claim is just not credible. It is just yet another attempt to undermine the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, and, ultimately, it seeks to defund the CFPB and make it a paper tiger. It

seeks a return to the bad old days, Mr. Chair, and bad old ways that set the stage for the 2008 financial crisis.

I really do urge all Members to support my amendment and to support the working independence of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau so the agency may continue to ensure U.S. markets are the fairest and most robust in the world.

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

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, congressional oversight makes agencies both more responsive and more responsible.

The Dodd-Frank Act authorizes the CFPB to fund itself by drawing money from the Federal Reserve to the extent that the Bureau Director deems necessary—necessary—that is all he has to say. Now, the Fed doesn't oversee the Bureau. They don't exercise any authority over it, but they must transfer whatever funds the Bureau requests, up to $600 million. And since 2011, the Bureau has diverted over $1.5 billion—$1.5 billion—from the Fed, and those are funds that would otherwise be applied for deficit reduction, without any congressional input or approval of its activities.

And listen to this: of that money that the Bureau has received, they are now planning to spend more on renovating and redecorating a building than the building is actually worth. The inspector general of the Federal Reserve, which has oversight of the Bureau, also found that the Bureau needs to improve its recordkeeping and controls around the government travel cards, purchase cards, conferences, information, security, and procurement.

So section 501 neither abolishes the Bureau nor limits the Bureau's funding. Instead, it simply allows Congress and all Americans to understand what they do, how they do it, and how much it costs.

Mr. Chairman, I urge a ''no'' vote.

I would now like to yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO), my ranking member.

Mr. SERRANO. With all due to respect to my colleague, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, when the bill was being written, I recall going to the sponsors of this bill both here and the Senate and saying make sure that this agency is under appropriation supervision, under supervision of the House of Representatives. And I still believe that part of the fiscal crisis which we are still living under was the lack of supervision over the SEC and over the actions of Wall Street. So I am strongly in support of having them answer to us and at least have input from the people's House—from the people's Representatives—to ask them to come before us and tell us what they are doing.

It sounds great for many Members to have an agency be on its own and do the right thing. But past history shows us that when we did that, when we did not supervise, and when we did not have oversight, it did just the opposite.

I am from New York, Mr. Chairman, and I tell you that Wall Street went berserk because we did not pay attention, we did not do oversight, and we did not hold them accountable. So I would hope that we defeat this amendment with all due respect to my colleague.

Ms. MOORE. Well, I can tell you, Mr. Chairman, Wall Street went berserk because we didn't fund the SEC and the CFTC. That is the problem. These watchdog agencies are charged with an onerous task, and we don't provide the appropriations, and this is what is going to happen to the CFPB, as well, under this bill.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, accountability and transparency are good things. I urge a ''no'' vote on this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Wisconsin will be postponed.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk that affects line 18, I believe.

The Acting CHAIR. The Chair notes that the amendment addresses a portion of the bill not yet read for amendment.

Is there objection to consideration of the amendment at this time?

Mr. CRENSHAW. Yes, Mr. Chairman, there is an objection.

The Acting CHAIR. Objection is heard.

The Clerk will read the next paragraph.

The Clerk read as follows:

SEC. 502. Effective October 1, 2015, notwithstanding section 1017 of Public Law 111–203—

(1) the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System shall not transfer amounts specified under such section to the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection; and

(2) there are authorized to be appropriated to the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection such sums as may be necessary to carry out the authorities of the Bureau under Federal consumer financial law.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. WATERS

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 60, line 2, strike ''and''.

Page 60, strike lines 3 through 7 and insert the following:

(2) the Director of the Bureau may collect an assessment, fee, or other charge from any entity (defined as any bank holding company with more than $50,000,000,000 in assets or any nonbank financial holding company with respect to which a determination has been made pursuant to section 113 of Public Law 111-203) equal to the amount the Director determines is necessary and appropriate to carry out the responsibilities of the Bureau;

(3) funds derived from any assessment, fee, or charge collected or payment made pursuant to this section shall not be construed to be Government funds or appropriated monies, and shall not be subject to apportionment for purposes of chapter 15 of title 31 or any other provision of law; and

(4) the Director shall have sole authority to determine the manner in which the obligations of the Bureau shall be incurred and its disbursements and expenses allowed and paid, in accordance with this section.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the gentlewoman's amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. A point of order is reserved.

Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentlewoman from California and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to offer an amendment that will address provisions within this legislation that threaten the independent funding of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, an agency that has been remarkably successful in standing up for consumers and taxpayers who have been subject to the deceptive practices of bad actors in our financial system.

To those who have ever fallen victim to a payday or predatory loan, to those who have had a dispute with a credit card company over excessive late fees or interest rates, to those who have had issues with a bank account, mortgage loan, or even a credit score, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is your watchdog. It is your advocate. It is your cop on the beat. And, thus far, your advocate has done an outstanding job. To date, 12.6 million consumers have received more than $3.8 billion in direct refunds because of the CFPB's enforcement actions.

In large part, the CFPB is able to accomplish these tasks because of its political independence. It is able to prosecute bad actors without regard for the political blow-back. This is directly due to the CFPB's independent funding stream. But, Mr. Chairman, this legislation would end the Bureau's independence by tying its funding to the highly political congressional appropriations process.

The result will be a weakened CFPB, one unable to properly advocate on behalf of our Nation's consumers. And if enacted into law, we would be one step closer to the Republican goal of ending the CFPB altogether—and its work on behalf of our students, seniors, families, and servicemembers.

Mr. Chairman, my amendment would end this reckless attempt to politicize

consumer protection by removing this provision and replacing it with language that allows the Bureau to maintain its independent funding.

Unfortunately, the rules of the House make it impossible to restore CFPB's current funding mechanism. Therefore, this amendment funds the Bureau through the collection of a fee imposed upon banks and financial institutions that have more than $50 billion in assets. I hope my colleagues on the other side would agree with an approach that preserves the independence of our Nation's only consumer financial watchdog without costing taxpayers a dime.

Mr. Chairman, while it is certainly a possibility, ruling this amendment out of order would simply demonstrate the hypocrisy of the Republican Party. Last week, in a letter to Chairman SESSIONS, I expressed my concerns about this and other provisions that inappropriately legislate on an appropriations bill. I asked him not to protect these from a point of order. Since he and his Republican colleagues have refused, I am now forced to offer this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to include for the RECORD this letter.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, July 9, 2014.

Hon. PETE SESSIONS,
Chairman, Committee on Rules,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SESSIONS: I write to respectfully request that the Committee on Rules not protect sections 125, 501, 625, 626 and 632 of H.R. 5016, the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act of 2015, from points of order, as these sections place improper funding restrictions on our financial regulatory agencies and inappropriately authorize on an appropriations bill.

Specifically, section 125 of H.R. 5016 places improper funding restrictions on the Office of Financial Research (OFR), the office specifically created in the wake of the worst financial crisis to study systemic risk across the U.S. economy and inform the decisions of the Financial Stability Oversight Council (FSOC). Section 155 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (P.L. 111–203) explicitly funds the OFR through assessments on both bank holding companies with more than $50 billion in assets and nonbank financial companies supervised by the Federal Reserve. Congress provided the OFR with a funding source similar to many FSOC member agencies to ensure that the OFR always had sufficient funding to conduct the research needed to monitor threats to our financial system. Section 125 disregards existing law by subjecting the OFR to the appropriations process beginning in 2015.

Additionally, section 501 of H.R. 5016 consists of legislating on an appropriations bill. This section alters section 1017 of the Dodd-Frank Act, which establishes the process by which operations of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau are independently funded by the Federal Reserve System. It has been well-established that Congress intended for the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's funding to be free of political influence, similar to other independent banking regulatory agencies. Sources of funding for the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau have been appropriately debated during the current Congress in the authorizing Committee of jurisdiction. I therefore ask that section 501 be exposed to a point of order.

Further, several sections of H.R. 5016 place improper restrictions on the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). In particular, section 625 prevents the SEC from spending from the Reserve Fund for the next year. The Reserve Fund was created under section 991 of the Dodd-Frank Act in order to facilitate long-range planning and budgeting by the Commission, particularly since the Commission's technology systems have traditionally lagged behind dramatic market changes. Also, the Reserve Fund was created because Congress recognized that the Commission requires resources to respond to unforeseen crises such as the so-called ''Flash Crash'' of May 2010, when U.S. stock markets plummeted approximately 9 percent in just a few minutes. Congress already has robust oversight over the use of the Reserve Fund, with the SEC required under the Dodd-Frank Act to notify the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Appropriations within 10 days of making a Reserve Fund obligation. Section 625 would overturn existing law, and create uncertainty both for the future of the SEC's efforts as well as the stability of our financial markets.

Additionally, section 626 of H.R. 5016 violates Rule XXI, clause 2, by making changes to SEC's existing authority to regulate the disclosure of material information, which may include political contributions made by corporations. The SEC has broad authority to protect investors by requiring that companies disclose information to the public so that investors can make informed decisions. Although there are questions as to whether political contributions made by companies are material to investors, section 626 would prevent the SEC from even considering this issue. As a result, this provision would hamstring our securities regulator from fulfilling its statutory mandate.

Finally, section 632 of H.R. 5016 consists of legislating on an appropriations bill. This section would substantially alter section 716 of the Dodd-Frank Act, which requires financial institutions with access to the federal banking safety net to spin-off certain swaps dealing activities to separately capitalized affiliates. The underlying section in Dodd-Frank is subject to significant debate, and its inclusion in a spending bill is inappropriate. I therefore also ask that section 632 be exposed to a point of order.

In order to uphold the integrity of the appropriations process, I ask that the Committee on Rules submit to the requests contained within this letter. The funding process for our financial regulatory agencies should not be used as a way to side-step the proper role of authorizing Committees in Congress.

Sincerely,

MAXINE WATERS,
Ranking Member.

Ms. WATERS. My amendment is a simple effort to ensure the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau remains an effective advocate for American consumers. It is an attempt to correct just one of many bad provisions in this legislation, which underfunds our Wall Street regulators, impedes our ability to identify systemic risk across the United States, and harms the ability of regulators to properly protect our Nation's investors and retirees.

Mr. Chairman, I am saddened to be back here fighting to preserve the CFPB. I am disappointed that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have aligned themselves with predatory lenders and other bad actors in the financial system at the expense of protecting consumers. It is shameful that, once again, this House is forced to spend precious time and resources tearing down this first-of-its-kind agency which ensures that consumers have an advocate at the highest levels of government—with the power to fight for them.

So I would urge the adoption of this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I make a point of order against the amendment because it proposes to change existing law, and it constitutes legislation in an appropriation bill and, therefore, violates clause 2 of rule XXI.

□ 2200

The rule states in pertinent part:

''An amendment to a general appropriation bill shall not be in order if changing existing law.''

The amendment confers new authority.

I ask for a ruling from the Chair.

The Acting CHAIR. Does any other Member wish to be heard on the point of order?

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chairman, I would like to be heard on the point of order.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from California is recognized.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chairman, as I said in my earlier presentation, I sent a letter to Chairman SESSIONS, and I expressed my concerns about this and other provisions that inappropriately legislate on an appropriations bill. While the gentleman from the opposite side of the aisle is saying that this is inappropriate, certainly it has been inappropriate to legislate on this appropriations in the way that they have done in order to remove the protection from the CFPB and allow it to be at the mercy of the politics of the appropriations process in this House, and so I would ask that my amendment be recognized and that we would have a vote on this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Does any other Member wish to be heard on the point of order?

If not, the Chair is prepared to rule.

The Chair finds that this amendment includes language conferring authority. The amendment, therefore, constitutes legislation in violation of clause 2 of rule XXI. The point of order is sustained, and the amendment is not in order.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

SEC. 503. (a) During fiscal year 2015, on the date that a request is made for a transfer of funds in accordance with section 1017 of Public Law 111–203, the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection shall notify Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate of such requests.

(b)(1) Any such notification shall include the amount of the fundsrequested, an explanation of how the funds will be obligated by

object class and activity, and why the funds are necessary to protect consumers.

(2) Any notification required by this section shall be made available on the Bureau's public website.

SEC. 504. (a) Not later than 2 weeks after the end of each quarter of each fiscal year, the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection shall submit a report on its activities to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

(b) The reports required under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) the obligations made during the previous quarter by object class, office, and activity;

(2) the estimated obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year by object class, office, and activity;

(3) the number of full-time equivalents within each office during the previous quarter;

(4) the estimated number of full-time equivalents within each office for the remainder of the fiscal year; and

(5) actions taken to achieve the goals, objectives, and performance measures of each office.

(c) At the request of any such committee specified in subsection (a), the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection shall make Bureau officials available to testify on the contents of the reports required under subsection (a).

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, including hire of passenger motor vehicles, services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the maximum rate payable under 5 U.S.C. 5376, and not to exceed $4,000 for official reception and representation expenses, $118,000,000.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Communications Commission, as authorized by law, including uniforms and allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902; not to exceed $4,000 for official reception and representation expenses; purchase and hire of motor vehicles; special counsel fees; and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, $322,748,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That $322,748,000of offsetting collections shall be assessed and collected pursuant to section 9 of title I of the Communications Act of 1934, shall be retained and used for necessary expenses and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2015 so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation estimated at $0: *Provided further*, That any offsetting collections received in excess of $322,748,000 in fiscal year 2015 shall not be available for obligation: *Provided further*, That remaining offsetting collections from prior years collected in excess of the amount specified for collection in each such year and otherwise becoming available on October 1, 2014, shall not be available for obligation: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 47 U.S.C. 309(j)(8)(B), proceeds from the use of a competitive bidding system that may be retained and made available for obligation shall not exceed $106,000,000 for fiscal year 2015: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, not less than $11,090,000 shall be for the salaries and expenses of the Office of Inspector General.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $34,568,000, to be derived from the Deposit Insurance Fund or, only when appropriate, the FSLIC Resolution Fund.

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, $67,500,000, of which not to exceed $5,000 shall be available for reception and representation expenses.

FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out functions of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, pursuant to Reorganization Plan Numbered 2 of 1978, and the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, including services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, and including hire of experts and consultants, hire of passenger motor vehicles, and including official reception and representation expenses (not to exceed $1,500) and rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, $25,500,000: *Provided*, That public members of the Federal Service Impasses Panel may be paid travel expenses and per diem in lieu of subsistence as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5703) for persons employed intermittently in the Government service, and compensation as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, funds received from fees charged to non-Federal participants at labor-management relations conferences shall be credited to and merged with this account, to be available without further appropriation for the costs of carrying out these conferences.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Trade Commission, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; hire of passenger motor vehicles; and not to exceed $2,000 for official reception and representation expenses, $293,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed $300,000 shall be available for use to contract with a person or persons for collection services in accordance with the terms of 31 U.S.C. 3718: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, not to exceed $100,000,000 of offsetting collections derived from fees collected for premerger notification filings under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976 (15 U.S.C. 18a), regardless of the year of collection, shall be retained and used for necessary expenses in this appropriation: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, not to exceed $14,000,000 in offsetting collections derived from fees sufficient to implement and enforce the Telemarketing Sales Rule, promulgated under the Telemarketing and Consumer Fraud and Abuse Prevention Act (15 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.), shall be credited to this account, and be retained and used for necessary expenses in this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2015, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than $179,000,000: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to the Federal Trade Commission may be used to implement subsection (e)(2)(B) of section 43 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1831t).

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

REAL PROPERTY ACTIVITIES

FEDERAL BUILDINGS FUND

LIMITATIONS ON AVAILABILITY OF REVENUE

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Amounts in the Fund, including revenues and collections deposited into the Fund shall be available for necessary expenses of real property management and related activities not otherwise provided for, including operation, maintenance, and protection of federally owned and leased buildings; rental of buildings in the District of Columbia; restoration of leased premises; moving governmental agencies (including space adjustments and telecommunications relocation expenses) in connection with the assignment, allocation and transfer of space; contractual services incident to cleaning or servicing buildings, and moving; repair and alteration of federally owned buildings including grounds, approaches and appurtenances; care and safeguarding of sites; maintenance, preservation, demolition, and equipment; acquisition of buildings and sites by purchase, condemnation, or as otherwise authorized by law; acquisition of options to purchase buildings and sites; conversion and extension of federally owned buildings; preliminary planning and design of projects by contract or otherwise; construction of new buildings (including equipment for such buildings); and payment of principal, interest, and any other obligations for public buildings acquired by installment purchase and purchase contract; in the aggregate amount of $9,130,409,000, of which—

(1) $420,460,000 shall remain available until expended for construction and acquisition (including funds for sites and expenses, and associated design and construction services) of additional projects at—

(A) California, Calexico, Calexico West Land Port of Entry, $98,062,000;

(B) California, San Diego, San Ysidro Land Port of Entry, $216,828,000; and

(C) New York, Alexandria Bay, Land Port of Entry, $105,570,000:

Provided, That each of the foregoing limits of costs on new construction and acquisition projects may be exceeded to the extent that savings are effected in other such projects, but not to exceed 10 percent of the amounts included in a transmitted prospectus, if required, unless advance approval is obtained from the Committees on Appropriations of a greater amount;

(2) $965,817,000 shall remain available until expended for repairs and alterations, including associated design and construction services, of which—

(A) $402,282,000 is for Major Repairs and Alterations;

(B) $378,535,000 is for Basic Repairs and Alterations; and

(C) $185,000,000 is for Special Emphasis Programs, of which—

(i) $40,000,000 is for Fire and Life Safety;

(ii) $100,000,000 is for Consolidation Activities: *Provided*, That consolidation projects result in reduced annual rent paid by the tenant agency: *Provided further*, That no consolidation project exceed $10,000,000 in costs: *Provided further*, That consolidation projects are approved by each of the committees specified in section 3307(a) of title 40, United States Code: *Provided further*, That preference is given to consolidation projects that achieve a utilization rate of 130 usable square feet or less per person for office space: *Provided further*, That the obligation of funds under this paragraph for consolidation activities may not be made until 10 days after

a proposed spending plan and explanation for each project to be undertaken, including estimated savings, has been submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate;

(iii) $20,000,000, Judiciary Court Security Program; and

(iv) $25,000,000 is for Real Property Disposal: *Provided*, That disposal projects result in reduced annual operating costs: *Provided further*, That preference is given to disposal projects that are excess or surplus and have the highest fair market value and the greatest potential to sell: *Provided further*, That the obligation of funds under this paragraph for property disposal activities may not be made until 10 days after a proposed spending plan and explanation for each project to be undertaken, including estimated savings, has been submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate:

Provided further, That the amounts provided in this or any prior Act for ''Repairs and Alterations'' may be used to fund costs associated with implementing security improvements to buildings necessary to meet the minimum standards for security in accordance with current law and in compliance with the reprogramming guidelines of the appropriate Committees of the House and Senate: *Provided further*, That the difference between the funds appropriated and expended on any projects in this or any prior Act, under the heading ''Repairs and Alterations'', may be transferred to Basic Repairs and Alterations or used to fund authorized increases in prospectus projects: *Provided further*, That the amount provided in this or any prior Act for Basic Repairs and Alterations may be used to pay claims against the Government arising from any projects under the heading ''Repairs and Alterations'' or used to fund authorized increases in prospectus projects;

(3) $5,500,000,000 for rental of space to remain available until expended; and

(4) $2,244,132,000 for building operations to remain available until expended, of which $1,122,727,000 is for building services, and $1,121,405,000 is for salaries and expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available under this paragraph for building operations may be transferred between and merged with such appropriations upon notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 5 percent by any such transfers: *Provided further*, That section 508 of this title shall not apply with respect to funds made available under this heading for building operations:

Provided further, That the total amount of funds made available from this Fund to the General Services Administration shall not be available for expenses of any construction, repair, alteration and acquisition project for which a prospectus, if required by 40 U.S.C. 3307(a), has not been approved, except that necessary funds may be expended for each project for required expenses for the development of a proposed prospectus: *Provided further*, That funds available in the Federal Buildings Fund may be expended for emergency repairs when advance approval is obtained from the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That amounts necessary to provide reimbursable special services to other agencies under 40 U.S.C. 592(b)(2) and amounts to provide such reimbursable fencing, lighting, guard booths, and other facilities on private or other property not in Government ownership or control as may be appropriate to enable the United States Secret Service to perform its protective functions pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 3056, shall be available from such revenues and collections: *Provided further*, That revenues and collections and any other sums accruing to this Fund during fiscal year 2015, excluding reimbursements under 40 U.S.C. 592(b)(2) in excess of the aggregate new obligational authority authorized for Real Property Activities of the Federal Buildings Fund in this Act shall remain in the Fund and shall not be available for expenditure except as authorized in appropriations Acts.

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

GOVERNMENT-WIDE POLICY

For expenses authorized by law, not otherwise provided for, for Government-wide policy and evaluation activities associated with the management of real and personal property assets and certain administrative services; Government-wide policy support responsibilities relating to acquisition, travel, motor vehicles, information technology management, and related technology activities; and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; $58,000,000.

OPERATING EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses authorized by law, not otherwise provided for, for Government-wide activities associated with utilization and donation of surplus personal property; disposal of real property; agency-wide policy direction, management, and communications; the Civilian Board of Contract Appeals; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; $61,049,000, of which $26,328,000 is for Real and Personal Property Management and Disposal; $25,729,000 is for the Office of the Administrator, of which not to exceed $7,500 is for official reception and representation expenses; and $8,992,000 is for the Civilian Board of Contract Appeals: *Provided further*, That not to exceed 5 percent of the appropriation made available under this heading for Office of the Administrator may be transferred to the appropriation for the Real and Personal Property Management and Disposal upon notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, but the appropriation for the Real and Personal Property Management and Disposal may not be increased by more than 5 percent by any such transfer.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General and service authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, $65,000,000, of which $2,000,000 is available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed $50,000 shall be available for payment for information and detection of fraud against the Government, including payment for recovery of stolen Government property: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $2,500 shall be available for awards to employees of other Federal agencies and private citizens in recognition of efforts and initiatives resulting in enhanced Office of Inspector General effectiveness.

ALLOWANCES AND OFFICE STAFF FOR FORMER PRESIDENTS

For carrying out the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1958 (3 U.S.C. 102 note), and Public Law 95–138, $1,672,000.

FEDERAL CITIZEN SERVICES FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of Citizen Services and Innovative Technologies, including services authorized by 40 U.S.C. 323 and 44 U.S.C. 3604; and for necessary expenses in support of interagency projects that enable the Federal Government to enhance its ability to conduct activities electronically, through the development and implementation of innovative uses of information technology; $53,294,000, to be deposited into the Federal Citizen Services Fund: *Provided*, That the previous amount may be transferred to Federal agencies to carry out the purpose of the Federal Citizen Services Fund: *Provided further*, That the appropriations, revenues, reimbursements, and collections deposited into the Fund shall be available until expended for necessary expenses of Federal Citizen Services and other activities that enable the Federal Government to enhance its ability to conduct activities electronically in the aggregate amount not to exceed $90,000,000: *Provided further*, That appropriations revenues, reimbursements, and collections accruing to this Fund during fiscal year 2015 in excess of such amount shall remain in the Fund and shall not be available for expenditure except as authorized in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That any appropriations provided to the Electronic Government Fund that remain unobligated as of September 30, 2014, may be transferred to the Federal Citizen Services Fund: *Provided further*, That the transfer authorities provided herein shall be in addition to any other transfer authority provided in this Act.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 507. Funds available to the General Services Administration shall be available for the hire of passenger motor vehicles.

SEC. 508. Funds in the Federal Buildings Fund made available for fiscal year 2015 for Federal Buildings Fund activities may be transferred between such activities only to the extent necessary to meet program requirements: *Provided*, That any proposed transfers shall be approved in advance by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 509. Except as otherwise provided in this title, funds made available by this Act shall be used to transmit a fiscal year 2016 request for United States Courthouse construction only if the request: (1) meets the design guide standards for construction as established and approved by the General Services Administration, the Judicial Conference of the United States, and the Office of Management and Budget; (2) reflects the priorities of the Judicial Conference of the United States as set out in its approved 5-year construction plan; and (3) includes a standardized courtroom utilization study of each facility to be constructed, replaced, or expanded.

SEC. 510. None of the funds provided in this Act may be used to increase the amount of occupiable square feet, provide cleaning services, security enhancements, or any other service usually provided through the Federal Buildings Fund, to any agency that does not pay the rate per square foot assessment for space and services as determined by the General Services Administration in consideration of the Public Buildings Amendments Act of 1972 (Public Law 92–313).

SEC. 511. From funds made available under the heading ''Federal Buildings Fund, Limitations on Availability of Revenue'', claims against the Government of less than $250,000 arising from direct construction projects and acquisition of buildings may be liquidated from savings effected in other construction projects with prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 512. In any case in which the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate adopt a resolution granting lease authority pursuant to a prospectus transmitted to Congress by the Administrator of the General Services Administration under 40 U.S.C. 3307, the Administrator shall ensure that the delineated area

of procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus for all lease agreements, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to each of such committees and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in the resolution.

MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out functions of the Merit Systems Protection Board pursuant to Reorganization Plan Numbered 2 of 1978, the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, and the Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989 (5 U.S.C. 5509 note), including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, hire of passenger motor vehicles, direct procurement of survey printing, and not to exceed $2,000 for official reception and representation expenses, $40,655,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, together with not to exceed $2,345,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, for administrative expenses to adjudicate retirement appeals to be transferred from the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund in amounts determined by the Merit Systems Protection Board.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses in connection with the administration of the National Archives and Records Administration and archived Federal records and related activities, as provided by law, and for expenses necessary for the review and declassification of documents, the activities of the Public Interest Declassification Board, the operations and maintenance of the electronic records archives, the hire of passenger motor vehicles, and for uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901), including maintenance, repairs, and cleaning, $360,000,000.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Reform Act of 2008, Public Law 110–409, 122 Stat. 4302–16 (2008), and the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), and for the hire of passenger motor vehicles, $4,130,000.

REPAIRS AND RESTORATION

For the repair, alteration, and improvement of archives facilities, and to provide adequate storage for holdings, $7,600,000, to remain available until expended.

NATIONAL HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS AND RECORDS COMMISSION

GRANTS PROGRAM

For necessary expenses for allocations and grants for historical publications and records as authorized by 44 U.S.C. 2504, $5,000,000, to remain available until expended.

NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING LOAN FUND

For the Community Development Revolving Loan Fund program as authorized by 42 U.S.C. 9812, 9822 and 9910, $2,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2016, for technical assistance to low-income designated credit unions.

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out functions of the Office of Government Ethics pursuant to the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, the Ethics Reform Act of 1989, and the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act of 2012, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, hire of passenger motor vehicles, and not to exceed $1,500 for official reception and representation expenses, $15,420,000.

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF TRUST FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out functions of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) pursuant to Reorganization Plan Numbered 2 of 1978 and the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; medical examinations performed for veterans by private physicians on a fee basis; rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere; hire of passenger motor vehicles; not to exceed $2,500 for official reception and representation expenses; advances for reimbursements to applicable funds of OPM and the Federal Bureau of Investigation for expenses incurred under Executive Order No. 10422 of January 9, 1953, as amended; and payment of per diem and/or subsistence allowances to employees where Voting Rights Act activities require an employee to remain overnight at his or her post of duty, $95,910,000; and in addition $118,425,000 for administrative expenses, to be transferred from the appropriate trust funds of OPM without regard to other statutes, including direct procurement of printed materials, for the retirement and insurance programs: *Provided*, That the provisions of this appropriation shall not affect the authority to use applicable trust funds as provided by sections 8348(a)(1)(B), 8958(f)(2)(A), 8988(f)(2)(A), and 9004(f)(2)(A) of title 5, United States Code: *Provided further*, That no part of this appropriation shall be available for salaries and expenses of the Legal Examining Unit of OPM established pursuant to Executive Order No. 9358 of July 1, 1943, or any successor unit of like purpose: *Provided further*, That the President's Commission on White House Fellows, established by Executive Order No. 11183 of October 3, 1964, may, during fiscal year 2015, accept donations of money, property, and personal services: *Provided further*, That such donations, including those from prior years, may be used for the development of publicity materials to provide information about the White House Fellows, except that no such donations shall be accepted for travel or reimbursement of travel expenses, or for the salaries of employees of such Commission.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF TRUST FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, hire of passenger motor vehicles, $4,384,000, and in addition, not to exceed $21,340,000 for administrative expenses to audit, investigate, and provide other oversight of the Office of Personnel Management's retirement and insurance programs, to be transferred from the appropriate trust funds of the Office of Personnel Management, as determined by the Inspector General: *Provided*, That the Inspector General is authorized to rent conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere.

OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out functions of the Office of Special Counsel pursuant to Reorganization Plan Numbered 2 of 1978, the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 (Public Law 95–454), the Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989 (Public Law 101–12) as amended by Public Law 107–304, the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–199), and the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–353), including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, payment of fees and expenses for witnesses, rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, and hire of passenger motor vehicles; $21,452,000.

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Postal Regulatory Commission in carrying out the provisions of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (Public Law 109–435), $14,152,000, to be derived by transfer from the Postal Service Fund and expended as authorized by section 603(a) of such Act.

PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, as authorized by section 1061 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 2000ee), $4,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

RECOVERY ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board to carry out the provisions of title XV of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–5), and to develop and test information technology resources and oversight mechanisms to enhance transparency of and detect and remediate waste, fraud, and abuse in Federal spending, and to develop and use information technology resources and oversight mechanisms to detect and remediate waste, fraud, and abuse in obligation and expenditure of funds as described in section 904(d) of the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (Public Law 113–2), which shall be administered under the terms and conditions of the accountability authorities of title XV of Public Law 111–5, $15,000,000.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Securities and Exchange Commission, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, the rental of space (to include multiple year leases) in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, and not to exceed $3,500 for official reception and representation expenses, $1,400,000,000 to remain available until expended; of which not less than $9,239,000 shall be for the Office of Inspector General; of which not to exceed $50,000 shall be available for a permanent secretariat for the International Organization of Securities Commissions; of which not to exceed $100,000 shall be available for expenses for consultations and meetings hosted by the Commission with foreign governmental and other regulatory officials, members of their delegations and staffs to exchange views concerning securities matters, such expenses to include necessary logistic and administrative expenses and the expenses of Commission staff and foreign invitees in attendance including: (1) incidental expenses such as meals; (2) travel and transportation; and (3) related lodging or subsistence; of which funding for information technology initiatives shall be increased

over the fiscal year 2014 level by not less than $50,000,000; and of which not less than $68,872,000 shall be for the Division of Economic and Risk Analysis: *Provided*, That fees and charges authorized by section 31 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78ee) shall be credited to this account as offsetting collections: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $1,400,000,000 of such offsetting collections shall be available until expended for necessary expenses of this account: *Provided further*, That the total amount appropriated under this heading from the general fund for fiscal year 2015 shall be reduced as such offsetting fees are received so as to result in a final total fiscal year 2015 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than $0.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. WATERS

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 85, line 19, insert after the dollar amount insert the following: ''(increased by $300,000,000)''.

Page 86, line 16, insert after the dollar amount insert the following: ''(increased by $300,000,000)''.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentlewoman from California and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chairman, I urge adoption of my amendment to fully fund the Securities and Exchange Commission, one of Wall Street's top sheriffs, at the President's request of $1.7 billion and at no cost to the taxpayer.

The United States has the most vibrant capital markets, which are the envy of the world. Both large and small businesses looking to raise capital are able to do so with incredible efficiency and at minimal cost. Businesses are able to do this because their investors know that there are strong rules of the road and a regulator that will hold them accountable.

The underlying bill, however, undermines the SEC by cutting nearly $300 million or nearly 20 percent from the requested level. Wall Street's cop is woefully underfunded already, and one need only look as far as its IT budget compared with just a few of the entities it oversees.

In fiscal year 2013, the IT budgets of the six largest financial institutions equaled an amount more than 100 times that of the SEC. Although my Republican colleagues suggest that they are generously providing an increase, they use budget gimmicks to mask real cuts to IT infrastructure.

The world's capital markets have grown at an ever-accelerating rate, and likewise, so has the SEC's responsibilities. Today, the SEC oversees 11,000 investment advisers, 10,000 mutual funds, 4,450 broker-dealers, the securities exchanges, clearing agencies, credit rating agencies, and other self-regulatory organizations. The SEC also reviews the disclosures of nearly 9,000 public companies.

Following the 2008 financial crisis, Congress significantly increased SEC's responsibilities by requiring oversight of hedge funds, municipal advisers, and certain derivatives by passing Dodd-Frank. My amendment is needed to support all of these activities.

The Republican bill also includes substantial carve-outs, which will lead to cuts to enforcement and examinations. The SEC will have to impose hiring freezes for lawyers that would have brought enforcement cases against bad actors.

Last year, SEC recovered $3.4 billion in 2013—or twice the amount that would fully fund the agency. The SEC will also have to furlough examiners under the Republican bill, examiners that are needed to reduce the backlog of investment advisers that have never been visited by the SEC.

There is broad opposition to the Republican funding level. The White House says:

At this level, the SEC will be unable to add critical positions in market oversight, compliance, and enforcement to carry out its financial oversight responsibilities.

What is really disappointing is that Congress can fund the SEC at any level without affecting the debt and deficit. There are no budget savings from cutting the SEC. That is because the SEC's budget is paid through tiny fees on securities transactions.

Here is what CalPERS, the largest public pension plan in the United States, says about SEC funding:

The Commission's work can't be achieved without the resources it needs to be effective. The SEC needs to be given the tools to do the job: full and independent funding.

In addition, investor advocates like the AARP, the Consumer Federation of America, as well as industry groups like the Investment Adviser Association and the Financial Planning Association all support fully funding the SEC, and so should you.

A fully-funded SEC helps America's entrepreneurs raise funds to finance jobs and development. A fully-funded SEC ensures that our markets operate efficiently. A fully-funded SEC protects hard-earned savings funding our Nation's retirement and our children's education.

I urge adoption of this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, this committee is not starving the SEC for funds. The SEC received an 11 percent increase in fiscal year 2012. They received an 8 percent increase over the sequester level in 2014, and this year, the SEC is asking for $350 million more than they received in 2014. That is a 26 percent increase over fiscal year 2014.

Now, for fiscal year 2015, the committee recommends $1.4 billion. That is $50 million above the fiscal year 2014, and it is specifically for critical SEC information technology initiatives.

Listen to this: since 2001, Congress has increased the SEC's funding level by more than 200 percent. Not many Federal agencies can say they have received that kind of increase the way the SEC has. Then you ask yourself: What did the Commission get for that increased funding?

Well, the Commission missed the Madoff Ponzi scheme. They signed a no-bid lease for almost a million square feet of office space they didn't need, they produced inaccurate financial statements, they failed to conduct a serious and thorough review of the agency's bureaucratic and siloed structure in order to become more efficient and more effective, and they wasted over a million dollars on unnecessary equipment.

I might add they have had some of their rules thrown out in court due to the lack of economic analysis.

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That is just to name a few of the embarrassing moments that the SEC enforcement and management has endured. This is not about a lack of funding. Throwing more money at the SEC is not the answer.

We believe the Commission needs to get back on track to show real progress before we give them hundreds of millions of dollars of new money. The bill has targeted extra funding in areas of need within the Commission. That is information technology and economic analysis.

Over the past 3 years, this committee has consistently supported the SEC's information technology funding. If we could upgrade the information technology systems they will be better able to leverage their resources, catch the bad actors, and provide the quality review that securities filings demand.

The fact that this agency is fee-funded in no way diminishes the need for congressional oversight over the Commission's funding.

The SEC, in summary, is not starved for resources. We can't buy a better regulator. Those are just nice talking points, but they are not really based on facts.

I urge a ''no'' vote on this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SERRANO. I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS).

Ms. WATERS. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman and Members, listening to my friend on the opposite side of the aisle you would think that the SEC has no additional responsibilities.

As I quoted in my presentation:

The world's capital markets have grown at an ever accelerating rate, and likewise, so have the SEC's responsibilities. Today, the SEC oversees 11,000 investment advisers, 10,000 mutual funds,

4,450 broker-dealers, the securities exchanges, clearing agencies, credit rating agencies, and other self-regulatory organizations. The SEC also reviews the disclosures of nearly 9,000 public companies.

And, following the 2008 financial crisis, Congress increased SEC's responsibilities by requiring oversight of hedge funds, municipal advisors, and certain derivatives by passing Dodd-Frank.

So, my friend on the opposite side of the aisle disregards all of this as if the SEC doesn't have these expanded responsibilities. They certainly do, and they should be paid for. Again, this does not increase any debt. This is paid for through the many companies that have to pay a small fee, and they will not allow those fees to be used to support the work of the SEC and the IT needs that they have. It does not make good sense.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the amendment, which is very similar to an amendment I offered in full committee during consideration of this bill.

The bill currently provides $300 million less for the SEC than what the administration has asked for in 2015, and prohibits the SEC from using the reserve fund established by Dodd-Frank for missing critical IT needs, which is, in effect, another $70 million reduction in funding.

At the proposed funding level, the SEC would have to reduce its current staff at the very time they need to be hiring new experts who help protect investors and to fully implement all of the rules and responsibilities required by Dodd-Frank.

Our Nation is still feeling the effect of the complex financial schemes that led to the 2008 financial meltdown. The reforms in Dodd-Frank will help prevent future problems, but the SEC needs adequate funding to carry them out.

This amendment deals with that issue. Ms. WATERS' amendment is one that really supplies the strength for creating and for supporting that ''cop on the beat'' that we always mention on the issue of Wall Street. We can't allow that to happen again. The SEC has its responsibility. We continue to cut its funding. And I repeat, I was around when we had the power to do oversight, and we didn't do it, and the agency itself did not do it, and that led to that meltdown which we are still feeling the effects of.

I support your amendment, and I hope everybody else would vote in support of it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I just want to remind everyone, as I pointed out, in a little over 10 years, the funding for the SEC has increased over 200 percent—200 percent. I think there is adequate money to do the job they were given to do. They just need to do it effectively and efficiently, like other areas of government are asked to perform.

With that, I urge a ''no'' vote on the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

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

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California will be postponed.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Selective Service System, including expenses of attendance at meetings and of training for uniformed personnel assigned to the Selective Service System, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 4101–4118 for civilian employees; hire of passenger motor vehicles; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; and not to exceed $750 for official reception and representation expenses; $21,500,000: *Provided*, That during the current fiscal year, the President may exempt this appropriation from the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1341, whenever the President deems such action to be necessary in the interest of national defense: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated by this Act may be expended for or in connection with the induction of any person into the Armed Forces of the United States.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, of the Small Business Administration, including hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by sections 1343 and 1344 of title 31, United States Code, and not to exceed $3,500 for official reception and representation expenses, $253,882,000, of which not less than $12,000,000 shall be available for examinations, reviews, and other lender oversight activities: *Provided*, That the Administrator is authorized to charge fees to cover the cost of publications developed by the Small Business Administration, and certain loan program activities, including fees authorized by section 5(b) of the Small Business Act: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, revenues received from all such activities shall be credited to this account, to remain available until expended, for carrying out these purposes without further appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Small Business Administration may accept gifts in an amount not to exceed $4,000,000 and may co-sponsor activities, each in accordance with section 132(a) of division K of Public Law 108–447, during fiscal year 2015: *Provided further*, That $6,100,000 shall be available for the Loan Modernization and Accounting System, to be available until September 30, 2016.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 87, line 25, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,882,000)''.

Page 88, line 21, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $3,882,000)''.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentleman from Arizona and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to offer a simple, but important, amendment, which will redirect resources in the bill to important entrepreneurial development programs with the SBA.

Specifically, the amendment reduces a $3.8 million increase, above the fiscal year 2014 level, that was slated to go towards administration and bureaucracy. Instead, the amendment prioritizes spending and redirects those funds to important programs that actually help small businesses, like the HUBZone program, Small Business Development Centers, SCORE, women's business centers, the State and trade export promotion, Native American outreach, and veterans business outreach centers.

If programs with the SBA are going to get an increase above fiscal year 2014 levels, it should be for worthwhile SBA programs, not bureaucracy.

Small businesses are the backbone of our economy and create on average seven out of every 10 new jobs. The SBA needs to continue to support worthwhile efforts that foster economic growth. The entrepreneurial development programs within the SBA do exactly that.

In 2013, Small Business Development Centers helped nearly 15,000 entrepreneurs start businesses, providing counseling for nearly 65,000 others. SBDCs assist more than 530,000 clients annually and are a critical program for creating jobs and helping small businesses grow.

In 2013, the SCORE program assisted with the creation of nearly 70,000 new jobs. The program provided important services that helped open the doors of nearly 40,000 businesses.

I could go on about several other of the entrepreneurial development programs, but I think you get my point, so in the interest of time I will not.

I will discuss, however, the offset of this amendment. The committee was critical of the Small Business Administration in the committee report accompanying this bill.

I would like to quickly read a few excerpts from that report:

The committee believes the SBA should especially focus on these ''true'' small businesses and less on larger businesses in ''high-growth'' areas that have more capacity and access to capital.

The committee remains concerned about the quality of lender oversight at SBA. SBA's loan programs depend on an array of outside parties to be executed.

In fiscal year 2011, the SBA Office of Inspector General (OIG) found that more than half of the loan dollars guaranteed by the SBA were made using delegated authorities with limited oversight.

In an OIG report released June 6, 2014, the OIG found that the SBA's Loan Guarantee Processing Center (LGPC) ''emphasized quantity over quality for 7(a) loan reviews,''

and loan specialists were not provided adequate guidance and training to conduct 7(a) loan review assignments.

The committee has consistently provided SBA with robust resources and expects the SBA to appropriately fund the LGPC in order to provide a thorough review of all loans made by the center. SBA loans made without an effective review process leaves taxpayers on the hook for any defaults. The committee expects SBA to adopt the recommendations included in the OIG report and will continue to monitor the SBA's progress in this area.

I ask my colleagues to support my commonsense amendment, and I thank the chairman and ranking member for their continued work on the committee.

With that, I yield to the gentleman from Florida, the chairman.

Mr. CRENSHAW. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I am pleased to support his amendment.

Mr. GOSAR. I thank the chairman, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses of programs supporting entrepreneurial and small business development, $197,825,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $19,400,000.

OFFICE OF ADVOCACY

For necessary expenses of the Office of Advocacy in carrying out the provisions of title II of Public Law 94–305 (15 U.S.C. 634a et seq.) and the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), $8,750,000, to remain available until expended.

BUSINESS LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct loans, $2,500,000, to remain available until expended, and for the cost of guaranteed loans as authorized by section 503 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (Public Law 85–699), $45,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That subject to section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, during fiscal year 2015 commitments to guarantee loans under section 503 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 shall not exceed $7,500,000,000: *Provided further*, That during fiscal year 2015 commitments for general business loans authorized under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act shall not exceed $18,500,000,000 for a combination of amortizing term loans and the aggregated maximum line of credit provided by revolving loans: *Provided further*, That during fiscal year 2015 commitments to guarantee loans for debentures under section 303(b) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 shall not exceed $4,000,000,000: *Provided further*, That during fiscal year 2015, guarantees of trust certificates authorized by section 5(g) of the Small Business Act shall not exceed a principal amount of $12,000,000,000. In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, $147,726,000, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriations for Salaries and Expenses.

DISASTER LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan program authorized by section 7(b) of the Small Business Act, $186,858,000, to be available until expended, of which $1,000,000 is for the Office of Inspector General of the Small Business Administration for audits and reviews of disaster loans and the disaster loan programs and shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriations for the Office of Inspector General; of which $176,858,000 is for direct administrative expenses of loan making and servicing to carry out the direct loan program, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriations for Salaries and Expenses; and of which $9,000,000 is for indirect administrative expenses for the direct loan program, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriations for Salaries and Expenses.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 513. Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Small Business Administration in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers: *Provided*, That any transfer pursuant to this paragraph shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 608 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

PAYMENT TO THE POSTAL SERVICE FUND

For payment to the Postal Service Fund for revenue forgone on free and reduced rate mail, pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of section 2401 of title 39, United States Code, $58,342,000: *Provided*, That mail for overseas voting and mail for the blind shall continue to be free: *Provided further*, That 6-day delivery and rural delivery of mail shall continue at not less than the 1983 level: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to the Postal Service by this Act shall be used to implement any rule, regulation, or policy of charging any officer or employee of any State or local child support enforcement agency, or any individual participating in a State or local program of child support enforcement, a fee for information requested or provided concerning an address of a postal customer: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this Act shall be used to consolidate or close small rural and other small post offices.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $243,000,000, to be derived by transfer from the Postal Service Fund and expended as authorized by section 603(b)(3) of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (Public Law 109–435).

UNITED STATES TAX COURT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, including contract reporting and other services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, $50,000,000: *Provided*, That travel expenses of the judges shall be paid upon the written certificate of the judge.

TITLE VI

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS ACT

SEC. 601. None of the funds in this Act shall be used for the planning or execution of any program to pay the expenses of, or otherwise compensate, non-Federal parties intervening in regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings funded in this Act.

SEC. 602. None of the funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, nor may any be transferred to other appropriations, unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 603. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3109, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued pursuant to existing law.

SEC. 604. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 605. None of the funds made available by this Act shall be available for any activity or for paying the salary of any Government employee where funding an activity or paying a salary to a Government employee would result in a decision, determination, rule, regulation, or policy that would prohibit the enforcement of section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1307).

SEC. 606. No funds appropriated pursuant to this Act may be expended by an entity unless the entity agrees that in expending the assistance the entity will comply with chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code.

SEC. 607. No funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act shall be made available to any person or entity that has been convicted of violating chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code.

SEC. 608. Except as otherwise provided in this Act, none of the funds provided in this Act, provided by previous appropriations Acts to the agencies or entities funded in this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2015, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees and available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that: (1) creates a new program; (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by the Congress; (4) proposes to use funds directed for a specific activity by the Committee on Appropriations of either the House of Representatives or the Senate for a different purpose; (5) augments existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of $5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; (6) reduces existing programs, projects, or activities by $5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; or (7) creates or reorganizes offices, programs, or activities unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided*, That prior to any significant reorganization or restructuring of offices, programs, or activities, each agency or entity funded in this Act shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each agency funded by this Act shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of

the House of Representatives and the Senate to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for the current fiscal year: *Provided further*, That at a minimum the report shall include: (1) a table for each appropriation with a separate column to display the President's budget request, adjustments made by Congress, adjustments due to enacted rescissions, if appropriate, and the fiscal year enacted level; (2) a delineation in the table for each appropriation both by object class and program, project, and activity as detailed in the budget appendix for the respective appropriation; and (3) an identification of items of special congressional interest: *Provided further*, That the amount appropriated or limited for salaries and expenses for an agency shall be reduced by $100,000 per day for each day after the required date that the report has not been submitted to the Congress.

SEC. 609. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances remaining available at the end of fiscal year 2015 from appropriations made available for salaries and expenses for fiscal year 2015 in this Act, shall remain available through September 30, 2016, for each such account for the purposes authorized: *Provided*, That a request shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for approval prior to the expenditure of such funds: *Provided further*, That these requests shall be made in compliance with reprogramming guidelines.

SEC. 610. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Executive Office of the President to request—

(1) any official background investigation report on any individual from the Federal Bureau of Investigation; or

(2) a determination with respect to the treatment of an organization as described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code from the Department of the Treasury or the Internal Revenue Service.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply—

(1) in the case of an official background investigation report, if such individual has given express written consent for such request not more than 6 months prior to the date of such request and during the same presidential administration; or

(2) if such request is required due to extraordinary circumstances involving national security.

SEC. 611. The cost accounting standards promulgated under chapter 15 of title 41, United States Code, shall not apply with respect to a contract under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program established under chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 612. For the purpose of resolving litigation and implementing any settlement agreements regarding the nonforeign area cost-of-living allowance program, the Office of Personnel Management may accept and utilize (without regard to any restriction on unanticipated travel expenses imposed in an Appropriations Act) funds made available to the Office of Personnel Management pursuant to court approval.

SEC. 613. No funds appropriated by this Act shall be available to pay for an abortion, or the administrative expenses in connection with any health plan under the Federal employees health benefits program which provides any benefits or coverage for abortions.

SEC. 614. The provision of section 613 shall not apply where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term, or the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest.

SEC. 615. In order to promote Government access to commercial information technology, the restriction on purchasing nondomestic articles, materials, and supplies set forth in chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code (popularly known as the Buy American Act), shall not apply to the acquisition by the Federal Government of information technology (as defined in section 11101 of title 40, United States Code), that is a commercial item (as defined in section 103 of title 41, United States Code).

SEC. 616. Notwithstanding section 1353 of title 31, United States Code, no officer or employee of any regulatory agency or commission funded by this Act may accept on behalf of that agency, nor may such agency or commission accept, payment or reimbursement from a non-Federal entity for travel, subsistence, or related expenses for the purpose of enabling an officer or employee to attend and participate in any meeting or similar function relating to the official duties of the officer or employee when the entity offering payment or reimbursement is a person or entity subject to regulation by such agency or commission, or represents a person or entity subject to regulation by such agency or commission, unless the person or entity is an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code.

SEC. 617. Notwithstanding section 708 of this Act, funds made available to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission by this or any other Act may be used for the interagency funding and sponsorship of a joint advisory committee to advise on emerging regulatory issues.

SEC. 618. Not later than 45 days after the end of each quarter, the Department of the Treasury, the Executive Office of the President, the Judiciary, the Federal Communications Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, the General Services Administration, the National Archives and Records Administration, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Small Business Administration shall provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a quarterly accounting of the cumulative balances of any unobligated funds.

SEC. 619. (a)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an Executive agency covered by this Act otherwise authorized to enter into contracts for either leases or the construction or alteration of real property for office, meeting, storage, or other space must consult with the General Services Administration before issuing a solicitation for offers of new leases or construction contracts, and in the case of succeeding leases, before entering into negotiations with the current lessor.

(2) Any such agency with authority to enter into an emergency lease may do so during any period declared by the President to require emergency leasing authority with respect to such agency.

(b) For purposes of this section, the term ''Executive agency covered by this Act'' means any Executive agency provided funds by this Act, but does not include the General Services Administration or the United States Postal Service.

SEC. 620. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Federal Trade Commission to complete the draft report entitled ''Interagency Working Group on Food Marketed to Children: Preliminary Proposed Nutrition Principles to Guide Industry Self-Regulatory Efforts'' unless the Interagency Working Group on Food Marketed to Children complies with Executive Order No. 13563.

SEC. 621. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses for the following positions:

(1) Director, White House Office of Health Reform, or any substantially similar position.

(2) Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change, or any substantially similar position.

(3) Senior Advisor to the Secretary of the Treasury assigned to the Presidential Task Force on the Auto Industry and Senior Counselor for Manufacturing Policy, or any substantially similar position.

(4) White House Director of Urban Affairs, or any substantially similar position.

SEC. 622. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to, any corporation that has any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability, where the awarding agency is aware of the unpaid tax liability, unless the Federal agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and has made a determination that this further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

SEC. 623. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to, any corporation that was convicted of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law within the preceding 24 months, where the awarding agency is aware of the conviction, unless the Federal agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and has made a determination that this further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

SEC. 624. (a) There are appropriated for the following activities the amounts required under current law:

(1) Compensation of the President (3 U.S.C. 102).

(2) Payments to—

(A) the Judicial Officers' Retirement Fund (28 U.S.C. 377(o));

(B) the Judicial Survivors' Annuities Fund (28 U.S.C. 376(c)); and

(C) the United States Court of Federal Claims Judges' Retirement Fund (28 U.S.C. 178(l)).

(3) Payment of Government contributions—

(A) with respect to the health benefits of retired employees, as authorized by chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, and the Retired Federal Employees Health Benefits Act (74 Stat. 849); and

(B) with respect to the life insurance benefits for employees retiring after December 31, 1989 (5 U.S.C. ch. 87).

(4) Payment to finance the unfunded liability of new and increased annuity benefits under the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund (5 U.S.C. 8348).

(5) Payment of annuities authorized to be paid from the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund by statutory provisions other than subchapter III of chapter 83 or chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code.

(b) Nothing in this section may be construed to exempt any amount appropriated by this section from any otherwise applicable limitation on the use of funds contained in this Act.

SEC. 625. During fiscal year 2015, no funds shall be obligated from the Securities and Exchange Commission Reserve Fund established by section 991 of the Dodd-Frank Wall

Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Public Law 111–203).

□ 2230

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. WATERS

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 104, after line 21, insert the following:

SEC. ____. Section 204 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80b–4) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) INSPECTION AND EXAMINATION FEES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall collect an annual fee from investment advisers that are subject to inspection or examination by the Commission under this title to defray the cost of such inspections and examinations.

''(2) EXEMPTIONS FOR CERTAIN STATE-REGULATED INVESTMENT ADVISERS.—No fees shall be collected under this subsection from any investment adviser that is prohibited from registering with the Commission under section 203 by reason of section 203A.

''(3) FEE AMOUNTS.—

''(A) AMOUNT TO BE COLLECTED.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall seek to ensure that the aggregate amount of fees collected under this subsection with respect to a specific fiscal year are equal to the estimated cost of the Commission in carrying out additional inspections and examinations for such fiscal year.

''(ii) ADDITIONAL INSPECTIONS AND EXAMINATIONS DEFINED.—For purposes of this subparagraph and with respect to a fiscal year, the term 'additional inspections and examinations' means those inspections and examinations of investment advisers under this title for such fiscal year that exceed the number of inspections and examinations of investment advisers under this title conducted during fiscal year 2012.

''(B) FEE CALCULATION FORMULA.—The Commission shall establish by rulemaking a formula for determining the fee amount to be assessed against individual investment advisers, which shall take into account the following factors:

''(i) The anticipated costs of conducting inspections and examinations of investment advisers under this title, including the anticipated frequency of such inspections and examinations.

''(ii) The investment adviser's size, including the assets under management of the investment adviser.

''(iii) The number and type of clients of the investment adviser, and the extent to which the adviser's clients pay other fees established by the Commission, including registration and transaction fees.

''(iv) Such other objective factors, such as risk characteristics, as the Commission determines to be appropriate.

''(C) ADJUSTMENT OF FORMULA.—Prior to the end of each fiscal year, the Commission shall review the fee calculation formula and, if, after allowing for a period of public comment, the Commission determines that the formula needs to be revised, the Commission shall revise such formula before fees are assessed for the following fiscal year.

''(4) PUBLIC DISCLOSURES.—The Commission shall make the following information publicly available, including on the Web site of the Commission:

''(A) The formula used to determine the fee amount to be assessed against individual investment advisers, and any adjustment made to such formula.

''(B) The factors used to determine such formula, including any additional objective factors used by the Commission pursuant to paragraph (3)(B)(iv).

''(5) AUDIT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall, every 2 years, conduct an audit of the use of the fees collected by the Commission under this subsection, the reviews of the formula used to calculate such fees, and any adjustments made by the Commission to such formula.

''(B) REPORT.—After conducting each audit required under subparagraph (A), the Comptroller General shall issue a report on such audit to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

''(6) TREATMENT OF FEES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Funds derived from fees assessed under this subsection shall be available to the Commission, without further appropriation or fiscal year limitation, to pay any costs associated with inspecting and examining investment advisers that are subject to inspection and examination under this title.

''(B) FUNDS NOT PUBLIC FUNDS.—Funds derived from fees assessed under this subsection shall not be construed to be Government or public funds or appropriated money. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds derived from fees assessed under this subsection shall not be subject to apportionment for the purpose of chapter 15 of title 31, United States Code, or under any other authority.

''(C) FUNDS SUPPLEMENTAL TO OTHER AMOUNTS.—Funds derived from fees assessed under this subsection shall supplement, and be in addition to, any other amounts available to the Commission, under a regular appropriation or otherwise, for the purpose described in subparagraph (A).''.

Mr. CRENSHAW (during the reading). Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the gentlewoman's amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. A point of order is reserved.

The Clerk will continue to report the amendment.

The Clerk continued to read.

Ms. WATERS (during the reading). Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 661, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chairman, my amendment is a commonsense provision that would help reverse some of the damaging efforts directed at the SEC we have seen this Congress, efforts that have been squarely aimed at hamstringing the Commission, including: underfunding the SEC by $300 million, or 20 percent below the President's fiscal year 2015 request; bogging down the SEC in onerous cost-benefit analysis provisions that would divert resources away from important efforts, like enforcement; and myriad attempts in the Financial Services Committee to limit the information available to retirees that make decisions about whether to put their hard-earned money into public companies.

My amendment would help to counteract these efforts by providing the SEC with the authority to impose and collect reasonable user fees on federally registered investment advisers for the purpose of increasing the number and frequency of SEC examinations. This is consistent with my bill, H.R. 1627, the Investment Adviser Examination Improvement Act, which I have coauthored with Representative DELANEY.

Today, investment advisers may go more than a decade before being visited by the SEC. It is absolutely essential that we improve the oversight of investment advisers, the people that manage the assets of millions of individual and institutional investors across the country. This is particularly true if we are underfunding the SEC by $300 million, as this underlying bill proposes.

The SEC currently only examines approximately 9 percent of advisers annually out of the almost 11,000 advisers registered with the Commission. The legislation and this amendment provide the SEC with additional resources to conduct more examinations and protect investors.

I believe this amendment and our bill provides the simplest, most efficient solution to the problem of inadequate adviser oversight. Also, because the user fees contemplated in the amendment would only be used to fund the regulation of investment advisers and not to subsidize other functions at the SEC, I think that this option would be more cost-effective for the industry. In fact, a study by the Boston Consulting Group supports that point.

This amendment will help the SEC to close this resource gap. By entrusting this responsibility to the Commission, it will also leverage their 70-year history of experience in this regulatory role and prevent the establishment of a duplicative SRO bureaucracy.

In addition to consumer and retiree advocates, my bill is supported by the investment adviser industry, including the Investment Adviser Association, the Financial Planning Association, the National Association of Personal Financial Advisers, and the Certified Financial Planner Board. They support my bill because they know that clear rules of the road and robust examinations bolster public confidence in the market and ultimately help their bottom line.

I urge the adoption of this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I make a point of order against the amendment because it proposes to change existing law and constitutes legislation in an appropriation bill and, therefore, violates clause 2 of rule XXI.

The rule states, in pertinent part:

''An amendment to a general appropriation bill shall not be in order if changing existing law.''

This amendment directly amends existing law.

I ask for a ruling from the Chair.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania). Does any other Member wish to be heard on the point of order?

If not, the Chair is prepared to rule.

The Chair finds that this amendment directly amends existing law. The amendment, therefore, constitutes legislation in violation of clause 2 of rule XXI. The point of order is sustained, and the amendment is not in order.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

SEC. 626. None of the funds made available by this Act shall be used by the Securities and Exchange Commission to finalize, issue, or implement any rule, regulation, or order regarding the disclosure of political contributions, contributions to tax exempt organizations, or dues paid to trade associations.

SEC. 627. Section 2(c) of the Multinational Species Conservation Fund Semipostal Stamp Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–241; 39 U.S.C. 416 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking ''2 years'' and inserting ''6 years''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) STAMP DEPICTIONS.—Members of the public shall be offered a choice of 5 stamps under this Act, depicting an African elephant or an Asian elephant, a rhinoceros, a tiger, a marine turtle, and a great ape, respectively.''.

SEC. 628. (a) Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the agencies specified in subsection (b) shall each submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on—

(1) increasing public participation in the rulemaking process and reducing uncertainty;

(2) improving coordination with other Federal agencies to eliminate redundant, inconsistent, and overlapping regulations; and

(3) identifying existing regulations that have been reviewed and determined to be outmoded, ineffective, or excessively burdensome.

(b) The agencies required to submit a report specified in subsection (a) are—

(1) the Consumer Product Safety Commission;

(2) the Federal Communications Commission;

(3) the Federal Trade Commission; and

(4) the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the remainder of the bill through page 152, line 9, be considered as read, printed in the RECORD, and open to amendment at any point.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The text of that portion of the bill is as follows:

SEC. 629. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to award a contract for services to train any employee of an Executive agency (as that term is defined in section 105 of title 5, United States Code) to learn how to support or defeat legislation pending before Congress.

SEC. 630. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act to the Internal Revenue Service may be used to destroy, deface, or dispose of records, regardless of their physical form or characteristics, in contravention of chapters 29, 31, and 33 of title 44, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Federal Records Act).

(b) Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Archivist of the United States shall conduct an inspection and submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs on the compliance by the Internal Revenue Service with the provisions of chapters 29, 31, and 33 of title 44, United States Code, during calendar years 2009 through 2013.

SEC. 631. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to require the disclosure by a provider of an electronic communication service or a remote computing service of the contents or related information detailed in section 2703(c) of title 18, United States Code, of a wire or electronic communication that is in electronic storage with or otherwise held or maintained by the provider, as such terms are defined in section 2510 of title 18, United States Code, by any other than a means authorized under section 2703(b)(1)(A) of title 18, United States Code.

SEC. 632. 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''.

TITLE VII

GENERAL PROVISIONS—GOVERNMENT-WIDE

DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES, AND CORPORATIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 701. No department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States receiving appropriated funds under this or any other Act for fiscal year 2015 shall obligate or expend any such funds, unless such department, agency, or instrumentality has in place, and will continue to administer in good faith, a written policy designed to ensure that all of its workplaces are free from the illegal use, possession, or distribution of controlled substances (as defined in the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802)) by the officers and employees of such department, agency, or instrumentality.

SEC. 702. Unless otherwise specifically provided, the maximum amount allowable during the current fiscal year in accordance with subsection 1343(c) of title 31, United States Code, for the purchase of any passenger motor vehicle (exclusive of buses, ambulances, law enforcement vehicles, protective vehicles, and undercover surveillance vehicles), is hereby fixed at $13,197 except station wagons for which the maximum shall be $13,631: *Provided*, That these limits may be exceeded by not to exceed $3,700 for police-type vehicles, and by not to exceed $4,000 for special heavy-duty vehicles: *Provided further*, That the limits set forth in this section may not be exceeded by more than 5 percent for electric or hybrid vehicles purchased for demonstration under the provisions of the Electric and Hybrid Vehicle Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 1976: *Provided further*, That the limits set forth in this section may be exceeded by the incremental cost of clean alternative fuels vehicles acquired pursuant to Public Law 101–549 over the cost of comparable conventionally fueled vehicles: *Provided further*, That the limits set forth in this section shall not apply to any vehicle that is a commercial item and which operates on emerging motor vehicle technology, including but not limited to electric, plug-in hybrid electric, and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.

SEC. 703. Appropriations of the executive departments and independent establishments for the current fiscal year available for expenses of travel, or for the expenses of the activity concerned, are hereby made available for quarters allowances and cost-of-living allowances, in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 5922 through 5924.

SEC. 704. Unless otherwise specified in law, during the current fiscal year, no part of any

appropriation contained in this or any other Act shall be used to pay the compensation of any officer or employee of the Government of the United States (including any agency the majority of the stock of which is owned by the Government of the United States) whose post of duty is in the continental United States unless such person: (1) is a citizen of the United States; (2) is a person who is lawfully admitted for permanent residence and is seeking citizenship as outlined in 8 U.S.C. 1324b(a)(3)(B); (3) is a person who is admitted as a refugee under 8 U.S.C. 1157 or is granted asylum under 8 U.S.C. 1158 and has filed a declaration of intention to become a lawful permanent resident and then a citizen when eligible; or (4) is a person who owes allegiance to the United States: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section, affidavits signed by any such person shall be considered prima facie evidence that the requirements of this section with respect to his or her status are being complied with: *Provided further*, That for purposes of subsections (2) and (3) such affidavits shall be submitted prior to employment and updated thereafter as necessary: *Provided further*, That any payment made to any officer or employee contrary to the provisions of this section shall be recoverable in action by the Federal Government: *Provided further*, That this section shall not apply to any person who is an officer or employee of the Government of the United States on the date of enactment of this Act, or to international broadcasters employed by the Broadcasting Board of Governors, or to temporary employment of translators, or to temporary employment in the field service (not to exceed 60 days) as a result of emergencies: *Provided further*, That this section does not apply to the employment as Wildland firefighters for not more than 120 days of nonresident aliens employed by the Department of the Interior or the USDA Forest Service pursuant to an agreement with another country.

SEC. 705. Appropriations available to any department or agency during the current fiscal year for necessary expenses, including maintenance or operating expenses, shall also be available for payment to the General Services Administration for charges for space and services and those expenses of renovation and alteration of buildings and facilities which constitute public improvements performed in accordance with the Public Buildings Act of 1959 (73 Stat. 479), the Public Buildings Amendments of 1972 (86 Stat. 216), or other applicable law.

SEC. 706. In addition to funds provided in this or any other Act, all Federal agencies are authorized to receive and use funds resulting from the sale of materials, including Federal records disposed of pursuant to a records schedule recovered through recycling or waste prevention programs. Such funds shall be available until expended for the following purposes:

(1) Acquisition, waste reduction and prevention, and recycling programs as described in Executive Order No. 13423 (January 24, 2007), including any such programs adopted prior to the effective date of the Executive Order.

(2) Other Federal agency environmental management programs, including, but not limited to, the development and implementation of hazardous waste management and pollution prevention programs.

(3) Other employee programs as authorized by law or as deemed appropriate by the head of the Federal agency.

SEC. 707. Funds made available by this or any other Act for administrative expenses in the current fiscal year of the corporations and agencies subject to chapter 91 of title 31, United States Code, shall be available, in addition to objects for which such funds are otherwise available, for rent in the District of Columbia; services in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 3109; and the objects specified under this head, all the provisions of which shall be applicable to the expenditure of such funds unless otherwise specified in the Act by which they are made available: *Provided*, That in the event any functions budgeted as administrative expenses are subsequently transferred to or paid from other funds, the limitations on administrative expenses shall be correspondingly reduced.

SEC. 708. No part of any appropriation contained in this or any other Act shall be available for interagency financing of boards (except Federal Executive Boards), commissions, councils, committees, or similar groups (whether or not they are interagency entities) which do not have a prior and specific statutory approval to receive financial support from more than one agency or instrumentality.

SEC. 709. None of the funds made available pursuant to the provisions of this or any other Act shall be used to implement, administer, or enforce any regulation which has been disapproved pursuant to a joint resolution duly adopted in accordance with the applicable law of the United States.

SEC. 710. During the period in which the head of any department or agency, or any other officer or civilian employee of the Federal Government appointed by the President of the United States, holds office, no funds may be obligated or expended in excess of $5,000 to furnish or redecorate the office of such department head, agency head, officer, or employee, or to purchase furniture or make improvements for any such office, unless advance notice of such furnishing or redecoration is transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate. For the purposes of this section, the term ''office'' shall include the entire suite of offices assigned to the individual, as well as any other space used primarily by the individual or the use of which is directly controlled by the individual.

SEC. 711. Notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 1346, or section 708 of this Act, funds made available for the current fiscal year by this or any other Act shall be available for the interagency funding of national security and emergency preparedness telecommunications initiatives which benefit multiple Federal departments, agencies, or entities, as provided by Executive Order No. 13618 (July 6, 2012).

SEC. 712. (a) None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be obligated or expended by any department, agency, or other instrumentality of the Federal Government to pay the salaries or expenses of any individual appointed to a position of a confidential or policy-determining character that is excepted from the competitive service under section 3302 of title 5, United States Code, (pursuant to schedule C of subpart C of part 213 of title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations) unless the head of the applicable department, agency, or other instrumentality employing such schedule C individual certifies to the Director of the Office of Personnel Management that the schedule C position occupied by the individual was not created solely or primarily in order to detail the individual to the White House.

(b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to Federal employees or members of the armed forces detailed to or from an element of the intelligence community (as that term is defined under section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4))).

SEC. 713. No part of any appropriation contained in this or any other Act shall be available for the payment of the salary of any officer or employee of the Federal Government, who—

(1) prohibits or prevents, or attempts or threatens to prohibit or prevent, any other officer or employee of the Federal Government from having any direct oral or written communication or contact with any Member, committee, or subcommittee of the Congress in connection with any matter pertaining to the employment of such other officer or employee or pertaining to the department or agency of such other officer or employee in any way, irrespective of whether such communication or contact is at the initiative of such other officer or employee or in response to the request or inquiry of such Member, committee, or subcommittee; or

(2) removes, suspends from duty without pay, demotes, reduces in rank, seniority, status, pay, or performance or efficiency rating, denies promotion to, relocates, reassigns, transfers, disciplines, or discriminates in regard to any employment right, entitlement, or benefit, or any term or condition of employment of, any other officer or employee of the Federal Government, or attempts or threatens to commit any of the foregoing actions with respect to such other officer or employee, by reason of any communication or contact of such other officer or employee with any Member, committee, or subcommittee of the Congress as described in paragraph (1).

SEC. 714. (a) None of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be obligated or expended for any employee training that—

(1) does not meet identified needs for knowledge, skills, and abilities bearing directly upon the performance of official duties;

(2) contains elements likely to induce high levels of emotional response or psychological stress in some participants;

(3) does not require prior employee notification of the content and methods to be used in the training and written end of course evaluation;

(4) contains any methods or content associated with religious or quasi-religious belief systems or ''new age'' belief systems as defined in Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Notice N–915.022, dated September 2, 1988; or

(5) is offensive to, or designed to change, participants' personal values or lifestyle outside the workplace.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit, restrict, or otherwise preclude an agency from conducting training bearing directly upon the performance of official duties.

SEC. 715. No part of any funds appropriated in this or any other Act shall be used by an agency of the executive branch, other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships, for publicity or propaganda purposes, and for the preparation, distribution or use of any kit, pamphlet, booklet, publication, radio, television, or film presentation designed to support or defeat legislation pending before the Congress, except in presentation to the Congress itself.

SEC. 716. None of the funds appropriated by this or any other Act may be used by an agency to provide a Federal employee's home address to any labor organization except when the employee has authorized such disclosure or when such disclosure has been ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 717. None of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used to provide any non-public information such as mailing, telephone or electronic mailing lists to any person or any organization outside of the Federal Government without the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 718. No part of any appropriation contained in this or any other Act shall be used directly or indirectly, including by private contractor, for publicity or propaganda purposes within the United States not heretofore authorized by Congress.

SEC. 719. (a) In this section, the term ''agency''—

(1) means an Executive agency, as defined under 5 U.S.C. 105; and

(2) includes a military department, as defined under section 102 of such title, the Postal Service, and the Postal Regulatory Commission.

(b) Unless authorized in accordance with law or regulations to use such time for other purposes, an employee of an agency shall use official time in an honest effort to perform official duties. An employee not under a leave system, including a Presidential appointee exempted under 5 U.S.C. 6301(2), has an obligation to expend an honest effort and a reasonable proportion of such employee's time in the performance of official duties.

SEC. 720. Notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 1346 and section 708 of this Act, funds made available for the current fiscal year by this or any other Act to any department or agency, which is a member of the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB), shall be available to finance an appropriate share of FASAB administrative costs.

SEC. 721. Notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 1346 and section 708 of this Act, the head of each Executive department and agency is hereby authorized to transfer to or reimburse ''General Services Administration, Government-wide Policy'' with the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, funds made available for the current fiscal year by this or any other Act, including rebates from charge card and other contracts: *Provided*, That these funds shall be administered by the Administrator of General Services to support Government-wide and other multi-agency financial, information technology, procurement, and other management innovations, initiatives, and activities, as approved by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the appropriate interagency and multi-agency groups designated by the Director (including the President's Management Council for overall management improvement initiatives, the Chief Financial Officers Council for financial management initiatives, the Chief Information Officers Council for information technology initiatives, the Chief Human Capital Officers Council for human capital initiatives, the Chief Acquisition Officers Council for procurement initiatives, and the Performance Improvement Council for performance improvement initiatives): *Provided further*, That the total funds transferred or reimbursed shall not exceed $17,000,000 for Government-Wide innovations, initiatives, and activities: *Provided further*, That the funds transferred to or for reimbursement of ''General Services Administration, Government-wide Policy'' during fiscal year 2015 shall remain available for obligation through September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That such transfers or reimbursements may only be made after 15 days following notification of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

SEC. 722. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a woman may breastfeed her child at any location in a Federal building or on Federal property, if the woman and her child are otherwise authorized to be present at the location.

SEC. 723. Notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 1346, or section 708 of this Act, funds made available for the current fiscal year by this or any other Act shall be available for the interagency funding of specific projects, workshops, studies, and similar efforts to carry out the purposes of the National Science and Technology Council (authorized by Executive Order No. 12881), which benefit multiple Federal departments, agencies, or entities: *Provided*, That the Office of Management and Budget shall provide a report describing the budget of and resources connected with the National Science and Technology Council to the Committees on Appropriations, the House Committee on Science and Technology, and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 90 days after enactment of this Act.

SEC. 724. Any request for proposals, solicitation, grant application, form, notification, press release, or other publications involving the distribution of Federal funds shall indicate the agency providing the funds, the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number, as applicable, and the amount provided: *Provided*, That this section shall apply to direct payments, formula funds, and grants received by a State receiving Federal funds.

SEC. 725. (a) PROHIBITION OF FEDERAL AGENCY MONITORING OF INDIVIDUALS' INTERNET USE.—None of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used by any Federal agency—

(1) to collect, review, or create any aggregation of data, derived from any means, that includes any personally identifiable information relating to an individual's access to or use of any Federal Government Internet site of the agency; or

(2) to enter into any agreement with a third party (including another government agency) to collect, review, or obtain any aggregation of data, derived from any means, that includes any personally identifiable information relating to an individual's access to or use of any nongovernmental Internet site.

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—The limitations established in subsection (a) shall not apply to—

(1) any record of aggregate data that does not identify particular persons;

(2) any voluntary submission of personally identifiable information;

(3) any action taken for law enforcement, regulatory, or supervisory purposes, in accordance with applicable law; or

(4) any action described in subsection (a)(1) that is a system security action taken by the operator of an Internet site and is necessarily incident to providing the Internet site services or to protecting the rights or property of the provider of the Internet site.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section:

(1) The term ''regulatory'' means agency actions to implement, interpret or enforce authorities provided in law.

(2) The term ''supervisory'' means examinations of the agency's supervised institutions, including assessing safety and soundness, overall financial condition, management practices and policies and compliance with applicable standards as provided in law.

SEC. 726. (a) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to enter into or renew a contract which includes a provision providing prescription drug coverage, except where the contract also includes a provision for contraceptive coverage.

(b) Nothing in this section shall apply to a contract with—

(1) any of the following religious plans:

(A) Personal Care's HMO; and

(B) OSF HealthPlans, Inc.; and

(2) any existing or future plan, if the carrier for the plan objects to such coverage on the basis of religious beliefs.

(c) In implementing this section, any plan that enters into or renews a contract under this section may not subject any individual to discrimination on the basis that the individual refuses to prescribe or otherwise provide for contraceptives because such activities would be contrary to the individual's religious beliefs or moral convictions.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require coverage of abortion or abortion-related services.

SEC. 727. The United States is committed to ensuring the health of its Olympic, Pan American, and Paralympic athletes, and supports the strict adherence to anti-doping in sport through testing, adjudication, education, and research as performed by nationally recognized oversight authorities.

SEC. 728. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated for official travel to Federal departments and agencies may be used by such departments and agencies, if consistent with Office of Management and Budget Circular A–126 regarding official travel for Government personnel, to participate in the fractional aircraft ownership pilot program.

SEC. 729. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or made available under this or any other appropriations Act may be used to implement or enforce restrictions or limitations on the Coast Guard Congressional Fellowship Program, or to implement the proposed regulations of the Office of Personnel Management to add sections 300.311 through 300.316 to part 300 of title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations, published in the Federal Register, volume 68, number 174, on September 9, 2003 (relating to the detail of executive branch employees to the legislative branch).

SEC. 730. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no executive branch agency shall purchase, construct, or lease any additional facilities, except within or contiguous to existing locations, to be used for the purpose of conducting Federal law enforcement training without the advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, except that the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center is authorized to obtain the temporary use of additional facilities by lease, contract, or other agreement for training which cannot be accommodated in existing Center facilities.

SEC. 731. Unless otherwise authorized by existing law, none of the funds provided in this or any other Act may be used by an executive branch agency to produce any prepackaged news story intended for broadcast or distribution in the United States, unless the story includes a clear notification within the text or audio of the prepackaged news story that the prepackaged news story was prepared or funded by that executive branch agency.

SEC. 732. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in contravention of section 552a of title 5, United States Code (popularly known as the Privacy Act), and regulations implementing that section.

SEC. 733. (a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be used for any Federal Government contract with any foreign incorporated entity which is treated as an inverted domestic corporation under section 835(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 395(b)) or any subsidiary of such an entity.

(b) WAIVERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Any Secretary shall waive subsection (a) with respect to any Federal Government contract under the authority of such Secretary if the Secretary determines that the waiver is required in the interest of national security.

(2) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Any Secretary issuing a waiver under paragraph (1) shall report such issuance to Congress.

(c) EXCEPTION.—This section shall not apply to any Federal Government contract entered into before the date of the enactment of this Act, or to any task order issued pursuant to such contract.

SEC. 734. During fiscal year 2015, for each employee who—

(1) retires under section 8336(d)(2) or 8414(b)(1)(B) of title 5, United States Code, or

(2) retires under any other provision of subchapter III of chapter 83 or chapter 84 of such title 5 and receives a payment as an incentive to separate, the separating agency shall remit to the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund an amount equal to the Office of Personnel Management's average unit cost of processing a retirement claim for the preceding fiscal year. Such amounts shall be available until expended to the Office of Personnel Management and shall be deemed to be an administrative expense under section 8348(a)(1)(B) of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 735. (a) None of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used to recommend or require any entity submitting an offer for a Federal contract or otherwise performing or participating in acquisition at any stage of the acquisition process (as defined in section 131 of title 41, United States Code) of property or services by the Federal Government to disclose any of the following information as a condition of submitting the offer or otherwise performing in or participating in such acquisition:

(1) Any payment consisting of a contribution, expenditure, independent expenditure, or disbursement for an electioneering communication that is made by the entity, its officers or directors, or any of its affiliates or subsidiaries to a candidate for election for Federal office or to a political committee, or that is otherwise made with respect to any election for Federal office.

(2) Any disbursement of funds (other than a payment described in paragraph (1)) made by the entity, its officers or directors, or any of its affiliates or subsidiaries to any person with the intent or the reasonable expectation that the person will use the funds to make a payment described in paragraph (1).

(b) In this section, each of the terms ''contribution'', ''expenditure'', ''independent expenditure'', ''electioneering communication'', ''candidate'', ''election'', and ''Federal office'' has the meaning given such term in the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431 et seq.).

SEC. 736. None of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used to pay for the painting of a portrait of an officer or employee of the Federal government, including the President, the Vice President, a member of Congress (including a Delegate or a Resident Commissioner to Congress), the head of an executive branch agency (as defined in section 133 of title 41, United States Code), or the head of an office of the legislative branch.

SEC. 737. (a)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and except as otherwise provided in this section, no part of any of the funds appropriated for fiscal year 2015, by this or any other Act, may be used to pay any prevailing rate employee described in section 5342(a)(2)(A) of title 5, United States Code—

(A) during the period from the date of expiration of the limitation imposed by the comparable section for previous fiscal years until the normal effective date of the applicable wage survey adjustment that is to take effect in fiscal year 2015, in an amount that exceeds the rate payable for the applicable grade and step of the applicable wage schedule in accordance with such section; and

(B) during the period consisting of the remainder of fiscal year 2015, in an amount that exceeds, as a result of a wage survey adjustment, the rate payable under subparagraph (A) by more than the sum of—

(i) the percentage adjustment taking effect in fiscal year 2015 under section 5303 of title 5, United States Code, in the rates of pay under the General Schedule; and

(ii) the difference between the overall average percentage of the locality-based comparability payments taking effect in fiscal year 2015 under section 5304 of such title (whether by adjustment or otherwise), and the overall average percentage of such payments which was effective in the previous fiscal year under such section.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no prevailing rate employee described in subparagraph (B) or (C) of section 5342(a)(2) of title 5, United States Code, and no employee covered by section 5348 of such title, may be paid during the periods for which paragraph (1) is in effect at a rate that exceeds the rates that would be payable under paragraph (1) were paragraph (1) applicable to such employee.

(3) For the purposes of this subsection, the rates payable to an employee who is covered by this subsection and who is paid from a schedule not in existence on September 30, 2014, shall be determined under regulations prescribed by the Office of Personnel Management.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, rates of premium pay for employees subject to this subsection may not be changed from the rates in effect on September 30, 2014, except to the extent determined by the Office of Personnel Management to be consistent with the purpose of this subsection.

(5) This subsection shall apply with respect to pay for service performed after September 30, 2014.

(6) For the purpose of administering any provision of law (including any rule or regulation that provides premium pay, retirement, life insurance, or any other employee benefit) that requires any deduction or contribution, or that imposes any requirement or limitation on the basis of a rate of salary or basic pay, the rate of salary or basic pay payable after the application of this subsection shall be treated as the rate of salary or basic pay.

(7) Nothing in this subsection shall be considered to permit or require the payment to any employee covered by this subsection at a rate in excess of the rate that would be payable were this subsection not in effect.

(8) The Office of Personnel Management may provide for exceptions to the limitations imposed by this subsection if the Office determines that such exceptions are necessary to ensure the recruitment or retention of qualified employees.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the adjustment in rates of basic pay for the statutory pay systems that take place in fiscal year 2015 under sections 5344 and 5348 of title 5, United States Code, shall be—

(1) not less than the percentage received by employees in the same location whose rates of basic pay are adjusted pursuant to the statutory pay systems under sections 5303 and 5304 of title 5, United States Code: *Provided*, That prevailing rate employees at locations where there are no employees whose pay is increased pursuant to sections 5303 and 5304 of title 5, United States Code, and prevailing rate employees described in section 5343(a)(5) of title 5, United States Code, shall be considered to be located in the pay locality designated as ''Rest of United States'' pursuant to section 5304 of title 5, United States Code, for purposes of this subsection; and

(2) effective as of the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning after September 30, 2014.

SEC. 738. (a) The Vice President may not receive a pay raise in calendar year 2015, notwithstanding the rate adjustment made under section 104 of title 3, United States Code, or any other provision of law.

(b) An employee serving in an Executive Schedule position, or in a position for which the rate of pay is fixed by statute at an Executive Schedule rate, may not receive a pay rate increase in calendar year 2015, notwithstanding schedule adjustments made under section 5318 of title 5, United States Code, or any other provision of law, except as provided in subsection (g), (h), or (i). This subsection applies only to employees who are holding a position under a political appointment.

(c) A chief of mission or ambassador at large may not receive a pay rate increase in calendar year 2015, notwithstanding section 401 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (Public Law 96–465) or any other provision of law, except as provided in subsection (g), (h), or (i).

(d) Notwithstanding sections 5382 and 5383 of title 5, United States Code, a pay rate increase may not be received in calendar year 2015 (except as provided in subsection (g), (h), or (i)) by—

(1) a noncareer appointee in the Senior Executive Service paid a rate of basic pay at or above level IV of the Executive Schedule; or

(2) a limited term appointee or limited emergency appointee in the Senior Executive Service serving under a political appointment and paid a rate of basic pay at or above level IV of the Executive Schedule.

(e) Any employee paid a rate of basic pay (including any locality-based payments under section 5304 of title 5, United States Code, or similar authority) at or above level IV of the Executive Schedule who serves under a political appointment may not receive a pay rate increase in calendar year 2015, notwithstanding any other provision of law, except as provided in subsection (g), (h), or (i). This subsection does not apply to employees in the General Schedule pay system or the Foreign Service pay system, or to employees appointed under section 3161 of title 5, United States Code, or to employees in another pay system whose position would be classified at GS–15 or below if chapter 51 of title 5, United States Code, applied to them.

(f) Nothing in subsections (b) through (e) shall prevent employees who do not serve under a political appointment from receiving pay increases as otherwise provided under applicable law.

(g) A career appointee in the Senior Executive Service who receives a Presidential appointment and who makes an election to retain Senior Executive Service basic pay entitlements under section 3392 of title 5, United States Code, is not subject to this section.

(h) A member of the Senior Foreign Service who receives a Presidential appointment to any position in the executive branch and who makes an election to retain Senior Foreign Service pay entitlements under section 302(b) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (Public Law 96–465) is not subject to this section.

(i) Notwithstanding subsections (b) through (e), an employee in a covered position may receive a pay rate increase upon an authorized movement to a different covered position with higher-level duties and a pre-established higher level or range of pay, except that any such increase must be based on the rates of pay and applicable pay limitations in effect on December 31, 2013.

(j) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for an individual who is newly appointed to a covered position during the period of time subject to this section, the initial pay rate shall be based on the rates of pay and applicable pay limitations in effect on December 31, 2013.

(k) If an employee affected by subsections (b) through (e) is subject to a biweekly pay period that begins in calendar year 2015 but ends in calendar year 2016, the bar on the employee's receipt of pay rate increases shall apply through the end of that pay period.

SEC. 739. (a) The head of any Executive branch department, agency, board, commission, or office funded by this or any other appropriations Act shall submit annual reports to the Inspector General or senior ethics official for any entity without an Inspector General, regarding the costs and contracting procedures related to each conference held by any such department, agency, board, commission, or office during fiscal year 2015 for which the cost to the United States Government was more than $100,000.

(b) Each report submitted pursuant to subsection (a) shall include, with respect to each conference described in subsection (a) held during the applicable period—

(1) a description of the purpose of the conference;

(2) the number of participants attending each conference;

(3) a detailed statement of the costs to the government for the conference, including—

(A) the cost of any food or beverages;

(B) the cost of any audio-visual services;

(C) the cost of employee or contractor travel to and from the conference; and

(D) a discussion of the methodology used to determine which costs relate to the conference; and

(4) a description of the contracting procedures used, including—

(A) whether contracts were awarded on a competitive basis; and

(B) a discussion of any cost comparison conducted by the departmental component or office in evaluating potential contractors for the conference.

(c) Not later than 15 days after the date of a conference held by any Executive branch department, agency, board, commission, or office funded by this or any other appropriations Act during fiscal year 2015 for which the cost to the United States Government was more than $20,000, the head of any such department, agency, board, commission, or office shall notify the Inspector General or senior ethics official for any entity without an Inspector General, of the date, location, and number of employees attending such conference.

(d) A grant or contract funded by amounts appropriated by this or any other appropriations Act may not be used for the purpose of defraying the costs of a conference described in subsection (c) that is not directly and programmatically related to the purpose for which the grant or contract was awarded, such as a conference held in connection with planning, training, assessment, review, or other routine purposes related to a project funded by the grant or contract.

(e) None of the funds made available in this or any other appropriations Act may be used for travel and conference activities that are not in compliance with Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M–12–12 dated May 11, 2012.

SEC. 740. None of the funds made available in this or any other appropriations Act may be used to increase, eliminate, or reduce funding for a program, project, or activity as proposed in the President's budget request for a fiscal year until such proposed change is subsequently enacted in an appropriation Act, or unless such change is made pursuant to the reprogramming or transfer provisions of this or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 741. Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ''this Act'' contained in any title other than title IV or VIII shall not apply to such title IV or VIII.

VIII

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 801. There are appropriated from the applicable funds of the District of Columbia such sums as may be necessary for making refunds and for the payment of legal settlements or judgments that have been entered against the District of Columbia government.

SEC. 802. None of the Federal funds provided in this Act shall be used for publicity or propaganda purposes or implementation of any policy including boycott designed to support or defeat legislation pending before Congress or any State legislature.

SEC. 803. (a) None of the Federal funds provided under this Act to the agencies funded by this Act, both Federal and District government agencies, that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2015, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditures for an agency through a reprogramming of funds which—

(1) creates new programs;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or responsibility center;

(3) establishes or changes allocations specifically denied, limited or increased under this Act;

(4) increases funds or personnel by any means for any program, project, or responsibility center for which funds have been denied or restricted;

(5) re-establishes any program or project previously deferred through reprogramming;

(6) augments any existing program, project, or responsibility center through a reprogramming of funds in excess of $3,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; or

(7) increases by 20 percent or more personnel assigned to a specific program, project or responsibility center,

unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(b) The District of Columbia government is authorized to approve and execute reprogramming and transfer requests of local funds under this title through November 7, 2015.

SEC. 804. None of the Federal funds provided in this Act may be used by the District of Columbia to provide for salaries, expenses, or other costs associated with the offices of United States Senator or United States Representative under section 4(d) of the District of Columbia Statehood Constitutional Convention Initiatives of 1979 (D.C. Law 3–171; sec. 1–123, D.C. Official Code).

SEC. 805. Except as otherwise provided in this section, none of the funds made available by this Act or by any other Act may be used to provide any officer or employee of the District of Columbia with an official vehicle unless the officer or employee uses the vehicle only in the performance of the officer's or employee's official duties. For purposes of this section, the term ''official duties'' does not include travel between the officer's or employee's residence and workplace, except in the case of—

(1) an officer or employee of the Metropolitan Police Department who resides in the District of Columbia or is otherwise designated by the Chief of the Department;

(2) at the discretion of the Fire Chief, an officer or employee of the District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department who resides in the District of Columbia and is on call 24 hours a day or is otherwise designated by the Fire Chief;

(3) the Mayor of the District of Columbia;

(4) the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia;

(5) at the discretion of the Chief Medical Examiner, an employee of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner who resides in the District and is on call 24 hours a day or is otherwise designated by the Chief Medical Examiner;

(6) at the discretion of the Director of the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency, an officer or employee of the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency who resides in the District and is on call 24 hours a day or is otherwise designated by the Director; and

(7) at the discretion of the Director of the Department of Corrections, an officer or employee of the District of Columbia Department of Corrections who resides in the District of Columbia and is on call 24 hours a day or is otherwise designated by the Director.

SEC. 806. (a) None of the Federal funds contained in this Act may be used by the District of Columbia Attorney General or any other officer or entity of the District government to provide assistance for any petition drive or civil action which seeks to require Congress to provide for voting representation in Congress for the District of Columbia.

(b) Nothing in this section bars the District of Columbia Attorney General from reviewing or commenting on briefs in private lawsuits, or from consulting with officials of the District government regarding such lawsuits.

SEC. 807. None of the Federal funds contained in this Act may be used for any program of distributing sterile needles or syringes for the hypodermic injection of any illegal drug.

SEC. 808. Nothing in this Act may be construed to prevent the Council or Mayor of the District of Columbia from addressing the issue of the provision of contraceptive coverage by health insurance plans, but it is the intent of Congress that any legislation enacted on such issue should include a ''conscience clause'' which provides exceptions for religious beliefs and moral convictions.

SEC. 809. (a) None of the Federal funds contained in this Act may be used to enact or carry out any law, rule, or regulation to legalize or otherwise reduce penalties associated with the possession, use, or distribution of any schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) or any tetrahydrocannabinols derivative for any purpose.

(b) None of the funds contained in this Act may be used to enact or carry out any law, rule, or regulation to legalize or otherwise reduce penalties associated with the possession, use, or distribution of any schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) or any tetrahydrocannabinols derivative for recreational purposes.

SEC. 810. None of the funds appropriated under this Act shall be expended for any abortion except where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term or where the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest.

SEC. 811. (a) No later than 30 calendar days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chief Financial Officer for the District of Columbia shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress, the Mayor, and the Council of the District of Columbia, a revised appropriated funds operating budget in the format of the budget that the District of Columbia government submitted pursuant to section 442 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (D.C. Official Code, sec. 1–204.42), for all agencies of the District of Columbia government for fiscal year 2015 that is in the

total amount of the approved appropriation and that realigns all budgeted data for personal services and other-than-personal services, respectively, with anticipated actual expenditures.

(b) This section shall apply only to an agency for which the Chief Financial Officer for the District of Columbia certifies that a reallocation is required to address unanticipated changes in program requirements.

SEC. 812. No later than 30 calendar days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chief Financial Officer for the District of Columbia shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress, the Mayor, and the Council for the District of Columbia, a revised appropriated funds operating budget for the District of Columbia Public Schools that aligns schools budgets to actual enrollment. The revised appropriated funds budget shall be in the format of the budget that the District of Columbia government submitted pursuant to section 442 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (D.C. Official Code, Sec. 1–204.42).

SEC. 813. (a) Amounts appropriated in this Act as operating funds may be transferred to the District of Columbia's enterprise and capital funds and such amounts, once transferred, shall retain appropriation authority consistent with the provisions of this Act.

(b) The District of Columbia government is authorized to reprogram or transfer for operating expenses any local funds transferred or reprogrammed in this or the four prior fiscal years from operating funds to capital funds, and such amounts, once transferred or reprogrammed, shall retain appropriation authority consistent with the provisions of this Act.

(c) The District of Columbia government may not transfer or reprogram for operating expenses any funds derived from bonds, notes, or other obligations issued for capital projects.

SEC. 814. None of the Federal funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, nor may any be transferred to other appropriations, unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 815. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law or under this Act, not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances remaining available at the end of fiscal year 2015 from appropriations of Federal funds made available for salaries and expenses for fiscal year 2015 in this Act, shall remain available through September 30, 2016, for each such account for the purposes authorized: *Provided*, That a request shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for approval prior to the expenditure of such funds: *Provided further*, That these requests shall be made in compliance with reprogramming guidelines outlined in section 803 of this Act.

SEC. 816. (a) During fiscal year 2016, during a period in which neither a District of Columbia continuing resolution or a regular District of Columbia appropriation bill is in effect, local funds are appropriated in the amount provided for any project or activity for which local funds are provided in the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Request Act of 2015 as submitted to Congress (subject to any modifications enacted by the District of Columbia as of the beginning of the period during which this subsection is in effect) at the rate set forth by such Act.

(b) Appropriations made by subsection (a) shall cease to be available—

(1) during any period in which a District of Columbia continuing resolution for fiscal year 2016 is in effect; or

(2) upon the enactment into law of the regular District of Columbia appropriation bill for fiscal year 2016.

(c) An appropriation made by subsection (a) is provided under the authority and conditions as provided under this Act and shall be available to the extent and in the manner that would be provided by this Act.

(d) An appropriation made by subsection (a) shall cover all obligations or expenditures incurred for such project or activity during the portion of fiscal year 2016 for which this section applies to such project or activity.

(e) This section shall not apply to a project or activity during any period of fiscal year 2016 if any other provision of law (other than an authorization of appropriations)—

(1) makes an appropriation, makes funds available, or grants authority for such project or activity to continue for such period, or

(2) specifically provides that no appropriation shall be made, no funds shall be made available, or no authority shall be granted for such project or activity to continue for such period.

(f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect obligations of the government of the District of Columbia mandated by other law.

SEC. 817. Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ''this Act'' contained in this title or in title IV shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of this title or of title IV.

TITLE IX—ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 901. (a) No funds appropriated by this Act shall be available to pay for an abortion or the administrative expenses in connection with a multi-State qualified health plan offered under a contract under section 1334 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 USC 18054) which provides any benefits or coverage for abortions.

(b) The provision of subsection (a) shall not apply where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term, or the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest.

The Acting CHAIR. Are there any amendments to that portion of the bill?

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

SPENDING REDUCTION ACCOUNT

SEC. 902. The amount by which the applicable allocation of new budget authority made by the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives under section 302(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 exceeds the amount of proposed new budget authority is $0.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois) having assumed the chair, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5016) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

REMEMBERING CAPTAIN MARSHALL HANSON

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize retired Captain Marshall Hanson, United States Navy, who suddenly passed away last week at the age of 63.

I worked closely with Captain Hanson in his role as the director of legislation and military policy at the Reserve Officers Association. I know that so many of his friends and colleagues share my sentiments when I say that we have lost a tireless advocate of America's Reservists and the men and women who serve in uniform.

Captain Hanson was born in Darby, Pennsylvania, and raised in Glen Rock, New Jersey, and Seattle, Washington. A 1972 graduate of the University of Washington, he was commissioned through Naval ROTC. Later, he earned an MBA from the University of Washington and graduated with distinction from the Naval War College.

Captain Hanson served 3 years in Active Duty and 27 years in the Naval Reserve, retiring in August 2002, before continuing his service to those in uniform through his advocacy on Capitol Hill.

I offer my thoughts and prayers to Captain Hanson's family and loved ones. May he rest in peace.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CULBERSON (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of travel delays.

Mr. MARINO (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of a health issue in the family.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. GALLEGO (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of funeral in district.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1376. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 360 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive in Jersey City, New Jersey, as the ''Judge Shirley A. Tolentino Post Office Building''.

H.R. 1813. An act to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 162 Northeast Avenue in Tallmadge, Ohio, as the ''Lance Corporal Daniel Nathan Deyarmin, Jr., Post Office Building''.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, July 15, 2014, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

6379. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Continuation of Conservation Reserve Program, Including Transition Incentives Program received June 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6380. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's ''Major'' final rule — Application of ''Security-Based Swap Dealer'' and ''Major Security-Based Swap Participant'' Definitions to Cross-Border Security-Based Swap Activities [Release No.: 34-72472; File No.: S7-02-13] (RIN: 3235-AL25) received July 2, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

6381. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Priorities, Requirement, and Definitions; Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) Program [Docket ID: ED-2013-OESE-0159; CFDA Number: 84.215G] received June 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

6382. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule — Ninety-Day Waiting Period Limitation (RIN: 1210-AB61) received June 25, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

6383. 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; Connecticut; Reasonably Available Control Technology Update to Address Control Techniques Guidelines Issued in 2006, 2007, and 2008 [EPA-R01-OAR-2010-0460; A-1-FRL-9904-73-Region 1] received June 4, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6384. 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; New Hampshire; Decommissioning of Stage II Vapor Recovery Systems [EPA-R01-OAR-2013-0509; A-1-FRL-9909-99-Region 1] received June 4, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6385. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Kentucky; Approval of Revisions to the Jefferson County Portion of the Kentucky SIP; Emissions During Startups, Shutdowns, and Malfunctions [EPA-R04-OAR-2013-0272; FRL-9911-96-Region 4] received June 4, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6386. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Flutriafol; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0654 and EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0655; FRL-9910-38] received June 4, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6387. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Imazapic; Pesticide Tolerances; Technical Correction [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0384; FRL-9911-17] received June 4, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6388. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Sodium bisulfate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0922; FRL-9910-50] received June 4, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6389. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Spirodiclofen; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0411; FRL-9910-52] received June 4, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6390. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Monongahela River; Pittsburgh, PA [Docket Number: USCG-2014-0231] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received June 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6391. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Waiver of Citizenship Requirements for Crewmembers on Commercial Fishing Vessels [Docket No.: USCG-2010-0625] (RIN: 1625-AB50) received June 6, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6392. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone: Petaluma River Closure for Highway Widening, Petaluma River, Petaluma, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0311](RIN: 1625-AA00) received June 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6393. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Local Regulations; ODBA Draggin' on the Waccamaw, Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway; Bucksport, SC [Docket Number: USCG-2014-0097] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received June 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6394. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Cincinnati Reds Fireworks Displays Ohio River, Mile 470.1-470.4; Cincinnati, OH [Docket Number: USCG-2014-0080] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received June 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6395. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone: Village West Marina 4th of July Fireworks Display, Fourteenmile Slough, Stockton, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0307] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received June 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6396. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone: Vallejo 4th of July Fireworks, Mare Island Strait, Vallejo, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0394] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received June 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6397. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone: Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway; Morehead City, NC [Docket Number: USCG-2014-0155] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received June 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6398. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters (Previously Eurocopter France) (Airbus Helicopters) Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0984; Directorate Identifier 2013-SW-022-AD; Amendment 39-17859; AD 2014-11-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 6, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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. ISSA: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 4197. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend the period of certain authority with respect to judicial review of Merit Systems Protection Board decisions relating to whistleblowers, and for other purposes (Rept. 113–519, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CAMP: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 5021. A bill to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113–520 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 669. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5021) to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the High Trust Fund, and for other purposes (Rept. 113–521). Referred to the House Calendar.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 4197 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

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 Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 5093. A bill to direct the Federal Trade Commission to prescribe rules prohibiting the marketing of firearms to children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MILLER of Florida:

H.R. 5094. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recoup certain bonuses or awards paid to employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, 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. CICILLINE (for himself and Mr. RIGELL):

H.R. 5095. A bill to mandate all Members, Delegates, and the Resident Commissioner of the House of Representatives to complete annual ethics training conducted by the Committee on Ethics; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. PRICE of North Carolina:

H.R. 5096. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to clarify and expand Federal criminal jurisdiction over Federal contractors and employees outside the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOUSTANY:

H.R. 5097. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to allow certain veterans to participate in the Patient-Centered Community Care program; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. DAINES:

H.R. 5098. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to temporarily exempt from the employer health insurance mandate certain Medicare and Medicaid providers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5099. A bill to amend the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act to remove the National Security Agency from the list of the entities consulted during the development of information systems standards and guidelines; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. PRICE of North Carolina (for himself and Mr. PETRI):

H.R. 5100. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to report revenue generated by each sports team, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. HAHN (for herself, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. RUSH, and Ms. FUDGE):

H.R. 5101. A bill to establish a National Freight Network Trust Fund to improve the performance of the national freight network, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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 Mr. LEWIS:

H.R. 5102. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the requirement for employer disclosure of information on health care coverage of employees who are Medicare beneficiaries, 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. ROHRABACHER (for himself and Mr. RYAN of Ohio):

H.R. 5103. A bill to impose sanctions on Chinese state-owned enterprises and any person who is a member of the board of directors, an executive officer, or a senior official of a Chinese state-owned enterprise for benefitting from cyber and economic espionage against the United States; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Financial 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. ROSS (for himself, Mr. HIMES, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mrs. WAGNER):

H.R. 5104. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a demonstration program to enter into budget-neutral, performance-based contracts for energy and water conservation improvements for multifamily residential units; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. TERRY (for himself, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. LANCE, Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska):

H.R. 5105. A bill to direct the Attorney General to report to Congress on the numbers of aliens unlawfully present in the United States who appear and fail to appear before immigration judges for proceedings under section 240 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself, Ms. BASS, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. BERA of California, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. CHU, Mr. COOK, Mr. COSTA, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DENHAM, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FARR, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. HAHN, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. ISSA, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NUNES, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. PETERS of California, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. WAXMAN):

H.R. 5106. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Admiral Callaghan Lane in Vallejo, California, as the ''Philmore Graham Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. DEUTCH (for himself, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. HOLT, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. HONDA, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. MOORE, Mr. COHEN, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. WELCH, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. TONKO, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. TITUS, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. HECK of Washington, Mr. KILMER, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. HIMES, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. POCAN, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. FARR, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. GABBARD, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. HAHN, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. ENGEL):

H.J. Res. 119. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FATTAH (for himself, Mr. TURNER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. GIBSON):

H. Res. 668. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of the Community Development Block Grant program; to the Committee on Financial Services.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

243. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 41 memorializing the Congress to take such actions as are necessary to oppose the elimination of the 307th Red House Squadron based at Barksdale Air Force Base in Bossier City, Louisiana; to the Committee on Armed Services.

244. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, relative to Senate Resolution No. 340 urging the Congress and the President to reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program; to the Committee on Financial Services.

245. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Illinois, relative to Senate Resolution No. 1124 urging the Congress and the President to reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program; to the Committee on Financial Services.

246. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Idaho, relative to House Joint Memorial No. 7 opposing the FDA's proposed Produce Rule and the Adoption of any numeric water quality standard for irrigation water; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

247. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Hawaii, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 77 supporting the Hawaii Food and Wine Festival; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

248. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Utah, relative to Senate Joint Resolution No. 1 urging the Congress to take action to support, establish or construct a national museum recognizing atrocities against American Indians; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

249. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Utah, relative to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6 urging Congress to provide permanent multiyear funding for the Payment In Lieu of Taxes program; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

250. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Utah, relative to House Joint Resolution No. 21 regarding the sovereign character of Payment in Lieu of Taxes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

251. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Utah, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 13 calling upon the Federal Government to honor promises that honored with all states east of Colorado and transfer title of public lands to all willing western states; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

252. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Utah, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 10 regarding School and Institutional Trust Lands Exchange Act; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

253. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Georgia, relative to Senate Resolution No. 736 calling for the convention of the states limited to proposing amendments to the United States Constitution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

254. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Georgia, relative to Senate Resolution No. 371 calling for the convention of the states limited to proposing amendments to the United States Constitution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

255. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Vermont, relative to Senate Joint Resolution No. 27 urging the Congress to call a convention for the sole purpose of proposing amendment to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

256. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Utah, relative to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1 recognizing February 10, 2014, as the 60th anniversary of the introduction of the legislation that added the words ''Under God'' to the United States Pledge of Allegiance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

257. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Idaho, relative to House Joint Memorial No. 8 urging the Chairman of the House of Representatives Committee on Rules to consider House Resolution 231; to the Committee on Rules.

258. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 33 memorializing the Congress to review the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision Social Security benefit reductions; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

259. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 122 memorializing the Congress to take such actions as are necessary to pass the Diabetic Testing Supply Access Act; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

260. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Idaho, relative to House Joint Memorial No. 10 urging the Department of State to support the following enclosed positions in negotiations with Canada regarding any modification or future implementation of the Columbia River Treaty; jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Foreign Affairs.

261. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Idaho, relative to House Joint Memorial No. 6 urging the Department of Health and Human Services to suspend the imposition of the PPACA taxes on the healthcare industry; jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

262. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 153 memorializing the Congress to take such actions as are necessary to pass the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act of 2013; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, the Judiciary, Education and the Workforce, Ways and Means, and Science, Space, and Technology.

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 Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 5093.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

US Const. Art. I, Sec. 8, Cl. 3 (''Congress shall have the power . . . To regulate Commerce with Foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes[.]'').

By Mr. MILLER of Florida:

H.R. 5094.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clauses 12, 13, 14, and 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 5095.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. PRICE of North Carolina:

H.R. 5096.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clauses 1 (''[to] provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States'') and 10 (''[t]o define and punish. . . Offenses against the Law of Nations'').

However, the Supreme Court has held that Congress's authority to legislate with respect to matters outside U.S. boundaries is based on national sovereignty in foreign affairs and, consequently, is not limited by the enumerated powers delegated to Congress. For example, in United States v. Curtiss-Wright Export Corp. (1936), the Supreme Court ruled that the ''broad statement that the federal government can exercise no powers except those specifically enumerated in the Constitution, and such implied powers as are necessary and proper to carry into effect the enumerated powers, is categorically true only in respect of our internal affairs.''

On March 30, 2011, in United States v. Brehm, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia upheld the constitutionality of the Military Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Act (MEJA, on which the current legislation is modeled), on this basis.

By Mr. BOUSTANY:

H.R. 5097.

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. DAINES:

H.R. 5098.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1, and Article I, Section 8, Clause 3.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5099.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. PRICE of North Carolina:

H.R. 5100.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution provides Congress with the authority to ''make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper'' to provide for the ''general Welfare'' of Americans. In the Department of Education Organization Act (P.L. 96–88), Congress declared that ''the establishment of a Department of Education is in the public interest, will promote the general welfare of the United States, will help ensure that education issues receive proper treatment at the Federal level, and will enable the Federal Government to coordinate its education activities more effectively.'' The Department of Education's mission is to ''promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.''

By Ms. HAHN:

H.R. 5101.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: of the United States Constitution, seen below, this bill falls within the Constitutional Authority of the United States Congress.

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. LEWIS:

H.R. 5102.

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 of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. ROHRABACHER:

H.R. 5103.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. ROSS:

H.R. 5104.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Welfare Clause (Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1); Commerce Clause (Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3)

By Mr. TERRY:

H.R. 5105.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. I, Sec. 8, Cl. 4, granting Congress the authority ''To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, . . .''

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 5106.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 6

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. DEUTCH:

H.J. Res. 119.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article V of the Constitution: 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. 182: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa.
H.R. 318: Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 351: Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, and Mr. RIBBLE.
H.R. 401: Mr. TIBERI.
H.R. 460: Mr. COSTA and Mr. HALL.
H.R. 533: Mr. TIPTON, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, and Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 543: Mr. FORTENBERRY.
H.R. 851: Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 871: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 872: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 873: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 988: Mr. COOK and Mr. PEARCE.
H.R. 997: Mr. FLEMING.
H.R. 1015: Mr. BRIDENSTINE.
H.R. 1148: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 1179: Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee.
H.R. 1225: Mr. BENISHEK.
H.R. 1239: Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 1274: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 1330: Mr. MORAN.
H.R. 1462: Mr. GARCIA and Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H.R. 1620: Mr. COBLE, Mr. GOSAR, and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 1640: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 1698: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 1795: Mr. WALDEN and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 1812: Mr. NUNES.
H.R. 1844: Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 1852: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 1962: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 1984: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 2003: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 2220: Mr. MCCLINTOCK.
H.R. 2366: Mrs. WALORSKI, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. MARINO, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. COLE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. JOYCE, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. ROSKAM, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. WOODALL, Mr. COBLE, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. HALL, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. WALZ, Mr.PETERSON, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. JOLLY, Mr. SOUTHERLAND, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. PETRI, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. Byrne, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia, Mr. MICA, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. UPTON, and Mr. WILLIAMS.
H.R. 2428: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 2450: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 2453: Mr. FORBES and Mr. YOHO.
H.R. 2591: Mr. REED.
H.R. 2594: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 2602: Mrs. ELLMERS.
H.R. 2647: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida.
H.R. 2697: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 2727: Mr. RICE of South Carolina.
H.R. 2801: Mr. FARENTHOLD.
H.R. 2835: Mr. MILLER of Florida and Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 2847: Mr. DEUTCH, Mrs. LOWEY, and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 2918: Mr. CRAMER and Mr. FATTAH.
H.R. 2937: Mr. FORBES.
H.R. 2959: Mr. YOHO and Mr. RIGELL.
H.R. 3040: Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 3136: Mr. ROTHFUS.
H.R. 3310: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida.
H.R. 3367: Mr. FLEISCHMANN.
H.R. 3374: Mr. MEEKS.
H.R. 3377: Mr. MCKINLEY.
H.R. 3382: Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 3490: Mr. TURNER.
H.R. 3544: Mr. COOK and Mr. STEWART.
H.R. 3662: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 3698: Mr. FARENTHOLD.
H.R. 3708: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 3709: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 3712: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 3723: Mr. MORAN.
H.R. 3858: Ms. GABBARD.
H.R. 3877: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.
H.R. 3978: Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 3992: Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. BERA of California, Mr. HORSFORD, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 4041: Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. ROHRABACHER, and Mr. RIGELL.
H.R. 4056: Mr. LATTA.
H.R. 4103: Mr. DEUTCH.
H.R. 4119: Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 4143: Mrs. ELLMERS and Mrs. BUSTOS.
H.R. 4159: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 4190: Mr. ELLISON and Mr. STEWART.
H.R. 4237: Mr. BARLETTA.
H.R. 4251: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 4272: Mr. LAMBORN.
H.R. 4276: Mr. ENYART.
H.R. 4306: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 4325: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. DEUTCH, and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 4330: Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 4351: Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 4365: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 4387: Mr. PETERS of Michigan.
H.R. 4427: Ms. SHEA-PORTER and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 4446: Mr. YOHO.
H.R. 4447: Mr. BENTIVOLIO.
H.R. 4504: Mr. SIRES.
H.R. 4567: Mr. HASTINGS of Washington.
H.R. 4577: Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. WHITFIELD, and Mr. TIERNEY.
H.R. 4582: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 4625: Mr. THORNBERRY.
H.R. 4634: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 4659: Mr. ROHRABACHER.
H.R. 4693: Mr. KEATING, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, and Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 4701: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 4717: Mr. WALBERG and Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 4726: Mr. SCHOCK.
H.R. 4736: Mr. OWENS.
H.R. 4749: Mr. KLINE, Mrs. ELLMERS, and Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 4750: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 4781: Mr. BENISHEK.
H.R. 4807: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 4831: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 4864: Ms. SHEA-PORTER and Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 4871: Mr. HURT and Mr. ROGERS of Alabama.
H.R. 4906: Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 4920: Mr. TERRY and Mr. ROKITA.
H.R. 4960: Mr. REED, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 4971: Mr. PEARCE.
H.R. 4979: Mr. GOHMERT.
H.R. 4982: Mrs. CAPITO.
H.R. 4983: Mrs. CAPITO and Mr. ROTHFUS.
H.R. 4984: Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. ROTHFUS, and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 4988: Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. YOHO, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. MILLER of Florida, and Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 5014: Mr. BENTIVOLIO and Mr. WHITFIELD.
H.R. 5018: Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. SOUTHERLAND, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. BARR, Mr. MESSER, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. DUFFY, and Mr. HULTGREN.
H.R. 5029: Mr. SWALWELL of California.
H.R. 5051: Mr. WALZ, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. HECK of Washington, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 5052: Mr. RAHALL.
H.R. 5053: Mr. FLEMING, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. Stewart, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. SMITH of Texas, and Mrs. BACHMANN.
H.R. 5060: Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. CHU, and Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 5078: Mr. DENHAM, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. PERRY, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BRIDENSTINE, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. HANNA, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, and Mr. COLLINS of New York.
H.R. 5081: Mr. PAULSEN.
H.R. 5084: Mr. POLIS, Ms. BASS, and Mr. COSTA.
H.J. Res. 41: Mr. KINGSTON.
H.J. Res. 118: Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. PERRY, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. HUELSKAMP, and Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.
H. Con. Res. 86: Mr. STIVERS.
H. Res. 109: Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. AMODEI, and Mr. GOWDY.
H. Res. 456: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H. Res. 522: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York and Mr. CAPUANO.
H. Res. 525: Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, and Mr. MURPHY of Florida.
H. Res. 536: Ms. KUSTER and Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.
H. Res. 570: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H. Res. 614: Mr. POSEY, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. MARCHANT, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. POMPEO, Mr. BACHUS, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. DESANTIS, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. BENTIVOLIO, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. OLSON, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. LABRADOR, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. YOHO, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. RIBBLE.
H. Res. 620: Mr. LOBIONDO and Mr. LANCE.
H. Res. 622: Mr. STEWART.
H. Res. 633: Mr. YOHO.
H. Res. 644: Mr. FLEMING, Mrs. BLACK and Mr. POMPEO.
H. Res. 665: Mr. LANCE.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS LIMITED, TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. HASTINGS OF WASHINGTON

The provisions of H.R. 5021, the Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014, that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Natural Resources do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of House rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. KLINE

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Education and the Workforce in H.R. 5021, the Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014, do not contain any congressional earmarks limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF TEXAS

The provisions that warranted a referral on Science, Space, and Technology in H.R. 5021, do not contain any congressional earmarks limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. UPTON

The provisions that wrranted a referral to the Committee on Energy and Commence in H.R. 5021 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 5016

OFFERED BY: MR. FLEMING

AMENDMENT NO. 1: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement guidance FIN-2014-G001 (relating to BSA Expectations Regarding Marijuana-Related Businesses) issued on February 14, 2014.

H.R. 5016

OFFERED BY: MR. MEEHAN

AMENDMENT NO. 2: At the end of the bill, before the short title, insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to modify or rebuild any portion of the White House bowling alley, including using phenolic synthetic material.

H.R. 5016

OFFERED BY: MR. CAPUANO

AMENDMENT NO. 3: Page 104, beginning on line 22, strike section 626.

H.R. 5016

OFFERED BY: MR. BACHUS

AMENDMENT NO. 4: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to reinstall the Red Mountain sculpture on the plaza of the Hugo Black Courthouse in Birmingham, Alabama.

H.R. 5016

OFFERED BY: MR. SESSIONS

AMENDMENT NO. 5: Page 2, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,750,000)''.

Page 152, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $1,750,000)''.

H.R. 5016

OFFERED BY: MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 6: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of section 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to confidentiality and disclosure of returns and return information).

H.R. 5016

OFFERED BY: MR. LYNCH

AMENDMENT NO. 7: Page 5, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $3,339,000)''.

Page 67, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,339,000)''.

Page 68, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,669,500)''.

Page 68, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,669,500)''.

Page 71, line 3, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,669,500)''.

H.R. 5016

OFFERED BY: MS. WATERS

AMENDMENT NO. 8: Page 85, line 19, insert after the dollar amount insert the following: ''(increased by $300,000,000)''.

Page 86, line 16, insert after the dollar amount insert the following: ''(increased by $300,000,000)''.

H.R. 5016

OFFERED BY: MS. WATERS

AMENDMENT NO. 9: Page 104, after line 21, insert the following:

SEC. ____. Section 204 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80b–4) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) INSPECTION AND EXAMINATION FEES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall collect an annual fee from investment advisers that are subject to inspection or examination by the Commission under this title to defray the cost of such inspections and examinations.

''(2) EXEMPTIONS FOR CERTAIN STATE-REGULATED INVESTMENT ADVISERS.—No fees shall be collected under this subsection from any investment adviser that is prohibited from registering with the Commission under section 203 by reason of section 203A.

''(3) FEE AMOUNTS.—

''(A) AMOUNT TO BE COLLECTED.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall seek to ensure that the aggregate amount of fees collected under this subsection with respect to a specific fiscal year are equal to the estimated cost of the Commission in carrying out additional inspections and examinations for such fiscal year.

''(ii) ADDITIONAL INSPECTIONS AND EXAMINATIONS DEFINED.—For purposes of this subparagraph and with respect to a fiscal year, the term 'additional inspections and examinations' means those inspections and examinations of investment advisers under this title for such fiscal year that exceed the number of inspections and examinations of investment advisers under this title conducted during fiscal year 2012.

''(B) FEE CALCULATION FORMULA.—The Commission shall establish by rulemaking a formula for determining the fee amount to be assessed against individual investment advisers, which shall take into account the following factors:

''(i) The anticipated costs of conducting inspections and examinations of investment advisers under this title, including the anticipated frequency of such inspections and examinations.

''(ii) The investment adviser's size, including the assets under management of the investment adviser.

''(iii) The number and type of clients of the investment adviser, and the extent to which the adviser's clients pay other fees established by the Commission, including registration and transaction fees.

''(iv) Such other objective factors, such as risk characteristics, as the Commission determines to be appropriate.

''(C) ADJUSTMENT OF FORMULA.—Prior to the end of each fiscal year, the Commission shall review the fee calculation formula and, if, after allowing for a period of public comment, the Commission determines that the formula needs to be revised, the Commission shall revise such formula before fees are assessed for the following fiscal year.

''(4) PUBLIC DISCLOSURES.—The Commission shall make the following information publicly available, including on the Web site of the Commission:

''(A) The formula used to determine the fee amount to be assessed against individual investment advisers, and any adjustment made to such formula.

''(B) The factors used to determine such formula, including any additional objective factors used by the Commission pursuant to paragraph (3)(B)(iv).

''(5) AUDIT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall, every 2 years, conduct an audit of the use of the fees collected by the Commission under this subsection, the reviews of the formula used to calculate such fees, and any adjustments made by the Commission to such formula.

''(B) REPORT.—After conducting each audit required under subparagraph (A), the Comptroller General shall issue a report on such audit to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

''(6) TREATMENT OF FEES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Funds derived from fees assessed under this subsection shall be available to the Commission, without further appropriation or fiscal year limitation, to pay any costs associated with inspecting and examining investment advisers that are subject to inspection and examination under this title.

''(B) FUNDS NOT PUBLIC FUNDS.—Funds derived from fees assessed under this subsection shall not be construed to be Government or public funds or appropriated money. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds derived from fees assessed under this subsection shall not be subject to apportionment for the purpose of chapter 15 of title 31, United States Code, or under any other authority.

''(C) FUNDS SUPPLEMENTAL TO OTHER AMOUNTS.—Funds derived from fees assessed under this subsection shall supplement, and be in addition to, any other amounts available to the Commission, under a regular appropriation or otherwise, for the purpose described in subparagraph (A).''.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 160 WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JULY 14, 2014 No. 109

Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable CHRISTOPHER MURPHY, a Senator from the State of Connecticut.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, in a turbulent world filled with wars and rumors of war, be merciful and bless us.

May Your ways be known to our Senators, and may they seek Your guidance. Carry them in Your strong arms, enabling them to accomplish with Your might what they cannot do with their strength alone.

O God, summon Your might and display Your power in these challenging days of Earth's history. Use us to speak of Your majesty, power, and strength to those held captive by fear.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer 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.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 14, 2014.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable CHRISTOPHER MURPHY, a Senator from the State of Connecticut, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. MURPHY thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

PROTECT WOMEN'S HEALTH FROM CORPORATE INTERFERENCE ACT OF 2014—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 459, S. 2578, the Protect Women's Health From Corporate Interference Act.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 459, S. 2578, a bill to ensure that employers cannot interfere in their employees' birth control and other health care decisions.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, if any, there will be a period of morning business until 6 p.m. this evening, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each. There will be no rollcall votes during today's session of the Senate. The reason for that is last week we were able to get a few things done. We were able to do some things around here the way we used to do them.

I know my Republican colleagues lament how things used to be. Well, I was there. I know how things used to be. One of the things we used to do is we would work out pieces of legislation, as we did on terrorism insurance. We have a number of people who worked hard on that: Chairman JOHNSON, Senator SCHUMER—he worked with Ranking Member CRAPO—and they came up with a way forward on an important piece of legislation. There will be some amendments. We will finish that legislation this week—very important, important to our country, important to our economy, important to the construction industry. So I was very happy to see that done. So there are no votes tonight, and that is the reason for that.

There will be no rollcall votes during today's session, as I mentioned. The next rollcall votes will be tomorrow at noon. Those will be two cloture votes on nominees to be members of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

SUING THE PRESIDENT

Mr. President, the Republicans have made a decision on a lawsuit against President Obama. It is difficult to understand how they have become so desperate that now they are talking about: Our issue of the day is not the minimum wage. Our issue of the day is not that women and men get the same amount of money for doing the same work. The issue of the day is not the crippling debt that is staggering this country; that is, student loan debt. Extended unemployment benefits—that is nothing they are focused on. I could go through a long list of what is important to the middle class that they simply are ignoring. So what are they doing to solve the problems of this country? Suing the President.

Mr. President, listen to what they are suing him about. They have been broadcasting for weeks their intention to sue the President, but they just did not know why. That is what they said, not I. Now, after misstep after misstep after misstep, they know why they are suing the President; they want to litigate ObamaCare.

The Acting President pro tempore has done a remarkably good job of calling out Republican Senators when they come to the floor and make these ridiculously false statements, and I appreciate that. I think everybody in the country, if they do not, should appreciate what the junior Senator from Connecticut has done.

House Republicans have identified President Obama's delayed enforcement of employer obligations in the

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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Affordable Care Act as the centerpiece of that frivolous lawsuit. This provision, which affects companies with 50 or more full-time employees, ensures that employers pay their fair share if their employees receive health subsidies. But listen to this: The irony, of course, is that this specific provision, which is in the bill that became law, came about as a result of the Republicans wanting to put it in the bill. Senator GRASSLEY, Senator ENZI, and former Senator Snowe—this was something they worked on with Senator Baucus and other Members to come up with this bill. They placed it in the bill. It became law.

Even more absurd is the fact that Republicans in Congress have long targeted this specific provision of comprehensive health reform. In fact, just after President Obama announced the delay of the employer provision, House Republicans voted on legislation to do the exact same thing—delay the so-called mandate. So they are suing the President of the United States because he did what they wanted him to do—delay the mandate.

Every word I have spoken I wrote down in my own handwriting. That is what they wanted to do. They wanted him to do this. He did it and they sued him for doing what they wanted him to do. They could have applauded him.

House Republicans are trying something worthy of daytime television's ''The People's Court'' on one of those channels you do not watch very much. There are a lot of court channels, but this would be one where you would really have to be desperate to watch. They would not put it on a channel that made any common sense.

So, to sum it up, Republicans create an employer obligation provision in the Affordable Care Act. The Affordable Care Act becomes law. Republicans vilify the employer provision they themselves authored. Republicans demand that the employer provision in ObamaCare be delayed. President Obama agrees to delay the employer provision, and House Republicans sue President Obama for delaying the employer provision. Is this weird? Is this weird? I can answer my own question. Yes, it is weird.

This is the behavior we have come to expect from the Republican Party that is determined to do one thing: undermine this President. No matter the issue, even when they ask him to do it, they oppose him on it. They sue him this time.

We have seen this so often in the Senate. It is not just in the House. Last week the Republicans filibustered a bill on which there were 26 Republican cosponsors. That is a new one. More than half of the Republican Senators put their names on a bill and then turned around and voted against it.

With this provision in the health care law, House Republicans are ignoring the fact that they gave President George W. Bush a pass for doing the exact same thing—delaying a specific provision of a congressionally passed health care law. Then President Bush, through Executive order, waived Medicare Part D penalties for seniors enrolled after the deadline. He did this by Executive order. Republican leadership in the House did not consider suing President Bush for his administration's delay of health care law. So they chose now to do this. Why? Because it is President Obama.

While Republicans accuse President Obama of Executive overreach, they neglect the fact that he has issued far fewer Executive orders than any two-term President in the last 50 years. President George W. Bush issued 291 Executive orders. President Clinton issued 364 Executive orders. President Reagan is the record holder; he issued 381 Executive orders. President Obama is not close to their records. He is 109 behind President Bush. He is 182 behind President Clinton. He is 199 behind President Reagan. What is the President's tally to date? As I have indicated, he is behind them all—an 8-year President. He has issued only 182.

Republicans' disdain for President Obama and health care reform has prevented them from accepting the obvious: ObamaCare is proving more and more successful every day. It seems as if every week—sometimes every other day—there is some new study or survey showing how good ObamaCare is, how it is helping American families.

Mr. President, the Commonwealth Fund:

> The uninsured rate for people ages 19 to 64 declined from 20 percent in the July-to-September 2013 period to 15 percent in the April-to-June 2014 period. An estimated 9.5 million fewer adults were uninsured.

That is big-time stuff.

> Young men and women drove a large part of the decline: the uninsured rate for 19-to-34-year-olds declined from 28 percent to 18 percent—

Remember when everybody said young people will run from this. They are not running from this. They are running to it—

> with an estimated 5.7 million fewer young adults uninsured.

That is so important. Because of the high cost of health care previously, young people—many of them—would not do it. Mr. President, 5.7 million more would not sign up for any kind of health insurance. And what happens? Young people do not realize they get very sick also. They get into accidents also. Bad things happen to young people, as they do to middle-aged and older people. And younger people are signing up for ObamaCare.

> By June, 60 percent of adults with new coverage through the marketplaces or Medicaid reported they had visited a doctor or hospital or filled a prescription; of these, 62 percent said they could not have accessed or afforded this care previously.

That is stunning. It is no wonder—it is no wonder—we have fewer and fewer Republicans coming down here giving these speeches about how bad ObamaCare is.

A Gallup survey: ''In U.S., Uninsured Rate Sinks to 13.4% in Second Quarter.'' This deals with millions of people.

> The uninsured rate in the U.S. fell 2.2 percentage points. . . .

When you have 300 million people, 2.2 percent is a lot of people.

> The previous low point was 14.4% in the third quarter of 2008.

So it is well below that.

The RAND Corporation: ''Changes in Health Insurance Enrollment Since 2013.''

> . . . . overall, we estimate that 9.3 million more people had health care coverage in March 2014, lowering the uninsured rate from 20.5 percent to 15.8 percent.

Stunningly important numbers.

So the evidence—not the shrill statements made by my colleagues over here bemoaning the fact of how terrible things are—all the evidence indicates that the Affordable Care Act is helping millions of Americans. You can say anything you want, but facts are nasty things. They are nasty to the point that they are factual. Do not believe all these crazy statements when there is no basis for it. It is helping—this ObamaCare—Democrats, Republicans, and Independents. It is helping residents of blue States, red States, and purple States.

How about the State of Kentucky, the home State of our Republican leader? Well over 400,000 Kentuckians have signed up for coverage through the Affordable Care Act. That is not a State with the population of Illinois or New York or California or Texas; it is a sparsely populated State.

Four hundred thousand Kentuckians have signed up for coverage. Even Republicans love it. The Commonwealth Fund that I referred to found that 74 percent of newly insured Republicans are happy with their ObamaCare health coverage, but instead of embracing the good that ObamaCare has done and working with Democrats to address any necessary fixes, Republicans would rather file a foolish and meritless lawsuit.

Is there anyone who believes this lawsuit has some basis? It is a sham—an effort to appease the tea party radicals in the House of Representatives. One Yale law professor was questioned on why the lawsuit is receiving so much media attention. Here is what he said: ''I see this every day now, being covered as if it's, as if it's somehow not a joke.'' It is a joke.

Another law professor from Harvard said: ''The lawsuit will almost certainly fail, and it should fail, for lack of any Congressional standing.'' Imagine how many lawsuits there would be if House Republicans could sue the President every time they disagreed with him about something—or some future President—but there is no reasoning with the radical Republicans in the House or the tea party-driven Members of the Senate.

House Republicans would rather waste taxpayer dollars than accept the

fact that their constituents, their very own neighbors, are benefiting from health care reform.

This is a phony trial that will come up. It is a show trial. It is what Republicans want.

I guess that is what they want, but if that is truly what they want, they should go talk to Judge Judy. I think she would throw this case out in half a second. The Congress is no place for inane, politically motivated litigation. I think Judge Judy would agree.

It is expensive and wasteful. It is wasting taxpayers' hard-earned money on something that is without any merit. Enough is enough. The fight over ObamaCare should be long since ended. The law is here to stay and, more importantly, newly insured Americans, all who have signed up, not only those who are newly insured but those who have signed up who had insurance before, want the law to stay just where it is.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 6 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BAY NOMINATION

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the nomination of Norman Bay. President Obama has nominated Mr. Bay to be a commissioner of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or FERC. The President has announced that if Mr. Bay is confirmed, his plan is to elevate Mr. Bay to the position of chairman of FERC. Over the past few months there has been much discussion about whether the President should have nominated Mr. Bay to be chairman, and I think there is very good reason to ask whether the President really should have nominated Mr. Bay at all.

In my view Mr. Bay is not qualified to be a commissioner, let alone to be chairman of FERC. Mr. Bay has only 5 years of working experience in the energy sector—a total of 5 years. This is less time than the Keystone XL Pipeline has been pending with the Obama administration.

During the nomination hearing, I specifically asked Mr. Bay about his lack of experience. In response, he cited his summer internship at a Department of Energy research facility during college—a summer internship during college. With all due respect, this man does not have the background, the qualifications, and certainly not the experience to take on this important role.

The President has nominated Mr. Bay to replace FERC's current chairman Cheryl LaFleur. In contrast to Mr. Bay, whom the President has nominated to replace Ms. LaFleur, Ms. LaFleur has over 25 years of experience in the energy sector. That includes 4 years as a commissioner of FERC and 7 months as the chairman of FERC. I don't often agree with Ms. LaFleur's policies, but you cannot deny that she is qualified to serve.

Mr. Bay's lack of experience is not the only reason I oppose his nomination. There are a number of outstanding factual disputes about Mr. Bay's tenure as the FERC's enforcement director. For example, there are serious allegations that the enforcement staff, during the time Mr. Bay has been in charge, has violated basic principles of due process. These allegations include the withholding of exculpatory evidence from subjects of FERC investigations.

In May the Energy Law Journal published an article by William Scherman, who was a former general counsel of FERC and by two other attorneys familiar with this situation, and they write: ''There is a wide-spread view that the FERC enforcement process has become lop-sided and unfair.''

They said that:

> One need only to observe the fact that Enforcement Staff denies, in case after case, the existence of exculpatory or exonerating materials . . . only to . . . produce a subset of those materials too late in the process to be of use . . . in raising defenses.

The authors explain that ''one of the fundamental principles of due process is that the government is not permitted to hide information from the accused that may aid in his or her defense.'' They say that ''[FERC] Enforcement Staff routinely fails to produce exculpatory documents''—routinely fails to produce exculpatory documents.

During Mr. Bay's nominating hearing, I asked him about these allegations. At first he denied the allegations were true, but then he stated he was ''not aware of any instance in which Enforcement Staff has failed to produce exculpatory materials.''

So I asked him to clarify his remarks. I asked him whether the allegations were true or not. He pled ignorance.

With all due respect, this answer is inexcusable. This is his staff doing his work under his direction. He should know whether they withheld the evidence from defendants.

There are not only questions about his commitment to due process, but there are also questions about the President's nominee on whether he or anyone else at FERC suggested that an enforcement action be settled in return for approval of a merger. So there are questions about whether an enforcement action should be settled in return for approving a merger.

The ranking member of the energy committee asked all about this during the nomination hearing. The ranking member of the committee asked Mr. Bay about the connection between FERC's enforcement settlement with Constellation Energy and FERC's approval of Constellation's merger with Exelon.

The ranking member noted that FERC settled with Constellation the day before—1 day before it approved a merger between Constellation and Exelon. In fact, the enforcement settlement, which Mr. Bay himself signed, specifically mentions the merger between these two. The ranking member of the Energy Committee asked Mr. Bay whether he is concerned about the appearance of a quid pro quo between the settlement agreement one day and the merger approval the next. Mr. Bay admitted he would be concerned.

The ranking member then asked if he or others suggested to FERC that Constellation should settle the enforcement action in order to get its merger approved. In response he said that ''[t]o the best of [his] recollection'' he didn't make such a suggestion and that he did not know what others at FERC—including his own staff—may have suggested.

With all due respect to Mr. Bay, his answer is, at best, hard to believe.

At the time FERC's enforcement settlement with Constellation was the largest enforcement settlement completed in the history of the agency. So they make this settlement, it is the largest enforcement settlement in the agency's history, and the next day they allow a merger which has created one of the Nation's largest utilities. Are we really to believe that Mr. Bay doesn't remember what he or others at FERC said to Constellation? Can we really believe that?

I believe the energy committee or some other independent entity should get answers to these and other questions surrounding Mr. Bay's record before we decide—this Senate—to confirm and promote him.

I know that some Senate Democrats are nervous about voting for Mr. Bay—and I believe rightfully so. These Senate Democrats have said they will vote for Mr. Bay only because they believe a so-called deal was cut with President Obama. Specifically, they say the President will allow Ms. LaFleur to continue serving as chairman for 9 months after her confirmation.

The President hasn't put it in writing, hasn't really told all of the Members that. And even if the President had, this is no way for the Senate to be able to enforce it. The truth is this is

a gimmick, and it is a gimmick invented specifically by Senate Democrats so they can once again avoid standing up to President Obama and the Senate majority leader.

Let's be clear about what President Obama is asking the Senate to do. The President is asking the Senate to demote Cheryl LaFleur from being chairman—she is a highly qualified woman, a Democrat with over 25 years of experience in energy and 4 years of experience as a commissioner of FERC—in order to promote an unqualified man.

Why should the Senate do this?

The Senate majority leader put it this way in the Wall Street Journal. He said: I don't want her. ''I don't want her as chair.'' He said: ''She has done some stuff to do away with some of [Chairman] Wellinghoff's stuff.'' This is the majority leader of the Senate: ''I don't want her as chair.''

In short the President and the Senate majority leader want a rubber stamp. By all indications, they will get that with Mr. Bay.

On May 20, during his confirmation hearing, Mr. Bay admitted that he wasn't even following EPA regulations and their impact on electric reliability in this country. Two weeks later on June 4, in response to written questions, he stated the EPA's regulations are ''manageable.'' Well, either he is an exceptionally quick study or he doesn't take electric reliability seriously.

FERC is an independent agency. It needs a highly qualified leader, a leader whose record is beyond reproach, a leader who will resist political interference from the White House and the majority leader, and Mr. Bay is not that individual.

For these reasons, I am voting against Mr. Bay and urge all Members to do the same.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING CHIEF STEPHEN SAVAGE

Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful man, Stephen Savage, the chief of the Plaistow Police Department, who passed away on Friday after a 3-year battle with cancer. We are deeply saddened by the loss of Chief Savage, a beloved member of the Plaistow community, who dedicated his life to serving his fellow citizens.

For Steve, family came first. He was a devoted father, husband, and brother. We hold his wife Kristin and their sons Billy and Michael in our hearts, and we will keep them in our prayers. We share in their grief and we will be there to support and comfort them during the difficult weeks ahead.

From a young age Steve was called to serve, and he answered that call. After graduating from Stevens High School in Claremont, NH, in 1965, he enlisted in the Air Force and served our country in Vietnam. He obtained the rank of sergeant and earned several commendations for his military service. Steve was a very patriotic person.

After returning from Vietnam, Steve went on to earn a degree in criminal justice from Northeastern University. He joined the Newport, NH, police department in 1969. That was the beginning of an exceptional career in law enforcement which would span more than 40 years—including positions with the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Baltimore, MD, Police Department.

After coming home to his beloved State of New Hampshire in 1977, Steve was named chief of police in Haverhill, NH. He served as police chief in Haverhill until 1986, when he was appointed police chief in Plaistow, NH. Steve served as police chief in Plaistow for 28 years. He was the longest serving police chief in Plaistow's history.

In Plaistow Steve was a friend to all and was a constant presence at the local ballfield where he coached baseball and volunteered his time with Friends of Plaistow Recreation.

In addition to all of his responsibilities as police chief, Steve was a highly respected leader in our State's law enforcement community. He served as past president of the New Hampshire Chiefs of Police Association, where I had the privilege of working with him when I was attorney general. He served as president of the Rockingham County Chiefs of Police Association and as a member of many law enforcement organizations.

Steve was a great leader, and he was so well respected by all members of law enforcement throughout New Hampshire. His talent, dedication, and expertise helped set a gold standard of excellence for New Hampshire law enforcement. In a fitting tribute just a few weeks ago, the Plaistow Police Department named its tactical training center in Steve's honor, ensuring that his legacy will not be forgotten by the people of Plaistow or the people of New Hampshire.

He touched so many lives during his distinguished career, and one of them was mine. I had the privilege of getting to know Steve, Kristin, and his family when I served as attorney general for the State of New Hampshire.

Steve was such a kind, compassionate person and devoted to serving others. He was a man with a big heart. He had a vibrant personality that would light up a room and a great sense of humor that never faded despite his diagnosis. I was so proud to call Steve Savage my friend. I feel fortunate to have known him, and I will treasure our friendship always.

There is so much I admired about Steve Savage. He worked tirelessly to keep his community safe. When he was diagnosed with cancer 3 years ago, he didn't let up. He just kept going, spending every moment he could with his family while also continuing to lead the police department and taking part in the community activities he enjoyed. In fact, in May he served as grand marshal for the Plaistow's Memorial Day parade.

Steve and his family—and particularly his wife Kristin—faced his illness with such inspiring courage. As we know, cancer hits so many people. They found a way to turn what was a tragedy in their family into a good cause to help others. The Savage family and the Pollard School worked together to organize the Run of the Savages, a 5K run to benefit the Dana Farber Cancer Center and the Jimmy Fund.

Even in sickness Steve wanted to help others fighting the disease, a profound reflection of his generous and caring spirit. I know the Run of the Savages will continue, and I will certainly run in it again. It is a reflection of how much the Savage family has given back to the community and what an inspiration Steve's life can be for others facing the horrible disease of cancer.

Steve was determined to live life to the fullest, and he did so right up to the very end. Our State lost a truly great public servant with the passing of Steve Savage, New Hampshire's law enforcement community lost a brother, and so many of us lost a great friend.

The Savage family has lost a loving dad and our hearts ache for Kristin, Billy, and Michael. We will continue to keep them in our prayers and stand with them during this difficult time. They are an amazing family.

Steve went beyond the call of duty in everything he did as a father, as a police chief, and as a friend. And because of Steve, New Hampshire is a better place. I feel honored to have known him. His legacy will live on through all of those lives he touched. We will forever honor his memory, and we will continue to be there to support Kristin, Billy, and Michael. We are just thankful that someone such as Steve Savage came to serve our State and has been a friend to so many of us.

Thank you, Mr. President.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

I ask unanimous consent that the time in the quorum call be charged equally to both sides of the aisle.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. AYOTTE. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. NELSON. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HIRONO). Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST

Mr. NELSON. I ask unanimous consent that I be able to display in the course of my speech some small bottles of liquid that will demonstrate what I am talking about today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

E-CIGARETTES

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, I wish to show us these innocent-looking small bottles with an eye dropper of three types of liquid. This is liquid nicotine. The eye droppers are used to put that into the cartridges for electronic cigarettes, otherwise known as e-cigarettes. There are some versions that look the size of a cigarette that already have the liquid nicotine contained in them, but there are many flavors that are otherwise contained in these kinds of dispensers.

When our commerce committee had a hearing on e-cigarettes, I asked the question: Are these childproof? The answer was: No.

I asked the question: If these are not childproof, is the concentration of nicotine in these sufficient that it could harm a child? The answer was: Yes.

As a matter of fact, there are varying degrees of concentration of liquid nicotine in these bottles, but some of them are as concentrated as 540 milligrams of liquid nicotine. If a small child got into these bottles, which are not childproof, and ingested this, that child would either be deathly ill or dead. If that child gets into it and it spills on that child, it will be absorbed through the skin and likewise, according to the concentration of the nicotine, the child will be very ill.

Obviously, when we had the commerce committee hearing on e-cigarettes, I asked the question—once they said these are not childproof—of the e-cigarette industry, which was represented at the witness panel: Do you have any objection? They said: No.

So last Thursday a group of Senators filed a bill that will require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to start and adopt a rule that will cause these to be sold in childproof containers. This is a no-brainer. This is common sense.

Why hasn't it been addressed before? It defies common sense because of the danger to children. Already, in this year 2014, between January and the end of May, there were almost 2,000 calls for liquid nicotine poisoning to the poison centers around the country—just in that 5-month period. We already have a recorded incident 1 year ago or so of one child having been killed. This ought to be not only a no-brainer, it ought to fly through this Congress and get the CPSC to get on with regulating it administratively.

What is another reason? Well, look what this one is called, with a picture, Banana; this one is Naked Peach; this one is Juice E Juice. Appealing to kids? How about Banana Split or Cotton Candy or Kool-Laid Grape or Skittles or Sweet Tart or Gummi Bear or Fruity Loops or Rocket Pop or Hawaiian Punch? That is what is going on.

There happens to be a part of government that is supposed to try to protect the public from danger. This is obviously something that ought to be done.

There is a larger question, and that is the question of e-cigarettes. That is not the subject of this legislation. With all due haste, the CPSC—and, oh, by the way, why the CPSC instead of the Food and Drug Administration? Because the Consumer Product Safety Commission is vested with the authority to create container packaging and safety packaging. So if Tylenol is childproof in its packaging, if Drano is, if any other obvious item that you want to childproof is, then we best have this done and done fast. The Consumer Product Safety Commission is the way to do it.

I hope by the attention this received in the hearing 2 or 3 weeks ago, plus the fact of a group of Senators now coming together and filing this legislation, the CPSC isn't going to wait around until we pass it, but it will get on with the problem.

There is a larger question. This is on an additional but related issue, and that is the advisability of e-cigarettes and the way they are being marketed.

As a matter of fact, on e-cigarettes there is some packaging where it looks like a white cigarette. Guess what is happening. It is now like we have seen this movie before. This is a rerun of what went on 20 years ago when, finally, because of tobacco products, the advertising on television and radio was banned by law because it was geared at getting young people hooked on tobacco. There were very attractive young models who were shown smoking cigarettes, wonderfully beautiful backgrounds on the television and the beautiful music on radio, and, indeed, there were advertisements with cartoons aimed at what? It came out in all of the tobacco wars that these were aimed at young people, getting them hooked on tobacco so they would be lifelong tobacco smokers and it would be tough to kick the habit. So a couple of decades ago we went through that fight and we banned the television and radio advertising of tobacco.

Well, guess what is happening now—beautiful and handsome models with the e-cigarette, cartoons aimed at young people with e-cigarettes. So another question this Senate should consider is banning the advertising that is obviously directed at young people to try to get them hooked on this nicotine product so that it is so hard for them to get off of the nicotine addiction over the course of time.

I can tell you that the commerce committee is going to stay on this, and the first thing we can do is give a little sweet talk to the CPSC to get moving on the regulatory process of a rule to require the childproof packaging of this liquid nicotine. The next thing down the road is to stop the advertising that is being aimed directly at young people on the whole issue of electronic cigarettes.

I yield the floor and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FLORIDA'S EVERGLADES

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, I am just busting out with ideas I wish to discuss with the Senate. Since we don't have any other Senators standing in line, I will share where I have been today and what is of urgency for the environmental community and particularly the Environmental Protection Agency in the Federal Government.

We have been spending hundreds of billions of dollars to restore the Florida Everglades. This is a natural resource that is unique in all of the world, and its environmental effects are felt far beyond Florida and the United States—indeed, on the entire planet. It is a source of water that starts southwest of Orlando in a little creek called Shingle Creek and flows south through the Kissimmee chain of lakes, into the Kissimmee River, into Lake Okeechobee, the big lake in southern Florida. From there the water then flows further to the south in what is termed the River of Grass—the Florida Everglades. From there it moves very slowly through all of that grass, and it eventually ends up on the southern tip of the peninsula in Florida Bay by the Florida Keys or to the southwest of Florida, coming out through what is an area known as the Shark River Slough into the Gulf of Mexico. It is a unique natural resource.

I once had Senator BARBARA BOXER, the chairman of the environment committee, down there.

We travel in the Everglades in an airboat since there is little depth to the water. Of course, it is all watered grass. You skim across the top of the water in an airboat propelled by a big airplane propeller.

As we took Senator BOXER across this River of Grass, in the midst of what looked like a meadow in front of the airboat, suddenly she saw a doe and her fawn going through the meadow. Only this time they were obviously not in a meadow; they were in water, and they were splashing in the water as they leapt away from the airboat.

It is a unique environmental, ecological treasure with so many endangered species there, and it is a discussion for another day, how invasive species are upsetting the ecological balance, such as the imported Burmese python,

which can get up to 20 feet long. Indeed, one that was 18 feet 8 inches was caught 6 months ago. Of course, they are at the top of the food chain. They attack alligators. The fur-bearing animals in the Everglades have diminished in population because they are being consumed by these beasts that have a ravenous appetite. But that is a subject for another day.

Hundreds of billions of dollars has been spent to restore it, restoring it to correct a mistake of mankind over the course of the last century when, after the huge hurricane in the 1920s that drowned 2,000 people in the Lake Okeechobee area, the whole idea was flood control: When it floods, get the water off the land. Send it to tidewater—the Atlantic in the east, the Gulf of Mexico in the west. But that messed around with Mother Nature, and as a result the whole of the Everglades started to dry up.

Fortunately, a lot of forward-thinking people—and I am merely a steward who has come along at the right time, at the right place—have continued this effort—the Corps of Engineers, the EPA, so many of the agencies of government, Cabinet Secretaries, such as Ken Salazar at the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture Secretary. It goes on and on. The effort as a 50/50 partnership in funding this restoration has been partnered by the State of Florida and the U.S. Government, and it continues.

Alas, there is now oil drilling in the Everglades. The subject of today's meeting in Fort Myers, FL, was to gather a very courageous county commission from Collier County, their chairman, and representatives of the community, to come in to educate me on the aspects of drilling and the recent brouhaha between the State environmental agency and the Texas wildcatter, the Dan A. Hughes Company; they started fracking without the proper permits and without revealing the mechanism and the material they were using to frack.

Of course, most people have heard of fracking, but we hear of it in terms of North Dakota or Oklahoma or Texas or Pennsylvania. But Florida is not built on that kind of substrate where they are going in and breaking up that rock in the fracking to release oil and natural gas, which has now made us such a tremendous producer of both of those in the United States. No, Florida is on a different type of substrate. It is built on a honeycomb of limestone that supports the surface by it being filled with freshwater. It is not those solid rocks where the fracking for oil and gas is being done and with the high jets with chemicals breaking up that rock to release the natural gas. No, this is porous limestone formed millions of years ago by the shelled critters that ultimately fossilized. It is this honeycomb being supported by freshwater that is the substructure of the State of Florida. So we don't have any idea what this fracking is going to do not only to the quality of the water but also to the very support structure for the State.

Now, lo and behold, there are attempts for permits to drill in the 250,000-acre Big Cypress Federal preserve, which is part of the Everglades but is adjacent to the Everglades National Park. Therefore, it is time for the EPA of the Federal Government to get involved. It is time to question their authority in law as to what, after this kind of drilling is done to inject all of that stuff that is left over back down into this substrate of freshwater—what is that going to do under the Clean Water Act? What is it that could contaminate the source of drinking water? What is it going to do to the structure that upholds the surface of the State of Florida? And very importantly, since it is colocated right next to Everglades National Park and since it is a part of the area generally known as the Everglades, what is it going to do to the flora and fauna—in other words, all of that delicate ecosystem balance of the critters and the plants? What is it going to do to the very area that we are spending hundreds of billions of State taxpayer and Federal taxpayer money to restore? These are very legitimate questions.

Years ago the Collier family was very generous. They gave, fee simple to the U.S. Government, what is today the Big Cypress preserve. They retained the mineral rights. It was clearly their right to do so, and it was very generous of them to donate the property.

We have a national park ranger manager who manages that preserve. Now we have to look at what are the serious consequences of trying to convert those mineral rights that were reserved into drilling. The most immediate is that instead of seismic testing, another kind of vibration testing is expected to be done with thousands of tests in the Big Cypress Preserve. It is called thumping.

A vehicle comes in and apparently drops things onto the surface to create something—instead of seismic testing where an explosion is let off, to send down vibrations—and these triangulations, since they are doing thousands of these, would determine if there is oil there. Thus, another question that arises is, What is the environmental effect?

We definitely have a reason for the EPA, as an independent agency, for the Department of the Interior, which has jurisdiction over things such as U.S. Fish & Wildlife, U.S. Park Service, to get involved in this process and make some determinations, and if the answer is that there is not sufficient authority in law, to address it so that we can address it here as a matter of legislating law.

I wanted to make the Senate aware of this particular potential threat to the Florida Everglades.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE AMERICAN DREAM

Mr. GRASSLEY. I wish to ask my colleagues as well as myself to think about how many times we have made pessimistic-sounding statements about America's future. I want to remind my colleagues and myself about what I see as excessive pessimism about our great country, because as public figures often what we say maybe has consequences—sometimes positive, sometimes negative. Our attitudes matter and the policies shaped by those attitudes can have an enormous impact for better or for worse on the lives of Americans.

President Ronald Reagan often expressed that America's best days were yet to come. Twenty-five years later I still believe in Reagan's optimism for America. In fact, President Reagan even ended his final letter to the American people: ''I know that for America there will always be a bright dawn ahead.'' His agenda reflected that optimism and his policies worked towards a freer, more prosperous America.

But it seems such optimism about America's future might be out of fashion these days. Instead of searching for a silver lining, many pundits and politicians see nothing but clouds. For instance, after decades of hearing about how we are about to run out of fossil fuel, making energy in the future much more expensive and scarce, improved technologies have unleashed enormous reserves of natural gas. This increase in supply has driven down costs and caused electrical generation to switch from coal to natural gas. That in turn has led to substantial reductions in U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. That seems to be a silver lining.

Now there are clouds on the horizon. However, rather than to celebrate the fact that the free market is achieving one of their long-held goals, many environmentalists want to ban the technology that led to the shale gas revolution based on unscientific claims of potential groundwater contamination. It seems that it would be a terrible shame to let all of that planning for scarcity of energy to go to waste. So I guess we better not take advantage of this Nation's resources.

On another matter, we hear a lot of hand-wringing about the decline in manufacturing jobs, but this is partly due to advances in manufacturing process which seems to require fewer more-skilled and therefore higher-paying jobs. The growth in American advanced manufacturing will require job training to fill those higher-skilled, higher-paying jobs, and of course we have community colleges throughout our country

that are rising to that challenge. This is an opportunity to do insource jobs that might otherwise be done overseas. That is good news for American economic competitiveness and from the standpoint of wanting higher paying jobs for Americans. That seems to me to be a silver lining.

Now the clouds: The decliners are so heavily invested in the story of the decline of American manufacturing that it is easier to bemoan the lack of economically inefficient low-skilled jobs which are the hallmark not of Americans but of underdeveloped countries.

On another matter, the bursting of the economic bubble has forced Americans to spend less and as a result to save more. ''Spend less, save more'' seems to me to be good news. Now clouds are forming because we have economic pundits saying that ''spend less, save more'' shows a lack of consumer confidence. You could look at it as a reality check in the face of unsustainable credit card debt financing spending or is it our national goal to get people to go back to saving less in the future and spending more today? Live for today and forget about tomorrow. You would think so, based upon what you hear in the news shows.

American entrepreneurs still produce a disproportionate share of the world's major innovations. Still, we are cautioned by people who always see clouds hanging over America, that America is not graduating enough people with science and technology degrees and the best and brightest in developing countries may soon decide to stay at home to build their companies instead of coming to America.

Doomsayers have existed throughout our history. It seems to be a sign of sophistication and intellectual refinement to predict the inevitable decline of your own society.

Using 20/20 hindsight, the eventual decline of all of history's great civilizations somehow seems to be inevitable. So isn't it logical then to think our great Nation will decline as well? Perhaps the so-called great recession is a sign that America's best days are in fact already behind us. Many people in the media and government seem so caught up in this narrative they cannot see any other possibility but our decline. This fever is starting to spread to the general public as polls show a record number of Americans who think the next generation will be less well off than this generation. As a result there is a tremendous amount of energy being devoted to figuring out how to manage America's decline. This is kind of a historical determinism and pessimism that is very alien to the American character.

The rise of America as the most prosperous Nation on Earth was hardly inevitable 200 years ago. We owe our current level of prosperity to the entrepreneurial spirit and hard work of our forefathers and, yes, to their unbounded optimism in the future of this great country. An excessive focus, then, on managing decline risks becoming a self-fulfilling prophecy.

For instance, there is a lot of concern about the decline of the middle class, but instead of talking about how to unharness the entrepreneurial spirit that made America an economic super power and grew the great American middle class that we know, all the ideas from our friends across the aisle seem to focus on expanding dependency on government and more government programs. While a succession of new EPA regulations rain down on businesses causing them to pull back from expanding and hiring more people, the Democrats' solution is to keep people on unemployment benefits for a long, long time. Expensive health care reform mandates threaten to force small businesses to reduce the hours of employment and maybe not even hire more than 49 people, because when you get to 50 people there are other requirements in health care reform that kick in.

So what is the answer? Many people in this body would mandate that small business pay a much higher minimum wage. Minimum wage jobs ought to be seen as a stepping stone for low-skilled workers to begin climbing the economic ladder. However, when the economic engine stalls, the ladder of opportunity becomes harder to climb. It happens that more and more people get stuck trying to make ends meet with low wage jobs and no opportunity to get ahead. And it seems that people are concerned about tackling this problem by putting more people on food stamps.

So you get back to the American dream. The American dream is about an opportunity to work hard and earn your own success in life. Proposals to expand the welfare state to the middle class assume the American dream is somehow dead and the best we can hope for is anemic economic growth with high levels of government dependency. That is a defeatist attitude that reflects a distinct lack of faith in our great country. This is the old European model, which the experience of Greece showed to be unsustainable.

In fact, the poster child for an expensive European welfare state, Sweden, has in fact taken a new route to cut taxes and reform entitlement programs—a lesson that we ought to be looking at in America. But who would ever think that we would look to Sweden as an example to teach us how to lower taxes and reform entitlement programs? If we keep planning for decline, we will get it. But if we recover our faith in America's potential and redirect our energy towards removing barriers to economic growth and opportunity, America's best days are still ahead of us.

That leads me to repeat what Ronald Reagan said 25 years ago in that letter to the American people: ''America's best days are still ahead of her.''

SMARTER SENTENCING ACT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I want to speak to my colleagues on another issue as well, and that is something that came out of our Judiciary Committee a long time ago and is still on the calendar but probably will be brought to the Senate floor. A few weeks ago some were calling for the majority leader to bring up the so-called Smarter Sentencing Act to the Senate floor for a vote. So I come to the floor today to express my strong opposition to this bill and argue against taking the Senate's time to consider it.

In the past I pointed out that this bill would put at risk our hard-won national drop in crime. It would also reduce penalties for importing and distributing heroin, a drug that is currently devastating our communities with an epidemic of addiction and a rising number of deaths from overdoses. In part, for these reasons many law enforcement professionals have come out against this legislation. The National Association of Assistant U.S. Attorneys, Federal law enforcement officers associations, and a long list of former high-level officials—in Republican and Democratic administrations alike—are all opposed to it. Indeed page A12 of this morning's New York Times contains an article entitled: ''Second Thoughts on Lighter Sentences for Drug Smugglers.'' According to the New York Times, the sentencing changes that the administration has already pushed for are ''raising questions of whether the pendulum has swung too far.'' ''Some prosecutors say that couriers have little to no incentive to cooperate anymore.''

Border patrol officials grumble that they are working to catch smugglers, only to have them face little punishment. And judges who once denounced the harsh sentencing guidelines are now having second thoughts.

Today I point out another perhaps less understood effect of the bill which puts our national security at increased risk.

According to the Drug Enforcement Administration, terrorists are increasingly funneling illegal drugs into America, raising large sums of money to fund their activities while simultaneously harming our communities. Undoubtedly, the Obama administration's unwillingness to control our border—which we have seen recently—contributes to the problem.

Derek Maltz, Director of the Special Operations Division at the Drug Enforcement Administration, called this a two-for-one deal for terrorists: ''Poison gets distributed in the West, and they make millions in the process.''

According to a DEA spokesperson, ''Most people talk about the drug issue as a health issue, a parenting issue, an addiction issue. But the truth is, it's really a national security issue.''

In 2006, Congress took specific action to address this issue. When it reauthorized the PATRIOT Act, Congress also

made it a separate crime to manufacture or distribute illegal drugs to benefit terrorists or terrorist organizations. The law is codified at title 21, section 960(a) of the U.S. Code. It is often called the narcoterrorism law.

Just as important, Congress created mandatory minimum sentences applicable to narcoterrorism. Those sentences are set at ''not less than twice the minimum punishment'' applicable to the underlying drug trafficking offenses which are codified in title 21, section 841. However, the Smarter Sentencing Act would drastically cut the mandatory minimum sentences that apply to these underlying drug trafficking offenses. What this means is that by slashing in half the mandatory minimum sentences for the local drug dealer down the block, the Smarter Sentencing Act also slashes in half the mandatory minimum sentences for members of the Taliban, Al Qaeda or Hezbollah who deal drugs to fund their acts of terrorism.

For example, terrorists who currently face a mandatory minimum sentence of 20 years in prison for narcoterrorism would instead face only 10 years if the Smarter Sentencing Act were to become law. By cutting the mandatory minimum sentences for trafficking drugs to fund terrorism, the Smarter Sentencing Act weakens a very important tool that can be used to gain the cooperation of narcoterrorists facing prosecution. This cooperation leads to more arrests, more drug seizures, more terrorists off the streets, and more intelligence that could help prevent further attacks.

Indeed, law enforcement authorities have been supportive of the mandatory minimum sentences that apply to the narcoterrorism statute for this very reason. For example, the Assistant Administrator for Intelligence at the Drug Enforcement Administration testified before Congress that ''the robust sentencing provisions in these statutes provide incentives for defendants to cooperate with investigators, promoting success in investigations.''

The last thing we should do is weaken the leverage law enforcement currently has to win a terrorist defendant's cooperation, but that is what the Smarter Sentencing Act would in fact do.

Indeed, in opposing the bill, Federal prosecutors wrote that ''mandatory minimums . . . help gain the cooperation of defendants in lower level roles in criminal organizations to pursue higher-level targets.''

The same principle is true—and even more important—when our national security is at stake. These threats to our safety and security are not theoretical, they are very real, and the narcoterrorism law is not just a statute on the books, it is a tool that is actively used by prosecutors to protect our Nation.

For example, in 2008, Khan Mohammed, a member of the Taliban, was convicted under the narcoterrorism law of distributing heroin and opium to finance attacks against American troops in Afghanistan.

Chillingly, Mohammed was just as concerned with killing American civilians with drugs as he was with financing rocket attacks against our troops. The opium he agreed to sell was to be processed into heroin and imported into the United States. As a result, Mohammed was caught on tape exclaiming ''Good, may God turn all the infidels into dead corpses.''

He later expounded on his deadly intentions:

> May God eliminate them right now, and we will eliminate them too. Whether it is by opium or by shooting, this is our common goal.

Similarly, the narcoterrorism law was used to prosecute Afghan heroin kingpin Haji Bagcho in 2012. He was also trafficking heroin to America and funneled the proceeds to the Taliban. The evidence at trial showed that in 2006 his drug trafficking organization produced almost 20 percent of the world's opium and, similar to Mohammed, he targeted Americans. He reportedly encouraged Afghan farmers to ''grow opium so we can make heroin to kill the infidels.''

Perhaps it is little wonder, according to the Drug Enforcement Administration, heroin overdoses resulting in death in the United States increased 45 percent between 2006 and 2010.

It should go without saying that these are not individuals whose mandatory minimum sentences should be cut in half. But the authors of the Smarter Sentencing Act apparently think otherwise because that is what the bill says or maybe they don't understand what they are doing. Either way, the American people should be extremely concerned about this bill that unbelievably was reported out of the Judiciary Committee.

Some may assume that the Department of Justice has other tools to go after defendants such as these, but the only other charges that Mohammed and Bagcho faced were for unlawfully importing these illegal drugs into the United States. Unbelievably, the Smarter Sentencing Act cuts the mandatory minimum sentences for that crime in half as well.

In addition to these two cases, the Department of Justice has brought prosecutions against other narcoterrorists. Many of these individuals were linked to Hezbollah, one of the most notorious terrorist organizations in the world. In at least one instance associates of Al Qaeda were also brought to justice for their role in drug trafficking schemes.

In many of these cases, the narcoterrorism law and the ban on importing illegal drugs played a vital role in their prosecution. We should not be weakening these laws at this critical time by cutting the penalties associated with those acts of crime. Of course, if possible, I would rather these terrorists be treated as enemy combatants and not be subject to the civilian criminal justice system at all, but on those occasions when they are prosecuted in our criminal justice system, I want authorities to have the strongest tools available to address the threat these criminals pose.

According to the U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York, who has brought many of these cases, ''there is a growing nexus between drug trafficking and terrorism, a nexus that increasingly poses a clear and present danger to our national security. Combating this lethal threat requires a bold and proactive approach.'' Cutting the mandatory minimum sentences for narcoterrorists is moving in precisely the opposite direction of what the U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York said and I just quoted.

Trafficking in illegal drugs has long been understood to be a way that these terrorist organizations raise funds, but it is now equally clear that this activity is also a way for them to target our fellow citizens directly. In effect, drug trafficking is a method of waging war against the United States. It is a way to terrorize our communities with poison without firing a shot. It is a way to threaten the lives of Americans just as surely as using a bomb, a gun or a hijacked plane.

Terrorists are wielding another tool in their efforts to destroy and defeat our country. This is not the moment to weaken one of the tools we have to actually stop them. This is no time to let down our defenses. It is no time for the Senate to take up the misnamed Smarter Sentencing Act.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF RONNIE L. WHITE TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 850.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Ronnie L. White, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented

under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Ronnie L. White, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Claire McCaskill, Tim Kaine, Angus S. King, Jr., Thomas R. Carper, Bill Nelson, Jon Tester, Patty Murray, Christopher Murphy, Benjamin L. Cardin, Mark Begich, Sheldon Whitehouse, Elizabeth Warren, Debbie Stabenow, Tom Harkin, Tom Udall.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

PROTECT WOMEN'S HEALTH FROM CORPORATE INTERFERENCE ACT OF 2014—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

Mr. REID. Is the motion to proceed to S. 2578 now pending?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. It is.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I have a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 459, S. 2578, a bill to ensure that employers cannot interfere in their employees' birth control and other health care decisions.

Harry Reid, Patty Murray, Mark Udall, Richard J. Durbin, Jeff Merkley, Debbie Stabenow, Jack Reed, Carl Levin, Christopher A. Coons, Elizabeth Warren, Jeanne Shaheen, Michael F. Bennet, Jon Tester, Patrick J. Leahy, Martin Heinrich, Maria Cantwell, Christopher Murphy.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, last month we saw five male Justices give their blessing to CEOs and corporations across America to go ahead and deny legally required health care coverage for their employees. When that news broke, I was outraged, and I know I was one of millions of people across the country who were shocked and angry.

These women are looking to us. They are demanding a change. Today, as women across America took to social media for a Digital Day of Action, their message was delivered loudly and clearly when they echoed: ''My personal health care choices are not my boss's business—period.''

It wasn't just women who were speaking out on social media today. In fact, we heard from several men who understood that if bosses can deny birth control, they can deny vaccines or HIV treatments or any other basic health care service for their employees or their dependents.

I heard from Konrad in my home State of Washington on Twitter today who said he doesn't want his boss knowing what medications he is on, such as diabetes or heart medications. Konrad said, ''It is simply not my boss's business.''

I also heard from my constituents when I was home this weekend. Friday I spoke directly with business owners and others who are hearing the same thing. Women are tired of being targeted and are looking to Congress to right this wrong by the Supreme Court.

One such woman is a woman named Morgan Beach. Morgan joined me Friday at Oddfellows Cafe, which is a small Seattle business whose owners stood up and spoke out about their disgust as employers about this ruling. Morgan is one of the 58 percent of women who use contraception for reasons other than to prevent pregnancy. As she spoke about how the Supreme Court decision would impact women such as her, Morgan said: ''The terrifying power this ruling gives to a small minority to make sweeping personal decisions . . . is frightening. The simple fact is, birth control is not my boss's business!''

Morgan is right. It is not her boss's business.

We are going to be talking about this urgent issue at more length tomorrow morning, but I wanted to come to the floor this evening and share what I heard from back home this weekend and throughout today. We have legislation that is now slated for a vote later this week, and we are going to be talking about this today and tomorrow. I hope all of our colleagues are listening, because it is time for Congress to get to work. Women and men are watching.

I am delighted to be joined today by my colleague from Colorado, Senator UDALL, who is my partner in presenting this legislation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about a proposal Senator PATTY MURRAY and I have introduced to restore a woman's power to make personal health care decisions based on what is best for her and her family, not according to her employer's personal beliefs. The Protect Women's Health from Corporate Interference Act—or the Not Your Boss's Business Act—aims to counteract the far-reaching consequences of the U.S. Supreme Court's Hobby Lobby decision. That misguided Court decision allows closely held corporations to now deny their employees coverage for contraceptives through their employees' health insurance plans.

As Senator MURRAY did in her home State of Washington, I also traveled around my home State of Colorado. Several days ago I stood shoulder to shoulder with women's health experts, including an OB–GYN in Denver, who told me that physicians might now have to consider how an employer's religious beliefs might fit into their diagnosis before they make a medical recommendation, which ought to be based solely on their patients' well-being. This is unacceptable. Women should never have to ask their boss for a permission slip to access common forms of birth control or other critical health services.

Today, as Senator MURRAY alluded, champions in women's health are taking a stand on social media to illustrate why the Senate should come together this week to pass the Not Your Boss's Business Act. This outpouring of support from all over the country shows how important it is that we keep private health care decisions in employees' hands and out of corporate boardrooms.

As part of today's Digital Day of Action across the country, my staff and I put together a BuzzFeed post to dispel some misconceptions about the Hobby Lobby decision and highlight why we need to pass the Not Your Boss's Business Act. Go to BuzzFeed.com/markudall and share my post to help push back against some of the myths.

Despite what some people say, this decision is a bad deal, and it will undermine women's access to contraception across the country. But more and more Americans are joining us to speak out because of how backward this Hobby Lobby decision is. I am proud to have groups from across the Centennial State, such as the Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights, NARAL Pro-Choice Colorado, Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains, and Colorado's Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, come out in support of our bill.

I believe the Supreme Court was wrong in its misguided Hobby Lobby decision, which is already adversely affecting American women and families. But we have a chance to fix this, and I stand here today to call on my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to join me, join Senator MURRAY and America's workers who agree that women's health is not your boss's business.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mrs. MURRAY. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. HIRONO. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE LEAHY LAW

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, 18 years ago I wrote a law that has been repeated annually ever since and is now codified as section 620M of the Foreign Assistance Act. It has become widely known as the ''Leahy Law'' and it has two primary purposes.

The first is to prevent U.S. taxpayer funded training, equipment, or other assistance from going to units of foreign security forces that have committed heinous crimes. We saw many instances when U.S. aid ended up in the hands of foreign military or police forces that had engaged in rape, murder, torture, or other gross violations of human rights, and the U.S. was tainted by association with those crimes.

The second is to encourage foreign governments to bring to justice the individual members of units responsible for such atrocities. In many countries that receive U.S. aid there is a long history of impunity for crimes committed by government security forces. Rather than protect their citizens, they abuse them, and then they beat up or kill witnesses and threaten prosecutors and judges. They act outside the law and literally get away with murder. They are the antithesis of professional, accountable military or police forces.

A similar, although not identical, provision that is also known as the Leahy Law is contained in the annual Defense Appropriations Act.

Both Leahy Laws serve important national interests and they have become increasingly institutionalized within the U.S. government. The State Department's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor has developed a database for vetting foreign units and individuals that is continually updated, and they and the Defense Department increasingly coordinate to apply the laws consistently. The Department of State and foreign operations appropriations bill for 2015, reported to the Senate on June 19, includes $5 million to pay salaries and other costs of the vetting process, an increase of $2.25 million above fiscal year 2014.

While the Leahy Laws have been modified over the years and their implementation is a continuing work in progress, I appreciate the support they have received from the highest levels of the State and Defense Departments, and the willingness of officials in those agencies to work with Congress and representatives of human rights organizations and foreign governments to address issues of interpretation and implementation as they arise.

As with many laws, the Leahy Laws have their detractors. However, with rare exceptions questions about, or criticism of, the laws have been due to misinformation or misunderstandings that have been easy to clarify or resolve.

While I know of no one who has expressed opposition to the Leahy Laws, some have raised concerns with their implementation, suggesting that they pose unacceptable obstacles to the ability of the U.S. military to engage with foreign counterparts. Not only do the facts indicate otherwise, the laws are working. In more than 90 percent of cases the foreign units or individuals vetted have been deemed eligible to receive U.S. assistance under the Leahy Laws. In the rare instances when a unit or individual was denied assistance, it was due to credible information that the individual or unit had committed a heinous crime and the foreign government had done nothing about it.

At a July 10 hearing in the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights and International Organizations, Stephen Rickard, a former Senate staff member, State Department official, director of the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights, director of Amnesty International's Washington Office, and now executive director of the Open Society Policy Center, provided testimony on the Leahy Laws. His testimony does an excellent job of describing the purposes and impact of the Leahy Laws, and addressing key questions that have been asked about their implementation. I ask unanimous consent that his statement be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

STATEMENT OF STEPHEN RICHARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OPEN SOCIETY POLICY CENTER

Presented to the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights and International Organizations

HUMAN RIGHTS VETTING: NIGERIA AND BEYOND

July 10, 2014

I would like to begin by thanking Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Bass for holding this important hearing and for their leadership on human rights.

I have worked on the Leahy Laws in one form or another for nearly 17 years and have discussed them with countless State Department and Defense Department officials, as well as with human rights experts working all over the world. I also spent a period of time as a Franklin Fellow in the Department of State during which time I was able to learn in detail about the process for implementing the Leahy Laws. I have been engaged on detailed questions about the application of the Leahy Laws in Colombia, Turkey, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Nigeria, Kenya and dozens of other countries, and I believe that these laws are among the most important human rights statutes on the books. The law has been poorly funded—less than two-hundredths of one percent of the cost of U.S. military assistance is spent on Leahy Law vetting. And it has often been misunderstood and misrepresented.

But with President Obama proposing a new $5 billion fund for military assistance to combat terrorism it is essential to help the public understand this vital law and to help insure that it is vigorously implemented.

A Common Sense Formula for Security Cooperation Consistent With U.S. Values

The Leahy Laws are common sense laws that prohibit the United States Government from arming or providing military training to security force and police units abroad who have been credibly alleged to have committed gross human rights violations. These laws (there is one for State Department assistance and one for Department of Defense assistance) do not prohibit the United States from providing assistance in violent, conflict-wracked countries like Nigeria and Colombia. On the contrary, because they involve a unit by unit examination, the Leahy Laws provide a formula for the United States to assist foreign military forces even in countries where some government forces are committing gross atrocities. They are a formula for success in such countries, not a prohibition on engagement.

Four Numbers

There are four important numbers to keep in mind about the impact of the Leahy Laws. (All these statistics have been provided by the State Department and cover 2011–2013.) The first number is 530,000. That's the approximate number of foreign military and police units which the United States government considered arming or training over the last three years and subjected to Leahy vetting.

The second number is 90 percent. That is the minimum percentage of prompt approvals given under the Leahy Law—generally within 10 days of a request. There is even a ''fast track'' approval process for countries with generally good human rights records. Some vetting requests require more information, investigation or discussion. But at least 90% are approved more or less immediately.

The third number is 1 percent. In every one of the last three years less than 1 percent of all units vetted under the Leahy Law were ultimately declared to be ineligible for assistance under the law. Of course it is true that the number will be higher in some specific countries, but taken as a whole the Leahy Law actually blocks aid in a miniscule percentage of cases.

The final number is 2,516. The Leahy Law blocks aid in a tiny percentage of cases, but that doesn't mean that it is unimportant. Because the U.S. now provides training to so many people, even 1 percent is a lot. And 2,516 is the number of vetted units that the U.S. Government found to be credibly linked to gross atrocities over the last three years when it took the time to examine their records because of the Leahy Law.

Those 2,516 units were not being asked to satisfy a high standard. In no way does the Leahy Law require pristine forces. In fact, the State Department defines ''gross human rights violations'' to include a very short list of only the most heinous offenses: murder, torture, rape, disappearances and other gross violations of life and liberty. That's it. So even though less than 1 percent of proposed units failed the standard, it is still pretty

shocking that over the last three years the United States Government probably would have armed and trained 2,516 units (or individuals in those units) containing murders, rapists and torturers without the Leahy Law.

The Leahy Laws don't actually prohibit the U.S. from working with even these units—the ones that have committed murder and torture. It only says that the U.S. cannot arm or train them until the foreign government takes steps to clean up the unit.

Three Questions

So whenever anyone says that it is a problem for the United States that it cannot train or arm a particular foreign battalion or police unit, one should ask three questions:

(1) What did the unit do? If we can't work with them, it must mean that the United States has determined that this unit is one of the worst of the worst. It is in the 1 percent of units where the U.S. government found credible information linking it to murder, rape, torture or another gross atrocity. So, when someone argues that we should arm a Leahy-prohibited unit, one should ask, ''What did the unit do to get on the list?''

(2) Why won't the government clean up the unit? Maybe the foreign government wants to make a point to the U.S.—it doesn't accept the U.S. commitment to human rights; it won't let the U.S. ''tell it what to do.'' Maybe the government has no control over its own military and cannot do anything to clean up the unit even if it wanted to do so. But one should insist on knowing: ''Why won't the government clean up the unit?''

(3) Finally, if the unit committed murder, rape or torture and the foreign government won't or can't clean it up, why should U.S. taxpayers give that specific unit guns anyway? Under what possible circumstances would it make sense for the United States to arm known killers who are either completely out of their government's control, or who work for a government that refuses to take any action against them?

Responses to Three Criticisms

Tempus Fugit: There are a number of arguments raised against the Leahy Law which might make some sense if the law covered lesser offenses. For instance, there is an argument that it makes no sense to keep a unit on the Leahy Law ''pariah'' list long after the atrocity occurred, especially if everyone who was in the unit has now moved on. But there are no other contexts in which we would accept a 4 year, or 8 year or even 15 year statute of limitations on murder, torture or rape. So why accept one here? And the law is intended to create an incentive for foreign governments to improve their human rights records and to hold people accountable. Letting a unit off the hook because the government rotated people out of the unit (and into other ones) or because the foreign government simply waited us out for a few years sends exactly the wrong message. Moreover, units have reputations and traditions that are regularly passed on to new members of the unit over many years and even decades. That is often true for units with gallant histories. But it is also true of death squads and praetorian guards.

Just as importantly, one needs to ask what it says about a foreign military ''partner'' if documented cases of murder, rape and torture go without redress after decades. The government always has the option of working with the United States to create new, carefully vetted units—something that has been done in a number of countries with gross human rights problems. If the government will not do that, it is probably trying to make a point. Is it appropriate to reward such behavior with assistance?

Pariah Forever: Critics of the law also sometimes argue that it is impossible for a tainted unit to be rehabilitated. This is, of course, completely false—unless the government in question refuses or is unable to take any meaningful action to address the problem. So what these critics are really saying is: It is almost never the case that America's military partners in these countries have the political will or commitment to human rights to take the kind of disciplinary action against killers and rapists that is absolutely routine in the U.S. military. And that is a very odd sort of argument for waiving or weakening the Leahy Law so that we can give more guns to these government's forces.

In fact, there are cases in which specific units have been rehabilitated. But it takes a willing partner. This is one area where critics of the law and its supporters should make common cause to support earmarked funding for remediation of tainted units. One percent of U.S. military assistance—just one penny out of every dollar—should be set aside for vetting and remediation. It should be used to help foreign militaries set up JAG officer corps, criminal investigation services and other elements of a professional disciplinary system. This should simply be considered a cost of doing business in some of the most violent places on earth. There is a precedent for applying a fixed surcharge as a ''cost of doing business.'' Every time the United States Government sells weapons abroad it applies a surcharge—currently 3.5%—to administer the sale. The U.S. should apply a 1% surcharge to ensure that it knows what is being done with the other 99% and so that it can help move its partner forces in a positive direction on human rights.

Just a Few Bad Apples: Critics sometimes argue that it is wrong to hold whole units accountable for the acts of just a few, or perhaps even just one, member of the unit. They argue that we should vet specific individuals rather than units and only withhold information from those individuals who are linked to atrocities.

Here it is important to understand that the Leahy Law was a compromise. There was and is an important human rights law—Section 502B of the Foreign Assistance Act—which does not permit the United States to engage in a unit by unit assessment of foreign partner forces: ''No security assistance may be provided to any country the government of which engages in a consistent pattern of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights.'' There is a very strong argument to be made under Section 502B that the United States should be providing no assistance whatsoever to Nigerian forces, and many others around the world.

But historically the United States has been extremely reluctant to invoke Section 502B even in the most extreme cases. So the Leahy Law was proposed as an intermediate step: If the U.S. will not completely cut off governments engaging in a consistent pattern of gross human rights violations, then at least it should not arm the specific military units it believes are the ones actually committing the gross violations. However, Senator Leahy also believed that it would be absurd and unreasonable to ask that human rights victims be able to identify the specific murder, torturer or rapist by name before the U.S. took any action. So, his law states that if credible information can be presented that links an identifiable unit to a specific atrocity the United States would be required to cut off that unit—at least until the foreign government identifies the specific individuals within it who are responsible and deals with them.

One Final Thought

The Bible tells us in the Book of Acts that before his conversion on the road to Damascus the Apostle Paul was a persecutor of the Christian Church. In fact, according to Acts (Chapter 7, Verse 59) he was present at the killing of St. Stephen and held the cloaks of those who stoned him. He cast no stones himself; but he was complicit. He gave aid to the killers. When we go to places like Nigeria, shouldn't we at least ask, ''Whose cloaks are we holding?'' That's all the Leahy Law says.

The Leahy Law cannot guarantee that the U.S. will never arm bad people. It's not a panacea. It's just the least we can do.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 5 DANIEL SANDBOTHE

• Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I wish to honor CW5 Daniel Sandbothe of the 1107th Missouri National Guard in Springfield, MO. As a soldier, he has dedicated 40 years to serving in the Missouri National Guard. Over those years, through his commitment and service, he has risen to a unique rank signifying his expertise in flying and maintaining the rotary aircraft of the U.S. Armed Forces.

CW5 Daniel Sandbothe's career started in 1972 in the 1038th Maintenance Company. Throughout the next four decades, he mastered the ability to fly a variety of airframes commonly used by the U.S. Army, logging more than 5,000 military flight hours. He has earned the respected designations of instructor pilot, maintenance test flight evaluator, and rotary wing instrument flight examiner as he progressed.

His profession has sent him to four overseas duty stations in Central America and Japan. He also participated in three combat tours, including Operation Desert Storm in 1991, Operation Iraqi Freedom with 1107th Aviation Classification and Repair Depot in 2005, and Operation Enduring Freedom with 1107th Theater Aviation Sustainment Maintenance Group in 2010. In addition, Daniel Sandbothe was selected to lead a team to assist the Lebanese Armed Forces in improving their aviation maintenance program.

CW5 Daniel Sandbothe has also been appointed to the Missouri Army National Guard Senior Warrant Officer Advisory Council. His job will be to help pick the future non-commissioned leaders of the Missouri National Guard's air elements. This distinction represents his commitment to his profession as a United States serviceman.

His legacy will be felt by future generations of the National Guard in Missouri, including those he has trained, led, and mentored over the last four decades. For his years of committed services, CW5 Daniel Sandbothe has earned his retirement. I wish him well in his next opportunity and thank him for his years of service to Missouri and the Nation.•

DIABETES STUDY

• Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I wish to draw attention to a study by the

University of Florida on diabetes. Diabetes is a chronic disease that affects the body's blood glucose levels. Diabetic Americans have too much glucose in their blood, which can lead to serious health problems. In addition to the large number of Americans who suffer from diabetes, the disease is one of the costliest chronic diseases and, currently, about 1-in-3 Medicare dollars is spent on people with diabetes.

This study, led by Dr. Todd Manini of the University of Florida's Institute on Aging, suggests a correlation between the amount of time people spend sitting and their risk of developing diabetes later in life. The findings from this study are alarming, particularly given the statistics about diabetes in our Nation. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2012, 29.1 million Americans—9.3 percent of the population—had diabetes. Diabetes was the country's seventh leading cause of death and Americans with diabetes spend an average of 2.3 times more on medical expenses. The disease is also highly pervasive amongst our older Americans—11.8 million seniors age 65 or older, 25.9 percent of all Americans over 65, have diabetes and 51 percent of seniors are pre-diabetic.

As Chairman of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, I am well aware of the challenges diabetes poses to seniors. Last July, the Aging Committee held a hearing to discuss the growing impact of diabetes with advancing age. Diabetes impacts millions of Americans across all ages and even though seniors are particularly vulnerable to problems created by the disease, diabetes needs to be fought across the age spectrum.

Researchers tracked the weights and sitting times of nearly 90,000 women between the ages of 50 and 79 who were not initially taking diabetes medications. Women who sat more than sixteen hours during their waking day had the highest risk of developing diabetes, and even if they introduced an exercise regimen, this high risk remained. Obese women have a 23 percent risk of developing diabetes and were more likely to develop diabetes than overweight and normal-weight women even if they were both sedentary for the same amount of time. The study found that the diabetes risk can be reduced by standing or walking for 5 minutes for every hour spent sitting.

This new University of Florida study enhances our understanding of the disease and emphasizes the importance of healthy behavior and habits throughout our lives. Though much progress has been made in diabetes research, we still have a long way to go in combatting this disease that affects millions of Americans. We must continue funding groundbreaking research like that at the University of Florida and promoting the kinds of lifestyle changes that will reduce the risks of diseases like diabetes in old age.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4718. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify and make permanent bonus depreciation.

H.R. 4923. An act making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 4923. An act making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 4718. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify and make permanent bonus depreciation.

S. 2599. A bill to stop exploitation through trafficking.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 2354. A bill to improve cybersecurity recruitment and retention (Rept. No. 113–207).

By Mr. TESTER, from the Committee on Indian Affairs:

Report to accompany S. 161, a bill to extend the Federal recognition to the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113–208).

Report to accompany S. 1074, a bill to extend Federal recognition to the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe-Eastern Division, the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe, Inc., the Monacan Indian Nation, and the Nansemond Indian Tribe (Rept. No. 113–209).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. WALSH:

S. 2596. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish Federal criminal penalties for interstate child endangerment; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 2597. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the establishment of Promise Zones; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 2598. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to clarify and expand Federal criminal jurisdiction over Federal contractors and employees outside the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. KIRK, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. COATS, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 2599. A bill to stop exploitation through trafficking; read the first time.

By Mr. JOHANNS (for himself and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 2600. A bill to require notification of a Governor of a State if an unaccompanied alien child is transferred to the State and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. AYOTTE (for herself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. Res. 501. A resolution commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Wright Museum of WWII History in Wolfeboro, New Hampshire; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. Con. Res. 40. A concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to award Congressional Gold Medals in honor of the men and women who perished as a result of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 109

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 109, a bill to preserve open competition and Federal Government neutrality towards the labor relations of Federal Government contractors on Federal and federally funded construction projects.

S. 119

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 119, a bill to prohibit the application of certain restrictive eligibility requirements to foreign nongovernmental organizations with respect to the provision of assistance

under part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

S. 240

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 240, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to modify the perfiscal year calculation of days of certain active duty or active service used to reduce the minimum age at which a member of a reserve component of the uniformed services may retire for nonregular service.

S. 632

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 632, a bill to amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to repeal a duplicative program relating to inspection and grading of catfish.

S. 719

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 719, a bill to provide for the expansion of Federal efforts concerning the prevention, education, treatment, and research activities related to Lyme and other tick-borne diseases, including the establishment of a Tick-Borne Diseases Advisory Committee.

S. 942

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 942, a bill to eliminate discrimination and promote women's health and economic security by ensuring reasonable workplace accommodations for workers whose ability to perform the functions of a job are limited by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition.

S. 1124

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1124, a bill to establish requirements with respect to bisphenol A.

S. 1236

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1236, a bill to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage.

S. 1410

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1410, a bill to focus limited Federal resources on the most serious offenders.

S. 1463

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1463, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to prohibit importation, exportation, transportation, sale, receipt, acquisition, and purchase in interstate or foreign commerce, or in a manner substantially affecting interstate or foreign commerce, of any live animal of any prohibited wildlife species.

S. 1622

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1622, a bill to establish the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children, and for other purposes.

S. 1725

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1725, a bill to amend the Securities Investor Protection Act of 1970 to confirm that a customer's net equity claim is based on the customer's last statement and that certain recoveries are prohibited, to change how trustees are appointed, and for other purposes.

S. 1739

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1739, a bill to modify the efficiency standards for grid-enabled water heaters.

S. 2154

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2154, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the Emergency Medical Services for Children Program.

S. 2187

At the request of Mr. BEGICH, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2187, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a five-year extension of the rural community hospital demonstration program.

S. 2252

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2252, a bill to reaffirm the importance of community banking and community banking regulatory experience on the Federal Reserve Board of Governors, to ensure that the Federal Reserve Board of Governors has a member who has previous experience in community banking or community banking supervision, and for other purposes.

S. 2307

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2307, a bill to prevent international violence against women, and for other purposes.

S. 2340

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) and the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2340, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the Secretary to provide for the use of data from the second preceding tax year to carry out the simplification of applications for the estimation and determination of financial aid eligibility, to increase the income threshold to qualify for zero expected family contribution, and for other purposes.

S. 2366

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2366, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to establish a permanent, nationwide summer electronic benefits transfer for children program.

S. 2516

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2516, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional disclosure requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities, and for other purposes.

S. 2527

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2527, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to improve the efficiency of summer meals.

S. 2529

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2529, a bill to amend and reauthorize the controlled substance monitoring program under section 399O of the Public Health Service Act.

S. 2577

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2577, a bill to require the Secretary of State to offer rewards totaling up to $5,000,000 for information on the kidnapping and murder of Naftali Fraenkel, a dual United States-Israeli citizen, that began on June 12, 2014.

S. 2578

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2578, a bill to ensure that employers cannot interfere in their employees' birth control and other health care decisions.

S. RES. 498

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Arizona (Mr.

FLAKE), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 498, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding United States support for the State of Israel as it defends itself against unprovoked rocket attacks from the Hamas terrorist organization.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 2598. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to clarify and expand Federal criminal jurisdiction over Federal contractors and employees outside the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today, I reintroduce the Civilian Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Act, CEJA. The United States has huge numbers of Government employees and contractors working overseas, but the legal framework governing them is unclear and outdated. To promote accountability, Congress must make sure that our criminal laws reach serious misconduct by U.S. government employees and contractors wherever they act. The Civilian Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Act accomplishes this important and common sense goal by allowing United States contractors and employees working overseas who commit specific crimes to be tried and sentenced under U.S. law.

Tragic events in Iraq and Afghanistan highlight the need to strengthen the laws providing for jurisdiction over American government employees and contractors working abroad. In September 2007, Blackwater security contractors working for the State Department shot more than 20 unarmed civilians on the streets of Baghdad, killing at least 14 of them, and causing a rift in our relations with the Iraqi government. Efforts to prosecute those responsible for these shootings have been fraught with difficulties. The Blackwater trial is only just now under way, seven years after this tragedy, and the defendants continue to argue in court that the U.S. government does not have jurisdiction to prosecute them.

I worked with Senator SESSIONS and others in 2000 to pass the Military Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Act, MEJA, and then, again, to amend it in 2004, so that U.S. criminal laws would extend to all members of the U.S. military, to those who accompany them, and to contractors who work with the military. That law provides criminal jurisdiction over Defense Department employees and contractors, but it does not explicitly cover people working for other Federal agencies, like the Blackwater security contractors. Had jurisdiction in the tragic Blackwater incident been clear, it could have prevented some of the problems that have plagued the case.

Other incidents have made all too clear that the Blackwater case was not an isolated incident. Private security contractors have been involved in violent incidents and serious misconduct in Iraq and Afghanistan, including other shooting incidents in which civilians have been seriously injured or killed. MEJA does not cover many of the thousands of U.S. contractors and employees who are working abroad. The legislation I introduce today fills this gap.

Ensuring criminal accountability will also improve our national security and protect Americans overseas. Importantly, in those instances where the local justice system may be less than fair, this explicit jurisdiction will also protect Americans by providing the option of prosecuting them in the United States, rather than leaving them subject to potentially hostile and unpredictable local courts. Our allies, including those countries most essential to our counterterrorism and national security efforts, work best with us when we hold our own accountable.

In 2011, the Senate Judiciary Committee heard testimony from the Justice Department and from experts in the area of contractor accountability about the many diplomatic and national security benefits of expanding criminal jurisdiction over American employees and contractors overseas. That hearing also explored how best to ensure that our Nation's intelligence activities would not be impaired by CEJA. The legislation I propose today has been carefully crafted to ensure that the intelligence community can continue its authorized activities unimpeded.

This bill would also provide greater protection to American victims of crime, as it would lead to more accountability for crimes committed by U.S. Government contractors and employees against Americans working abroad. The Committee has previously heard testimony from Jamie Leigh Jones, a young woman from Texas who took a job with Halliburton in Iraq in 2005 when she was 20 years old. In her first week on the job, she was drugged and gang-raped by coworkers. When she reported this assault, her employers moved her to a locked trailer, where she was kept by armed guards and freed only when the State Department intervened.

Ms. Jones testified about the arbitration clause in her contract that prevented her from suing Halliburton for this outrageous conduct. But criminal jurisdiction over these kinds of atrocious crimes abroad remains complicated and depends on the specific location of the crime, which makes prosecutions inconsistent and sometimes impossible. We must fix the law to help avoid arbitrary injustice and ensure that victims will not see their attackers escape accountability.

This legislation also provides another important benefit: It will lay the groundwork to expand U.S. preclearance operations in Canada—thereby enhancing national security and facilitating commerce and tourism with our largest trading partner. The United States currently stations U.S. Customs and Border Protection, CBP, Officers in select locations in Canada to inspect passengers and cargo bound for the United States before they leave Canada. These operations relieve congestion at U.S. airports, improve commerce, save money, and provide national security benefits. The United States and Canada are in ongoing conversations about an expansion of land, rail, marine and air preclearance operations that would greatly benefit the U.S. economy. But one barrier in these discussions is that the United States lacks legal authority to prosecute U.S. officials engaged in preclearance operations if they commit crimes while stationed in Canada. CEJA would ensure that the U.S. has legal authority to hold our own officials accountable if they engage in wrongdoing, and thereby help pave the way to finalizing the expanded Canada preclearance agreement.

In the past, legislation in this area has been bipartisan. I hope Senators of both parties will work together to pass this important reform.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2598

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 ''Civilian Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Act of 2014'' or the ''CEJA''.

SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION AND EXPANSION OF FEDERAL JURISDICTION OVER FEDERAL CONTRACTORS AND EMPLOYEES.

(a) EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OVER FEDERAL CONTRACTORS AND EMPLOYEES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 212A of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by transferring the text of section 3272 to the end of section 3271, redesignating such text as subsection (c) of section 3271, and, in such text, as so redesignated, by striking ''this chapter'' and inserting ''this section'';

(B) by striking the heading of section 3272; and

(C) by adding after section 3271, as amended by this paragraph, the following new sections:

''§ 3272. Offenses committed by Federal contractors and employees outside the United States

''(a)(1) Whoever, while employed by any department or agency of the United States other than the Department of Defense or accompanying any department or agency of

the United States other than the Department of Defense, knowingly engages in conduct (or conspires or attempts to engage in conduct) outside the United States that would constitute an offense enumerated in paragraph (3) had the conduct been engaged in within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States shall be punished as provided for that offense.

''(2) A prosecution may not be commenced against a person under this subsection if a foreign government, in accordance with jurisdiction recognized by the United States, has prosecuted or is prosecuting such person for the conduct constituting the offense, except upon the approval of the Attorney General or the Deputy Attorney General (or a person acting in either such capacity), which function of approval may not be delegated.

''(3) The offenses covered by paragraph (1) are the following:

''(A) Any offense under chapter 5 (arson) of this title.

''(B) Any offense under section 111 (assaulting, resisting, or impeding certain officers or employees), 113 (assault within maritime and territorial jurisdiction), or 114 (maiming within maritime and territorial jurisdiction) of this title, but only if the offense is subject to a maximum sentence of imprisonment of one year or more.

''(C) Any offense under section 201 (bribery of public officials and witnesses) of this title.

''(D) Any offense under section 499 (military, naval, or official passes) of this title.

''(E) Any offense under section 701 (official badges, identifications cards, and other insignia), 702 (uniform of armed forces and Public Health Service), 703 (uniform of friendly nation), or 704 (military medals or decorations) of this title.

''(F) Any offense under chapter 41 (extortion and threats) of this title, but only if the offense is subject to a maximum sentence of imprisonment of three years or more.

''(G) Any offense under chapter 42 (extortionate credit transactions) of this title.

''(H) Any offense under section 924(c) (use of firearm in violent or drug trafficking crime) or 924(o) (conspiracy to violate section 924(c)) of this title.

''(I) Any offense under chapter 50A (genocide) of this title.

''(J) Any offense under section 1111 (murder), 1112 (manslaughter), 1113 (attempt to commit murder or manslaughter), 1114 (protection of officers and employees of the United States), 1116 (murder or manslaughter of foreign officials, official guests, or internationally protected persons), 1117 (conspiracy to commit murder), or 1119 (foreign murder of United States nationals) of this title.

''(K) Any offense under chapter 55 (kidnapping) of this title.

''(L) Any offense under section 1503 (influencing or injuring officer or juror generally), 1505 (obstruction of proceedings before departments, agencies, and committees), 1510 (obstruction of criminal investigations), 1512 (tampering with a witness, victim, or informant), or 1513 (retaliating against a witness, victim, or an informant) of this title.

''(M) Any offense under section 1951 (interference with commerce by threats or violence), 1952 (interstate and foreign travel or transportation in aid of racketeering enterprises), 1956 (laundering of monetary instruments), 1957 (engaging in monetary transactions in property derived from specified unlawful activity), 1958 (use of interstate commerce facilities in the commission of murder for hire), or 1959 (violent crimes in aid of racketeering activity) of this title.

''(N) Any offense under section 2111 (robbery or burglary within special maritime and territorial jurisdiction) of this title.

''(O) Any offense under chapter 109A (sexual abuse) of this title.

''(P) Any offense under chapter 113B (terrorism) of this title.

''(Q) Any offense under chapter 113C (torture) of this title.

''(R) Any offense under chapter 115 (treason, sedition, and subversive activities) of this title.

''(S) Any offense under section 2442 (child soldiers) of this title.

''(T) Any offense under section 401 (manufacture, distribution, or possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance) or 408 (continuing criminal enterprise) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841, 848), or under section 1002 (importation of controlled substances), 1003 (exportation of controlled substances), or 1010 (import or export of a controlled substance) of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 952, 953, 960), but only if the offense is subject to a maximum sentence of imprisonment of 20 years or more.

''(b) In addition to the jurisdiction under subsection (a), whoever, while employed by any department or agency of the United States other than the Department of Defense and stationed or deployed in a country outside of the United States pursuant to a treaty or executive agreement in furtherance of a border security initiative with that country, engages in conduct (or conspires or attempts to engage in conduct) outside the United States that would constitute an offense for which a person may be prosecuted in a court of the United States had the conduct been engaged in within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States shall be punished as provided for that offense.

''(c) In this section:

''(1) The term 'employed by any department or agency of the United States other than the Department of Defense' means—

''(A) an individual is—

''(i) employed as a civilian employee, a contractor (including a subcontractor at any tier), an employee of a contractor (or a subcontractor at any tier), a grantee (including a contractor of a grantee or a subgrantee or subcontractor at any tier), or an employee of a grantee (or a contractor of a grantee or a subgrantee or subcontractor at any tier) of any department or agency of the United States other than the Department of Defense;

''(ii) present or residing outside the United States in connection with such employment; and

''(iii) not a national of or ordinarily resident in the host nation; and

''(B) in the case of an individual who is such a contractor, contractor employee, grantee, or grantee employee, such employment supports a program, project, or activity for a department or agency of the United States.

''(2) The term 'accompanying any department or agency of the United States other than the Department of Defense' means an individual is—

''(A) a dependant, family member, or member of household of—

''(i) a civilian employee of any department or agency of the United States other than the Department of Defense; or

''(ii) a contractor (including a subcontractor at any tier), an employee of a contractor (or a subcontractor at any tier), a grantee (including a contractor of a grantee or a subgrantee or subcontractor at any tier), or an employee of a grantee (or a contractor of a grantee or a subgrantee or subcontractor at any tier) of any department or agency of the United States other than the Department of Defense, which contractor, contractor employee, grantee, or grantee employee is supporting a program, project, or activity for a department or agency of the United States other than the Department of Defense;

''(B) residing with such civilian employee, contractor, contractor employee, grantee, or grantee employee outside the United States; and

''(C) not a national of or ordinarily resident in the host nation.

''(3) The term 'grant agreement' means a legal instrument described in section 6304 or 6305 of title 31, other than an agreement between the United States and a State, local, or foreign government or an international organization.

''(4) The term 'grantee' means a party, other than the United States, to a grant agreement.

''(5) The term 'host nation' means the country outside of the United States where the employee or contractor resides, the country where the employee or contractor commits the alleged offense at issue, or both.

''§ 3273. Regulations

''The Attorney General, after consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Director of National Intelligence, shall prescribe regulations governing the investigation, apprehension, detention, delivery, and removal of persons described in sections 3271 and 3272 of this title.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subparagraph (A) of section 3267(1) of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(A) employed as a civilian employee, a contractor (including a subcontractor at any tier), or an employee of a contractor (or a subcontractor at any tier) of the Department of Defense (including a nonappropriated fund instrumentality of the Department);''.

(b) VENUE.—Chapter 211 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''§ 3245. Optional venue for offenses involving Federal employees and contractors overseas

''In addition to any venue otherwise provided in this chapter, the trial of any offense involving a violation of section 3261, 3271, or 3272 of this title may be brought—

''(1) in the district in which is headquartered the department or agency of the United States that employs the offender, or any 1 of 2 or more joint offenders; or

''(2) in the district in which is headquartered the department or agency of the United States that the offender is accompanying, or that any 1 of 2 or more joint offenders is accompanying.''.

(c) SUSPENSION OF STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—Chapter 213 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 3287 the following new section:

''§ 3287A. Suspension of limitations for offenses involving Federal employees and contractors overseas

''The statute of limitations for an offense under section 3272 of this title shall be suspended for the period during which the individual is outside the United States or is a fugitive from justice within the meaning of section 3290 of this title.''.

(d) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) HEADING AMENDMENT.—The heading of chapter 212A of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''CHAPTER 212A—EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OVER OFFENSES OF CONTRACTORS AND CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT''.

(2) TABLES OF SECTIONS.—(A) The table of sections for chapter 211 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''3245. Optional venue for offenses involving Federal employees and contractors overseas.''.

(B) The table of sections for chapter 212A of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 3272 and inserting the following new items:

''3272. Offenses committed by Federal contractors and employees outside the United States.

''3273. Regulations.''.

(C) The table of sections for chapter 213 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 3287 the following new item:

''3287A. Suspension of limitations for offenses involving Federal employees and contractors overseas.''.

(3) TABLE OF CHAPTERS.—The item relating to chapter 212A in the table of chapters for part II of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''212A. Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Over Offenses of Contractors and Civilian Employees of the Federal Government ..... 3271''.

SEC. 3. INVESTIGATIVE TASK FORCES FOR CONTRACTOR AND EMPLOYEE OVERSIGHT.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF INVESTIGATIVE TASK FORCES FOR CONTRACTOR AND EMPLOYEE OVERSIGHT.—The Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the head of any other department or agency of the Federal Government responsible for employing contractors or persons overseas, shall assign adequate personnel and resources, including through the creation of task forces, to investigate allegations of criminal offenses under chapter 212A of title 18, United States Code (as amended by section 2(a) of this Act), and may authorize the overseas deployment of law enforcement agents and other employees of the Federal Government for that purpose.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF ATTORNEY GENERAL.—

(1) INVESTIGATION.—The Attorney General shall have principal authority for the enforcement of this Act and the amendments made by this Act, and shall have the authority to initiate, conduct, and supervise investigations of any alleged offense under this Act or an amendment made by this Act.

(2) LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.—With respect to violations of sections 3271 and 3272 of title 18, United States Code (as amended by section 2(a) of this Act), the Attorney General may authorize any person serving in a law enforcement position in any other department or agency of the Federal Government, including a member of the Diplomatic Security Service of the Department of State or a military police officer of the Armed Forces, to exercise investigative and law enforcement authority, including those powers that may be exercised under section 3052 of title 18, United States Code, subject to such guidelines or policies as the Attorney General considers appropriate for the exercise of such powers.

(3) PROSECUTION.—The Attorney General may establish such procedures the Attorney General considers appropriate to ensure that Federal law enforcement agencies refer offenses under section 3271 or 3272 of title 18, United States Code (as amended by section 2(a) of this Act), to the Attorney General for prosecution in a uniform and timely manner.

(4) ASSISTANCE ON REQUEST OF ATTORNEY GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any statute, rule, or regulation to the contrary, the Attorney General may request assistance from the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, or the head of any other department or agency of the Federal Government to enforce section 3271 or 3272 of title 18, United States Code (as so amended). The assistance requested may include the following:

(A) The assignment of additional employees and resources to task forces established by the Attorney General under subsection (a).

(B) An investigation into alleged misconduct or arrest of an individual suspected of alleged misconduct by agents of the Diplomatic Security Service of the Department of State present in the nation in which the alleged misconduct occurs.

(5) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the Attorney General shall, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of Homeland Security, submit to Congress a report containing the following:

(A) The number of prosecutions under chapter 212A of title 18, United States Code (as amended by section 2(a) of this Act), including the nature of the offenses and any dispositions reached, during the previous year.

(B) The actions taken to implement subsection (a), including the organization and training of employees and the use of task forces, during the previous year.

(C) Such recommendations for legislative or administrative action as the President considers appropriate to enforce chapter 212A of title 18, United States Code (as amended by section 2(a) of this Act), and the provisions of this section.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms ''agency'' and ''department'' have the meanings given such terms in section 6 of title 18, United States Code.

(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit any authority of the Attorney General or any Federal law enforcement agency to investigate violations of Federal law or deploy employees overseas.

SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVENESS.—This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Attorney General and the head of any other department or agency of the Federal Government to which this Act or an amendment made by this Act applies shall have 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act to ensure compliance with this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

SEC. 5. RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act or any amendment made by this Act shall be construed—

(1) to limit or affect the application of extraterritorial jurisdiction related to any other Federal law; or

(2) to limit or affect any authority or responsibility of a Chief of Mission as provided in section 207 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3927).

(b) INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.—Nothing in this Act or any amendment made by this Act shall apply to the authorized intelligence activities of the United States Government.

SEC. 6. FUNDING.

If any amounts are appropriated to carry out this Act or an amendment made by this Act, the amounts shall be from amounts which would have otherwise been made available or appropriated to the Department of Justice.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 501—COMMEMORATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WRIGHT MUSEUM OF WWII HISTORY IN WOLFEBORO, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Ms. AYOTTE (for herself and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 501

Whereas on July 16, 1994, the Wright Museum of WWII History opened as an educational institution in Wolfeboro, New Hampshire, founded by David Wright;

Whereas for the past 20 years the Wright Museum has fulfilled its mission to preserve and share the stories of the people of the United States during World War II, and is the only United States museum that exclusively focuses on the contributions and enduring legacy of World War II-era Americans;

Whereas the Wright Museum accomplishes its mission through the careful preservation and thoughtful display of its extensive permanent collection of World War II-era items and memorabilia from the years between 1939 and 1945;

Whereas the Wright Museum is unique among traditional World War II museums in that the over 14,000 items in its permanent collection are representative of both the battle field and the United States home front;

Whereas the Wright Museum has established a national reputation as a repository for historically significant World War II-era items and memorabilia;

Whereas the Wright Museum uses its permanent collection to introduce visitors to a seminal period in United States history and place that period into historical context;

Whereas for 2 decades the Wright Museum has educated, entertained, and inspired over 200,000 visitors from across the United States and around the world; and

Whereas the Wright Museum remains dedicated to David Wright's vision of providing a vivid perspective on the profound and enduring impact of the World War II experience on United States society: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the Wright Museum of WWII History staff, volunteers, and board of directors for their efforts to encourage the study of a significant period in United States history;

(2) applauds the Wright Museum of WWII History's mission to raise awareness of the contributions and lasting legacy of World War II-era Americans; and

(3) recognizes the significance of July 16, 2014 as the 20th anniversary of the opening of the Wright Museum of WWII History.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 40—AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER FOR A CEREMONY TO AWARD CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS IN HONOR OF THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO PERISHED AS A RESULT OF THE TERRORIST ATTACKS ON THE UNITED STATES ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Mr. CASEY submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. CON. RES. 40

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

SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR GOLD MEDAL CEREMONY IN HONOR OF FALLEN HEROES OF 9/11.

Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used on September 10, 2014, for a ceremony to award Congressional Gold Medals in honor of the men and women who perished as a result of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001. Physical preparations for the conduct of the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as may be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol.

NOTICE OF HEARING

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs has scheduled a hearing entitled, ''Abuse of Structured Financial Products: Misusing Barrier Options to Avoid Taxes and Leverage Limits.'' The subcommittee hearing will examine a set of transactions that utilize financial engineering and structured financial products to attempt to avoid paying U.S. taxes on short-term capital gains. Witnesses will include representatives of major financial institutions, as well as tax experts from a nonprofit institution and the U.S. Government Accountability Office. A witness list will be available Friday, July 18, 2014.

The Subcommittee hearing has been scheduled for Tuesday, July 22, 2014, at 9:30 a.m., in Room 216 of the Hart Senate Office Building. For further information, please contact Elise Bean of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations at 224–9505.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, July 14, 2014, at 3 p.m. in order to conduct a hearing to consider the nomination of Hon. James C. Miller III, Stephen Crawford, David M. Bennett, and Victoria Reggie Kennedy to be Governors, U.S. Postal Service.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Kinnon McDonald, an intern in Senator LEAHY's office, be granted floor privileges for Tuesday, July 15, 2014.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 2599 AND H.R. 4718

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I understand there are two bills at the desk, and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bills by title for the first time en bloc.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2599) to stop exploitation through trafficking.

A bill (H.R. 4718) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify and make permanent bonus depreciation.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading en bloc, and I object to my own request en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bills will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JULY 15, 2014

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, July 15, 2014; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business until 12 noon, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided between the two leaders or their designees, with the majority controlling the first half and the Republicans controlling the final half; that following morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session as provided for under the previous order; further, that following the cloture vote on the LaFleur nomination, the Senate recess until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; finally, if cloture is invoked on either of the nominations, the time until 3 p.m. be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees and at 3 p.m. the Senate proceed to vote on confirmation of the nominations, as provided under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, at 12 noon tomorrow there will be two cloture votes on the Bay and the LaFleur nominations to be members of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and, if cloture is invoked, votes on confirmation of the nominations at 3 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TUESDAY, JULY 15, 2014, at 10 A.M.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:45 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, July 15, 2014, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

ALISSA M. STARZAK, OF NEW YORK, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, VICE BRAD CARSON, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CRAIG B. ALLEN, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO BRUNEI DARUSSALAM.

JANE D. HARTLEY, OF NEW YORK, TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE PRINCIPALITY OF MONACO.

RICHARD M. MILLS, JR., OF TEXAS, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA.

JOHN FRANCIS TEFFT, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

SHARON BLOCK, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD FOR THE TERM OF FIVE YEARS EXPIRING DECEMBER 16, 2019, VICE NANCY JEAN SCHIFFER, TERM EXPIRING.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

JOSEPH L. NIMMICH, OF MARYLAND, TO BE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE RICHARD SERINO, RESIGNED.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

ANNE E. RUNG, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR FOR FEDERAL PROCUREMENT POLICY, VICE JOSEPH G. JORDAN, RESIGNED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be general

LT. GEN. LORI J. ROBINSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be general

GEN. HERBERT J. CARLISLE

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. FREDERICK B. HODGES

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant colonel

MARK D. LEVIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant colonel

CRAIG H. RHYNE

To be major

DAVID E. VIZURRAGA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be major

STEVEN E. KOEHL

MICHAEL J. MCFALL
CHRISTOPHER YOUNG

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY NURSE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be major

RUBEN J. VAZQUEZ

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be commander

JOSEPH S. GONDUSKY
JARED H. HEIMBIGNER
HASAN A. HOBBS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be commander

RICHARD A. PORTILLO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

HENRY S. THRIFT III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

LEAH M. TUNNELL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

TRAVELYAN M. WALKER

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, due to flight delays on July 8, 2014, I was absent from votes in the House. I, therefore, missed rollcall votes 369 and 370. Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye'' on rollcall No. 369 and ''aye'' on rollcall No. 370.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was $10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is $17,591,098,482,428.39. We've added $6,964,221,433,515.31 to our debt in 5 years. This is over $6.9 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION FOR MAGGIE MOLLOY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HEAD START CHILD-PARENT CENTERS, INC.

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maggie Molloy, who is retiring after 40 years as executive director of the Tucson-based Head Start Child-Parent Centers, Inc.

Maggie began her career in early childhood as an intern at Arizona State University in its early childhood center. In 1972, while working on her master's degree in early childhood education and family development, she responded to an opening for a teacher position at Child Development Centers, a Tucson-based nonprofit and delegate agency for Head Start programs in Tucson.

Maggie started as education director of the program, when I served as executive director. In 1974, when I transitioned to a new position, Maggie was named executive director—a position she has held for the past four decades.

Under her leadership, Child-Parent Centers has become the largest provider of Head Start services in Southern Arizona, growing to 43 locations spread across five Arizona counties. The agency has a sweeping vision: Strong communities filled with successful families and children. That includes a commitment to ensure that all eligible families—including the children of migrant/seasonal workers and children with disabilities—receive the education, nutrition and family support services Head Start provides.

Maggie has provided dynamic leadership for an agency that now has more than 500 employees. She leads a volunteer-based board of directors that incorporates members from the community with backgrounds in fiscal management, early childhood education and legal practices and procedures.

I am proud to recognize Maggie Molloy—a visionary leader, an enthusiastic and passionate advocate and change agent for thousands of Southern Arizona children and their families.

SUPPORT OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 657

HON. C. A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this statement is to highlight my support of House Resolution 657 which passed by unanimous consent on July 11, 2014. Had I been able to, I would have cosponsored this resolution. I firmly support Israel's right to defend itself against the unprovoked rocket attacks from the Hamas terrorist organization. I condemn these attacks on our Israeli friends and call on Hamas to immediately cease all rocket fire and other attacks against Israel. Israel remains a vital ally of the United States in the Middle East, and it is in the best interest of both countries to maintain our cooperation and support.

HONORING JON MEIS

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a young man from my district who is truly a hero. On June 5, 2014, Seattle Pacific University was faced with tragedy when a shooter opened fire in one of the university's residence halls. A student was killed, and it was only thanks to the actions of Jon Meis from Renton, Washington, that more lives were not taken.

Mr. Meis is himself a student at SPU and when he was placed in a dangerous situation, he gave no thought to his own life. Instead, he acted to protect his fellow students by pepper-spraying and tackling the gunman, allowing the police enough time to get to campus and take control of the situation.

As a former police officer, I know just how critical Mr. Meis's actions were in apprehending the shooter and saving lives. I am so proud of this young man: for his courage, his dedication to his community, his selflessness. I am proud of the way our greater Seattle community has banded together to support the SPU community during this difficult time, and I mourn with them for the young man who died that day. As Mr. Meis himself pointed out, it takes a tragedy to make a hero. I know we all wish such an event had never taken place, but Mr. Meis ensured that further tragedy was prevented. So, once again, I thank him and I honor him.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL FREIGHT NETWORK TRUST FUND ACT OF 2014

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the National Freight Network Trust Fund Act of 2014 to provide a guaranteed, dedicated funding source, at no additional expense to taxpayers, to serve our nation's freight movement.

The Port of Los Angeles is in my backyard and when I came to Congress, I was surprised that there was a lack of focus on ports and freight transportation in general. One of the reasons I cofounded the PORTS Caucus is to educate Members about the importance of freight transportation to our nation's economy.

We are a consumer economy. Whether it is a ''mom and pop'' store on the corner or a large retailer like Target, we don't think twice when we go to these stores to purchase groceries, toys, or clothing. When we go to the store, we expect that milk and the Barbie dolls are on the shelf.

We also want to ensure that goods Made in America—including manufacturing and agriculture—are able to be shipped efficiently across our nation's highways and rail to our ports for export, which is crucial to our nation's continued economic success.

Ultimately, in MAP–21—our last surface transportation bill—we were successful in including provisions to start the conversation about developing a national freight transportation network.

The problem is that today there is not enough funds to keep the Highway Trust Fund solvent—let alone have the necessary investment to modernize and increase the efficiency of our freight network. That will not keep our economy global competitive as we continue progressing through the 21st Century.

For example, goods that leave the Port of Los Angeles take 48 hours to arrive in Chicago and takes 30 hours to travel across the city. This bottleneck is unacceptable and means higher costs for consumers, more congestion, more pollution, and less jobs. The bottom line is that we need to fund our nation's freight network.

If we fail to fund our ports, we will lose our competitive edge and add costs to our goods.

A USDOT report, Freight Transportation: Improvements and the Economy, estimates the cost of carrying freight on the highway system at between $25 and $200 an hour. Unexpected delays can increase the cost of transporting goods by 50 to 250 percent.

I believe that is crucial for our nation to have a dedicated source of funding to keep our nation's freight network globally competitive. Therefore, I am introducing the National Freight Network Trust Fund Act of 2014 that would direct 5 percent of all import duties collected by Customs and Border Protection (CBP) at Ports of Entry to be spent on freight transportation. This is at no new cost to a business or taxpayer as it uses the funds our CBP officials are collecting at the border as freight enters our nation.

This legislation would create the National Freight Network Trust Fund as an off-budget trust fund to only serve the roads of the National Freight Network and those roads and rail that connect the Network to Ports of Entry.

It would also create a dedicated funding source at no new cost to the public by depositing 5 percent of all import duties collected by CBP and place these funds in the National Freight Network Trust Fund. Five percent of import duties would deposit roughly $1.9 billion in the Trust Fund every year at our current rate of imports.

The legislation would also direct the Secretary of Transportation to work in accordance with the National Freight Strategic Plan to identify improvements to the National Freight Network, on-dock rail, and roads and rail that connect the Network to Ports of Entry, which show the greatest need in providing for the movement of freight and goods across the United States. It would also provide grants at the Secretary's discretion to State, regional and local transportation authorities to make freight network improvements.

This bill will infuse billions back into the economy every year, help create good paying American jobs and keep our nation's ports strong and globally competitive.

This is a win for our ports and for our nation's economy. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR FRANK WICKS

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of Command Sergeant Major Frank Wicks. Command Sergeant Major Wicks has served the people of New York and the United States admirably throughout his career. He will be missed.

Born in Troy, New York, Command Sergeant Major Wicks entered the Army in November 1982 and attended Basic Training in Fort Dix, New Jersey, and advanced individual training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

His assignments include the 205th Support Group, 2nd Battalion 105th Infantry, Headquarters 42nd Infantry Division, Company A 204th Engineer Battalion, Headquarters 1st Battalion, 105th Infantry, 2nd Battalion 106th Regiment, 1st Battalion 108th Infantry, Headquarters 27th Brigade Combat Team, and Headquarters 53rd Troop Command. His Command Sergeant Major assignments include 2nd Battalion 106th Regiment, 2nd Battalion 108th Infantry in Utica, NY, 27th Infantry Brigade in Syracuse, NY, and the 53rd Troop Command, Valhalla, NY.

Command Sergeant Major Wicks has served in every leadership position from Team Leader to Command Sergeant Major. He has also served as an Instructor at the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy. In October 2003, CSM Wicks mobilized and deployed as the 2nd Battalion 108th Infantry and Task Force Hunter Command Sergeant Major to the Sunni Triangle, Iraq, serving as the Senior Noncommissioned Officer in the conduct of combat and stability operations of the Task Force during Operation Iraqi Freedom II.

His military education includes all four Noncommissioned Officers Development Courses culminating in his graduation from the Sergeants Major Academy in June of 2002. Command Sergeant Major Wicks has earned a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Management from NYACK College.

Command Sergeant Major Wicks' awards and decorations include: Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (with bronze oak leaf cluster), Army Commendation Medal (with 2 bronze oak leaf clusters), Army Achievement Medal (with bronze oak leaf cluster), Good Conduct Medal (2nd Award), Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (with 4 bronze oak leaf clusters), National Defense Service Medal (2nd Award), Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terror Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal ("M" device 4th award, bronze hourglass), the NCO Professional Development Ribbon (with numeral 4), Army Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, and the Combat Infantry Badge.

Yet, Command Sergeant Major Wicks' career is much more than a list of accolades. While those are important and serve as a testament to his knowledge, drive, and continual self-improvement, more important are the lives across New York, the United States, and the world that Command Sergeant Major Wicks' has impacted for the better. On behalf of all those individuals, directly or indirectly, impacted by Command Sergeant Major Wicks throughout his career I express my deepest appreciation for his leadership and wish him and his family the best in their next endeavor.

HONORING RAYMOND HARRY GANTZ

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, communities find their strength in the dedicated individuals who offer their time and energy to benefit the public good. For the Yonkers community, Raymond Harry Gantz personified that strength and dedication for decades.

Ray was born to Ellen White and Harry R. Gantz in 1944. Following high school and college, he spent a few years serving his country in the Naval Reserve, stationed in the Great Lakes, and started a wonderful family. After leaving the service, Ray pursued a career in sales, where his bubbly personality and gift of gab helped him sell everything from insurance to vitamins to Avon products.

Upon retiring, Ray decided to once again serve the public good by dedicating his time to several community organizations and groups in Yonkers. He served as Vice President of the Yonkers African American Heritage Committee; Board Member of the Nepperhan Community Center; Member of the Terrace City Lodge #1499 Senior Group #9; and Board Member and Advisor of Jefferson Terrace Resident Council Association.

A doting and proud grandfather, Ray could always be found with a smile on his face and a joke ready, products of his overall happy disposition. He stayed busy in retirement beyond his community work, returning in recent years to sales where he tried his hand at being a vendor at various flea markets, festivals and craft fairs.

Sadly, Ray passed away on June 7, 2014 at the age of 69, surrounded by the friends and family he loved so, all of whom he touched in some special way. Although he is gone, the legacy Ray has left and the work he did to better his community will live forever, and I am proud to honor him and his life here today.

RECOGNIZING PROPHETSTOWN, ILLINOIS

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the people of Prophetstown, Illinois, on the one year anniversary of the tragic fire that destroyed over half of their historic downtown.

The massive fire destroyed eight buildings and damaged two others in a blaze that took two dozen first responders hours to put out.

While this fire was devastating, seeing the people of Prophetstown come together in its aftermath has been truly inspiring.

They rallied together behind the town slogan "Prophetstown Strong" and worked together to support the individuals and businesses who were impacted by this tragedy.

On July 15, they will again come together to recognize the first responders who saved a woman's life one year ago and to break ground for a new building in their historic downtown.

I am honored to recognize the people of Prophetstown today and to represent them in Congress each and every day. They truly demonstrate the best of what a community can accomplish by working together.

RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER'S LABORATORY FOR LASER ENERGETICS

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that H.R. 4923, the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2015, provided $68 million for the University of Rochester's Laboratory for Laser

Energetics (LLE), a $4 million increase over last year.

I strongly support this funding for LLE, which is a unique national resource and one of the crown jewels of New York State. One of two lasers at LLE, the OMEGA laser is the world's second most powerful ultraviolet fusion laser in the world. The second of LLE's lasers, the OMEGA EP (Extended Performance) laser, is a high-intensity, high-energy short-pulse laser. The LLE is a vital component of our nation's scientific capital and leadership, a key to strategic work on an independent energy future, a leader in developing innovative approaches to enhancing our national security, and a crucial part of New York's high-tech economy. It also serves as the principal laser research facility for Los Alamos and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories.

The LLE has attracted nearly $2 billion to the State of New York and more than 1,000 individuals whose jobs are tied to the program. The laser lab also provides a strong stimulus to the local economy through start-up companies such as QED Technologies, Lucid Inc., and Sydor Instruments, fueling New York State's rapidly growing high-technology sector. Through the National Laser Users Facility, the LLE attracts as many as 300 additional scientists each year from national laboratories, universities, and companies, and continues to produce some of the best and brightest Master's and Ph.D. students.

If there's any place the Federal Government should be investing, it's in the laser lab's research programs, which create jobs through the creation of spin-off companies. The work they are doing in high energy density research is remarkable, working every day to get us closer to energy independence and enhance our national security. I am proud of the LLE's contribution to the vibrant, growing high-tech community of Rochester.

GINGER ANDENUCIO CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ginger Andenucio, an educator from Pueblo, Colorado. After 36 years of service in Pueblo County District 70, Ms. Andenucio is retiring to spend time with her family and friends.

Ms. Andenucio has had an exemplary career as an educator and an administrator in District 70. Long before she began her career as a teacher, she was a student in the District, and after college, Ms. Andenucio was drawn to working in there. During her time in the classroom, she would teach at the elementary, middle and high school levels. After teaching for 20 years, Ms. Andenucio began working in the administration, where she was tasked with building District 70's gifted and talented program. From there, she climbed the ladder, eventually becoming the Assistant Superintendent. Under her leadership, District 70 launched programs such as Gateway to Technology, the International Baccalaureate program, and Project Lead the Way. Ms. Andenucio also led the transition to modernize classrooms by bringing laptops and Promethean boards to schools. Throughout this period, she has had one goal in mind, to create a better learning experience for the students of District 70.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Andenucio's hard work and dedication are an example to us all. I stand with the residents of Pueblo County and the students and parents of District 70 in thanking Ms. Andenucio and congratulating her on a lifetime of service. Although she is retiring from her current post, I am confident she will continue to be a valuable part of her community, and I look forward to seeing all she will accomplish in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF TURKEY'S INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 40th anniversary of the 1974 Turkish invasion of Cyprus and to call for the end to Turkey's continued and illegal occupation.

The Greek Cypriot community continues to struggle and face the denial of its fundamental human rights. Turkish troops and colonists from mainland Turkey based in the occupied area prevent thousands of Greek Cypriots from returning to their homes, and those who chose to stay in the occupied region face daily threats and discrimination. Their properties are often confiscated or sold without their consent. They face daily religious persecution, as Turkish troops restrict access to and destroy religious sites, and constrain freedom of worship.

Turkey continues to obstruct attempts to discover the fate of military and civilian personnel who have been unaccounted for since the invasion 40 years ago Turkey has prevented the exhumation of mass graves in its restricted military areas, even under the offer of U.N. supervision.

Fortunately, Cyprus's government continues in its commitment to a U.N.-sponsored process to reach a lasting solution that would create a bizonal, bicommunal federation respectful of the human rights of all Cypriots, Greek or Turkish. Last year, President Anastasiades proposed several measures which would significantly contribute to the negotiating process, and recently, the leaders of both Cypriot communities issued a Joint Statement which lays a strong foundation for future talks. The United States has welcomed both of these developments as crucial steps toward a lasting solution. Regrettably, the Turkish government has not only rejected all of these proposals, but also exercises ''gunboat diplomacy'' to interfere with legal oil and gas explorations in the Cypriot Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

Forty years is too long for a people to be denied their basic rights. It is too long to be separated from one's family and one's home. It is time to make Cyprus an example of reconciliation, peace, and stability for the eastern Mediterranean, and for the international community at-large.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 403—''aye'' (MTR) and rollcall No. 404—''no'' (final passage H.R. 4718).

RECOGNIZING DR. SHAINY VARGHESE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Shainy Varghese, an assistant professor at the University of Houston—Victoria (UHV) School of Nursing, who is a recipient of the Nurses.com Giving Excellence Meaning Award of Texas. Dr. Varghese is the first person from UHV to receive the award. Her award came in the House, Community and Ambulatory Care category. Varghese and five other Texas finalists will advance to the national contest where they will compete with nurses from other regions.

It was Dr. Varghese's community involvement that set her apart from the three other regional finalists. She started her own nurse-managed clinic, which is rare for a nurse practitioner, and gives medical care to anyone in need. This clinic has improved access to primary care in Fort Bend County. Aside from this award, Dr. Varghese was awarded the Excellence in Nursing Bronze Medal by the Good Samaritan Foundation in 2012. She has been a permanent member of the staff at UHV since 2009 where her research specialty is telehealth.

Our community is lucky to have Dr. Varghese who is actively making a difference in our community and educating our future nurses. On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, best of luck to Dr. Varghese and congratulations on becoming a finalist for this prestigious award.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ENDING THE 40 YEAR DIVISION OF CYPRUS

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 40th anniversary of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus. In 1974, Turkey invaded the island of Cyprus reportedly to protect Turkish Cypriots from tensions with Greek Cypriots. Turkey then launched a second phase of the invasion which resulted in 1,500 missing Greek Cypriots, an estimated 5,000 civilian deaths and 170,000 refugees. In 1983, the Turkish Cypriot occupied area declared itself the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, though it has never been recognized by any country other than Turkey.

Currently, around 40,000 Turkish troops patrol the occupied area, making the northern

part of Cyprus one of the most highly militarized areas in the world. Thousands of Greek Cypriots are being denied their fundamental right to return to their homes. Greek Cypriot properties are constantly being confiscated or sold without their owners' consent. Freedom of worship continues to be restricted as access to religious sites are blocked and systematically destroyed. Furthermore, Turkey continues to obstruct the process of determining the fate of persons missing since the invasion by prohibiting the exhumation of remains from mass graves.

Thankfully, the Cyprus Government remains fully committed to the United Nations (U.N.) sponsored process to reach a sustainable settlement that would reunify Cyprus based on a bizonal, bicommunal federation in accordance with relevant U.N. Security Council resolutions. Additionally, the President of Cyprus has outlined several promising measures that contributed an atmosphere that would facilitate the negotiating process. In February 2014, the leaders of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities resumed formal negotiations. The promotion of security and stability in the region is a vital foreign policy issue to the United States, and the anniversary of the Turkish invasion should serve as a reminder that it is well past time to end the forcible division of Cyprus.

PEARLAND FORCE WINS TEXAS STATE TITLE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Pearland Force softball team for winning the Texas state title in their division of the Amateur Softball Association (ASA). The Pearland Force played hard and won seven consecutive games in a great display of teamwork and athleticism to win the championship tournament.

As a young fastpitch team that has already achieved so much, I'm excited to see their next accomplishments in both their community and athletic endeavors.

Congratulations to the Pearland Force coaches and players—Brent Marek, Stephanie Reyes, Pilo Garcia, Jr., Stephen Borden, Nichole Mann, Stephanie Lopez, Bayleigh Borden, Isabella Reyes, Erin Connolly, Kyla Sides, Holly Vollman, Katie Bishop, Grace Atchison, Mya Martinez and Karyme Garcia. I wish the Pearland Force the best of luck in their upcoming ASA tournaments. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to the coaches and players for this fantastic victory!

RIVERSIDE KAYAK CONNECTION RECOGNITION

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give special recognition to the celebrated efforts of the Downriver Linked Greenways Initiative and in particular, its partner organization the Riverside Kayak Connection. The Riverside Kayak Connection, located in Wyandotte, Michigan, is a kayak and canoe shop that successfully launched as a result of the Downriver Linked Greenways Initiative which began in 1999. This Riverside Kayak Connection is co-chaired by two very dedicated and community-oriented individuals who I am proud to call my friends: Marketing Director Anita Twardesky and Extension Educator Mary Bohling.

The ultimate objective of the Downriver Linked Greenways Initiative and its partner organization, the Riverside Kayak Connection, is to create an efficient regional pathway system that will connect the twenty-one Downriver communities, Wayne, and Monroe Counties through a network of non-motorized trails and greenways. The Riverside Kayak Connection's Detroit River tours are immensely popular among citizens in the Downriver area of Michigan and have helped to create a greater sense of awareness as to the ecological and economic opportunities that are present in and around the watershed. Both Anita Twardesky and Mary Bohling have been invaluable in leading this environmental, community-driven effort. The Co-Chairs offer a variety of services to assist communities in their greenway and water trail efforts, including technical consultation, project management, meeting facilitation, and grant writing assistance.

Anita Twardesky is an accomplished and respected recreation and trails professional. She also serves as Public Relations & Community Outreach for Riverside Kayak Connection where she is responsible for promoting outdoor recreation, paddle sports, and the ecotourism in the area. Formerly, she served as Parks & Recreation Director for the cities of Woodhaven and Flat Rock. Her appointments include Co-Chair of the Downriver Linked Greenways Initiative, Chair of the Trails Committee for the Michigan Recreation & Parks Association, and member of the State Wide Advisory Group Michigan Water Trails.

Mary Bohling, besides co-chairing the Downriver Linked Greenways Initiative, is also Co-Founder and Board Member of the International Wildlife Refuge Alliance, a non-profit organization created to support the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. She also chairs the Michigan Statewide Public Advisory Council as well, developing and implementing fisheries and wildlife habitat restoration projects.

The Riverside Kayak Connection has become an essential aspect of the Downriver community's effort to promote an efficient, environmentally friendly regional system that encourages a variety of travel options. I strongly appreciate and admire the hard work and dedication that the Riverside Kayak Connection has given to my district and the Downriver community in developing and encouraging diversity of travel. Today I express my sincerest thanks to the Co-Chairs of this great organization as they continue to make our waterways and greenways a treasure for generations to come.

COMMENDING KENDALL SHEFFIELD

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kendall Sheffield for being named the 2013–14 Gatorade Texas Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Kendall will be a senior at Thurgood Marshall High School in Missouri City, Texas this fall. This prestigious award recognizes Kendall both for being an outstanding student, as well as the top high school boys track & field athlete in all of Texas.

His track records place him in the top five high school showing of 2014, winning the 110-meter high hurdles (13.63 seconds) and the 300-meter intermediate hurdles (36.34 seconds) at this spring's 4A state meet. Kendall is also an asset in his community. He maintains a B average, is a member of the football team, is active in his church and volunteers with the elderly in his community and the local food bank.

On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Kendall Sheffield for winning the 2013–14 Gatorade Texas Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. We look forward to his continued success on and off the field.

HONORING ABBVIE FOR ITS OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO IMPROVE THE ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL STUDENTS FROM THE CITY OF NORTH CHICAGO

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I am most proud to rise today to honor AbbVie, a leading global biopharmaceutical company based in Illinois's 10th District, for its incredible commitment to enhance the educational opportunities available to local students in its hometown, the City of North Chicago.

In today's economy, education is a prerequisite for success, providing students with the tools and skillsets they need to climb the ladder of opportunity, realize their potential and accomplish their ambitions. We must dedicate ourselves to providing all children, regardless of zip code, with access to high-quality, affordable education so that they may fully develop their individual talents.

AbbVie recently launched its inaugural ''Week of Possibilities,'' a volunteer service initiative focused on helping revitalize the City of North Chicago. Working alongside its nonprofit partner, Heart of America Foundation, AbbVie hopes to transform four North Chicago School libraries with innovative new layouts and refurbished interiors.

In addition, each library will receive nearly 2,000 new books and high-tech new equipment, including iPads. On the first day of school, all of the students will go home with seven new books of their own.

This effort shows the tremendous impact that successful businesses and business leaders can have by giving back to their local communities. Thanks to AbbVie's outstanding commitment to service, more children will have the opportunity to pursue their passions and achieve their dreams.

CONGRATULATING PEARLAND ISD TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Taresa Jacobsen of Lawhon Elementary and Mark Lesmeister of Dawson High School for winning Pearland Independent School District's 2014 Teachers of the Year.

Mrs. Jacobsen has been a teacher for seven years, spending her last four at Lawhon Elementary. She has been a great asset for her students and works hard to keep their parents aware of their children's progress in the classroom. She takes the time to get to know her students well and incorporates that knowledge in her teaching.

Mr. Lesmeister joined the Dawson High School faculty in 2008 and is helping to design the physics program. Thanks to his passion for teaching, he encourages many of his students to consider a career in teaching themselves and strongly believes students should graduate with a scientific understanding in order to make rational decisions.

I wish Mrs. Jacobsen and Mr. Lesmeister the best of luck in their teaching careers and thank them both for going above and beyond for their students. Great teachers help develop future leaders. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I congratulate Taresa Jacobsen and Mark Lesmeister for their commitment to teaching and for earning the Pearland ISD 2014 Teachers of the Year!

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, July 15, 2014 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 16

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold a joint hearing to examine options for assuring domestic space access.

SH–216

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection

To hold hearings to examine what makes a bank systemically important.

SD–538

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robert W. Holleyman II, of Louisiana, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, and Cary Douglas Pugh, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court.

SD–215

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider the Protocol Amending the Convention between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Spain for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and its Protocol, signed at Madrid on February 22, 1990 (Treaty Doc.113–04), The Convention between the United States of America and the Republic of Poland for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, signed on February 13, 2013, at Warsaw (Treaty Doc.113–05), H.R. 4028, to amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to include the desecration of cemeteries among the many forms of violations of the right to religious freedom, S. 2577, to require the Secretary of State to offer rewards totaling up to $5,000,000 for information on the kidnapping and murder of Naftali Fraenkel, a dual United States-Israeli citizen, that began on June 12, 2014, S. Res. 498, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding United States support for the State of Israel as it defends itself against unprovoked rocket attacks from the Hamas terrorist organization, S. Res. 500, expressing the sense of the Senate with respect to enhanced relations with the Republic of Moldova and support for the Republic of Moldova's territorial integrity, and the nominations of Alfonso E. Lenhardt, of New York, to be Deputy Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and Marcia Denise Occomy, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Director of the African Development Bank.

S–116

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine challenges at the border, focusing on examining and addressing the root of the causes behind the rise in apprehensions at the Southern Border.

SD–342

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the state of Veterans' Affairs health care.

SD–G50

2:15 p.m.

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine phone scams, focusing on progress and potential solutions.

SD–562

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security

To hold hearings to examine strengthening trade enforcement to protect American enterprise and grow American jobs.

SD–138

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine consumer choice, consolidation and the future video marketplace.

SR–253

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of the Interior's land buy-back program.

SD–628

3 p.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife

To hold hearings to examine S. 571, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish a deadline for restricting sewage dumping into the Great Lakes and to fund programs and activities for improving wastewater discharges into the Great Lakes, S. 1153, to establish an improved regulatory process for injurious wildlife to prevent the introduction and establishment in the United States of nonnative wildlife and wild animal pathogens and parasites that are likely to cause harm, S. 1175, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to establish a program to provide loans and loan guarantees to enable eligible public entities to acquire interests in real property that are in compliance with habitat conservation plans approved by the Secretary of the Interior under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, S. 1202, to establish an integrated Federal program to respond to ongoing and expected impacts of extreme weather and climate change by protecting, restoring, and conserving the natural resources of the United States, and to maximize government efficiency and reduce costs, in cooperation with State, local, and tribal governments and other entities, S. 1232, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to protect and restore the Great Lakes, H.R. 1300, to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize the volunteer programs and community partnerships for the benefit of national wildlife refuges, S. 1381, to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to clarify provisions enacted by the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, to further the conservation of certain wildlife species, S. 1650, to amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to exempt certain Alaska Native articles from prohibitions against sale of items containing nonedible migratory bird parts, S. 2225, to provide for a smart water resource management pilot program, S. 2530, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the importation or exportation of mussels of certain genus, and S. 2560, to authorize the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to seek compensation for injuries to trust resources and use those funds to restore, replace, or acquire equivalent resources.

SD–406

Committee on Foreign Relations

Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South and Central Asian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine reenergizing United States-India ties.

SD–419

JULY 17

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of General Joseph F. Dunford, Jr., USMC, for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Commandant of the Marine Corps, Department of Defense.

SD–G50

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Pamela Harris, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, Pamela Pepper, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, Brenda K. Sannes, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York, and Patricia M. McCarthy, of Maryland, and Jeri Kaylene Somers, of Virginia, both to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims.

SD–226

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Insurance

To hold hearings to examine accountability and corporate culture in wake of the General Motors (GM) recalls.

SR–253

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine the role of trade and technology in 21st century manufacturing.

SD–215

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine Central America in crisis and the exodus of unaccompanied minors.

SD–419

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Subcommittee on Primary Health and Aging

To hold hearings to examine the need to improve patient safety and reduce preventable deaths.

SD–430

10:30 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Business meeting to markup proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2015 for the Department of Defense.
SD–106

2 p.m.
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the Federal reserve portfolio, focusing on capitalizing on investments in research and development.
SR–253

Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Marcia Stephens Bloom Bernicat, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to the People's Republic of Bangladesh, and David Pressman, of New York, to be Alternate Representative of the United States of America for Special Political Affairs in the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador, and to be an Alternate Representative to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during his tenure of service as Alternate Representative for Special Political Affairs in the United Nations, both of the Department of State.
SD–419

2:30 p.m.
Select Committee on Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.
SH–219

JULY 22

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations
To hold hearings to examine abuse of structured financial products, focusing on misusing barrier options to avoid taxes and leverage limits, including a set of transactions that utilize financial engineering and structured financial products.
SH–216

10 a.m.
Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
To hold hearings to examine anti-semitism, racism and discrimination in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) region, including xenophobia, discrimination against Christians, and members of other religions, and intolerance and discrimination against Muslims.
SD–562

JULY 23

10 a.m.
Committee on Rules and Administration
To hold hearings to examine S. 2516, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional disclosure requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities, focusing on the need for expanded public disclosure of funds raised and spent to influence Federal elections.
SR–301

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Indian Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine Indian gaming, focusing on the next 25 years.
SD–628

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
To hold hearings to examine empowering women entrepreneurs, focusing on understanding successes, addressing persistent challenges, and identifying new opportunities.
SH–216

JULY 30

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Indian Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine responses to natural disasters in Indian country.
SD–628

CORRECTION

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4443–S4460

Measures Introduced: Five bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2596–2600, S. Res. 501, and S. Con. Res. 40. **Page S4454**

Measures Reported:

S. 2354, to improve cybersecurity recruitment and retention, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 113–207)

Report to accompany S. 161, to extend the Federal recognition to the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana. (S. Rept. No. 113–208)

Report to accompany S. 1074, to extend Federal recognition to the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe-Eastern Division, the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe, Inc., the Monacan Indian Nation, and the Nansemond Indian Tribe. (S. Rept. No. 113–209) **Page S4454**

Measures Considered:

Protect Women's Health From Corporate Interference Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2578, to ensure that employers cannot interfere in their employees' birth control and other health care decisions. **Pages S4443–45, S4451–52**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Ronnie L. White, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri. **Page S4451**

White Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Ronnie L. White, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri. **Pages S4450–51**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on upon disposition of the nomination of Cheryl A. LaFleur, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. **Page S4451**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Alissa M. Starzak, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army.

Craig B. Allen, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam.

Jane D. Hartley, of New York, to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Principality of Monaco.

Richard M. Mills, Jr., of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Armenia.

John Francis Tefft, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Russian Federation.

Sharon Block, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board for the term of five years expiring December 16, 2019.

Joseph L. Nimmich, of Maryland, to be Deputy Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

Anne E. Rung, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy.

2 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, and Navy. **Pages S4459–60**

Messages from the House: **Page S4454**

Measures Referred: **Page S4454**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S4454, S4459**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S4454–56**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S4456–59**

Additional Statements: **Pages S4453–54**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S4459**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S4459**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S4459**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 5:45 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, July 15, 2014. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4459.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of James C. Miller III, of Virginia, Stephen Crawford, of Maryland, David Michael Bennett, of North Carolina, and Victoria Reggie Kennedy, of Massachusetts, who was introduced by Senator Markey, all to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 14 public bills, H.R. 5093–5106; and 2 resolutions, H.J. Res. 119; and H. Res. 668 were introduced. **Pages H6214–17**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H6217**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 4197, to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend the period of certain authority with respect to judicial review of Merit Systems Protection Board decisions relating to whistleblowers, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 113–519, Pt. 1);

H.R. 5021, to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–520, Pt. 1); and

H. Res. 669, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5021) to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 113–521). **Page H6214**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative LaMalfa to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H6139**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:05 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H6140**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:07 p.m. and reconvened at 3:02 p.m. **Page H6140**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

STEM Education Act of 2014: H.R. 5031, to define STEM education to include computer science, and to support existing STEM education programs at the National Science Foundation; **Pages H6141–44**

National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization: H.R. 1786, amended, to reauthorize the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program; **Pages H6144–47**

Research and Development Efficiency Act: H.R. 5056, to improve the efficiency of Federal research and development; **Pages H6147–49**

International Science and Technology Cooperation Act of 2014: H.R. 5029, to provide for the establishment of a body to identify and coordinate international science and technology cooperation that can strengthen the domestic science and technology enterprise and support United States foreign policy goals, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 346 yeas to 41 nays, Roll No. 406; **Pages H6149–50, H6168–69**

District of Columbia Courts, Public Defender Service, and Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency Act of 2014: H.R. 4185, to revise certain authorities of the District of Columbia courts, the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia, and the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia; **Pages H6150–52**

Richard K. Salick Post Office Designation Act: H.R. 451, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 North Brevard Avenue in Cocoa Beach, Florida, as the "Richard K. Salick Post Office"; **Pages H6152–53**

Specialist Christopher Scott Post Office Building Designation Act: H.R. 606, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 815 County Road 23 in Tyrone, New York, as the "Specialist Christopher Scott Post Office Building"; **Pages H6153–54**

Elizabeth L. Kinnunen Post Office Building Designation Act: H.R. 2223, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 Elm Avenue in Munising, Michigan, as the "Elizabeth L. Kinnunen Post Office Building"; **Pages H6154–55**

Officer James Bonneau Memorial Post Office Designation Act: H.R. 3534, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 West Michigan Avenue in Jackson, Michigan, as the "Officer James Bonneau Memorial Post Office"; **Pages H6155–56**

Harold George Bennett Post Office Designation Act: H.R. 4355, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 B Street in Perryville, Arkansas, as the "Harold George Bennett Post Office"; **Pages H6156–57**

Fountain County Veterans Memorial Post Office Designation Act: H.R. 2802, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 418 Liberty Street in Covington, Indiana, as the "Fountain County Veterans Memorial Post Office"; **Pages H6157–58**

Barry M. Goldwater Post Office Designation Act: H.R. 3027, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 442 Miller Valley Road in Prescott, Arizona, as the "Barry M. Goldwater Post Office"; **Page H6158**

Captain Herbert Johnson Memorial Post Office Building: H.R. 3085, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3349 West 111th Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the "Captain Herbert Johnson Memorial Post Office Building"; **Pages H6158–59**

Staff Sergeant Manuel V. Mendoza Post Office Building Designation Act: H.R. 4416, to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 161 Live Oak Street in Miami, Arizona, as the "Staff Sergeant Manuel V. Mendoza Post Office Building"; **Pages H6159–60**

Vincent R. Sombrotto Post Office Designation Act: H.R. 2291, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 450 Lexington Avenue in New York, New York, as the "Vincent R. Sombrotto Post Office"; **Pages H6160–61**

All Circuit Review Extension Act: H.R. 4197, to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend the period of certain authority with respect to judicial review of Merit Systems Protection Board decisions relating to whistleblowers; **Pages H6161–62**

Smart Savings Act: H.R. 4193, amended, to amend title 5, United States Code, to change the default investment fund under the Thrift Savings Plan; **Pages H6162–64**

Federal Register Modernization Act: H.R. 4195, to amend chapter 15 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the Federal Register Act), to modernize the Federal Register, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 386 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 405; and **Pages H6164–66, H6167–68**

Mount Jessie Benton Frémont Designation Act: H.R. 1192, to redesignate Mammoth Peak in Yosemite National Park as "Mount Jessie Benton Frémont". **Pages H6166–67**

Recess: The House recessed at 5:52 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H6167**

Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015: The House began consideration of H.R. 5016, making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, July 15th. **Pages H6169–H6213**

Agreed to:

Sessions amendment that reduces funding for salaries and expenses of the Department of Treasury by $1,750,000 and applies the savings to the spending reduction account; **Page H6181**

Posey amendment that increases funding, by offset, for salaries and expenses of the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration by $1,000,000; **Pages H6182–83**

Lynch amendment that increases funding, by offset, for the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network by $3,339,000; **Pages H6184–85**

Jackson Lee amendment that increases funding for Community Development Financial Institutions by $500,000 and reduces funding for taxpayer services of the Internal Revenue Service by $1,000,000; **Pages H6185–86**

Grayson amendment that redirects $2,800,000 within taxpayer services of the Internal Revenue Service for the Tax Counseling for the Elderly Program; **Page H6187**

Blackburn amendment that increases funding for the Consumer Product Safety Commission by $1,000,000 and reduces funding for the Internal Revenue Service, Enforcement by $2,000,000; **Pages H6187–88**

Gosar amendment that reduces funding for the Internal Revenue Service, Enforcement by $353,000,000 and applies the savings to the spending reduction account; **Pages H6188–89**

Huizenga amendment that reduces funding for the Internal Revenue Service, Enforcement by $788,111,800 and applies the savings to the spending reduction account; **Pages H6189–90**

Camp amendment that reduces funding for the Internal Revenue Service, Operations Support by $2,000,000 and applies the savings to the spending reduction account; **Pages H6190–94**

Gosar amendment that increases funding for Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and other Judicial Services by $42,000,000 and reduces funding for the General Services Administration for rental of space by $43,000,000; and **Pages H6194–97**

Gosar amendment that increases funding, by offset, for Entrepreneurial Development Programs by $3,882,000. **Pages H6204–07**

Rejected:

Grayson amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence by $5,000,000. **Pages H6181–82**

Point of Order sustained against:

Waters amendment that sought to amend section 502 of the bill and **Pages H6198–H6203**

Waters amendment that sought to add a new section which amends section 204 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 regarding investment adviser fees by the SEC. **Page H6207**

Proceedings Postponed:

Jackson Lee amendment that seeks to reduce funding for the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network by $200,000 and increase funding for taxpayer services of the Internal Revenue Service by $100,000; **Pages H6183–84**

Roskam amendment that seeks to increase funding, by offset, for taxpayer services of the Internal Revenue Service by $10,000,000; **Pages H6186–87**

Moore amendment that seeks to strike section 501 from the bill, which relates to administrative provisions of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, specifically the repeal of section 1017(a)(2)(C) of Public Law 111–203; and **Pages H6197–98**

Waters amendment that seeks to increase funding for salaries and expenses of the Securities and Exchange Commission by $300,000,000. **Pages H6203–04**

H. Res. 661, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 5016) and (H.R. 4718), was agreed to on July 10th.

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H6140 .

Senate Referrals: S. 1104, S. 653, S. 2056 and S. 2057 were held at the desk. **Page H6140**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6167–68 and H6168–69. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 10:44 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Full Committee began a markup on the following legislation: H.R. 4771, the "Designer Anabolic Steroid Control Act"; H.R. 4250, the "Sunscreen Innovation Act"; H.R. 594, the "Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Community Assistance, Research and Education Amendments of 2014"; H.R. 669, the "Sudden Unexpected Death and Data Enhancement and Awareness Act"; H.R. 4290, the "Wakefield Act of 2014"; H.R. 4450, the "Travel Promotion, Enhancement, and Modernization Act of 2014"; and H.R. 5057, the "EPS Service Parts Act of 2014".

HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION FUNDING ACT OF 2014

Committee on Rules: Full Committee began a hearing on H.R. 5021, the "Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014". The committee granted by voice vote a closed rule for H.R. 5021. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided among and controlled by the chairs and ranking minority members of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means, as modified by the amendments printed in the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from the following: Chairman Shuster, Chairman Camp, and Representatives Norton, Blumenauer, Garrett.

EVALUATION OF THE PROCESS TO ACHIEVE VBA GOALS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Evaluation of the Process to Achieve VBA Goals". Testimony was heard from the following Department of Veterans Affairs officials: Kristen Ruell, Authorization Quality Services Representative, Pension Management Center, Philadelphia Regional Office, Veterans Benefits Administration; Linda Halliday, Assistant Inspector General for Audits and Evaluations, Office of Inspector General; Allison A. Hickey, Under Secretary for Benefits, Veterans Benefits Administration; Daniel Bertoni, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, JULY 15, 2014

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense, business meeting to mark up proposed legislation making appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for the Department of Defense, 10 a.m., SD–192.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the semiannual Monetary Policy Report to the Congress, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: business meeting to consider the nominations of Elliot F. Kaye, of New York, to be a Commissioner and Chairman, and Joseph P. Mohorovic, of Illinois, and Robert S. Adler, of the District of Columbia, both to be a Commissioner, all of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, Judith M. Davenport, of Pennsylvania, and Elizabeth Sembler, of Florida, both to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, Victor M. Mendez, of Arizona, to be Deputy Secretary, and Peter M. Rogoff, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Policy, both of the Department of Transportation, Bruce H. Andrews, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary, and Marcus Dwayne Jadotte, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Commerce, and a Coast Guard Promotion List, Time to be announced, S–216, Capitol.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine wildland fire preparedness and to consider the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2015 for the Forest Service, 10:30 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine chronic illness, focusing on addressing patients' unmet needs, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of John R. Bass, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Turkey, Jane D. Hartley, of New York, to be Ambassador to the French Republic, James D. Pettit, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Moldova, Brent Robert Hartley, of Oregon, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Slovenia, and Kevin F. O'Malley, of Missouri, to be Ambassador to Ireland, all of the Department of State, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine S. 1696, to protect a women's right to determine whether and when to bear a child or end a pregnancy by limiting restrictions on the provision of abortion services, focusing on removing barriers to constitutionally protected reproductive rights, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism, to hold hearings to examine taking down botnets, focusing on public and private efforts to disrupt and dismantle cybercriminal networks, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Defense, hearing on Overseas Contingency Operations Funding FY 2015, 8 a.m., H–140, The Capitol. This is a closed hearing.

Full Committee, markup on Interior and Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2015, 10:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on Government Accountability Office review of the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA) community and the restructuring of these agencies as proposed by the Department of Defense, 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education, hearing entitled ''Protecting America's Youth: An Update from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children'', 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Full Committee, markup on the following legislation: H.R. 4771, the ''Designer Anabolic Steroid Control Act''; H.R. 4250, the ''Sunscreen Innovation Act''; H.R. 594, the ''Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Community Assistance, Research and Education Amendments of 2014''; H.R. 669, the ''Sudden Unexpected Death and Data Enhancement and Awareness Act''; H.R. 4290, the ''Wakefield Act of 2014''; H.R. 4450, the ''Travel Promotion, Enhancement, and Modernization Act of 2014''; and H.R. 5057, the ''EPS Service Parts Act of 2014'', 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled ''The Department of Justice's 'Operation Choke Point' '', 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled ''Examining Regulatory Relief Proposals for Community Financial Institutions, Part II'', 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats, hearing entitled ''The Future of Turkish Democracy'', 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade; and Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, joint subcommittee hearing entitled ''The Rise of ISIL: Iraq and Beyond'', 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security and Investigations, hearing entitled ''Lessons from the States: Responsible Prison Reform'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet, hearing entitled ''Moral Rights, Termination Rights, Resale Royalty, and Copyright Term'', 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law, hearing on the ''Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act of 2014'', 3:30 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled ''Implementation and Administration of the 2013 Helium Stewardship Act'', 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs, hearing on the following legislation: H.R. 3229, the ''Indian Health Service Advance Appropriations Act of 2013''; H.R. 4546, the ''Department of the Interior Tribal Self-Governance Act of 2014''; H.R. 4867, the ''Economic Development Through Tribal Land Exchange Act''; and S. 1603, the ''Gun Lake Trust Land Reaffirmation Act'', 11 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, U.S. Postal Service and the Census, hearing entitled ''Is the Federal Government's General Schedule (GS) a Viable Personnel System for the Future?'', 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 4719, the ''Fighting Hunger Incentive Act of 2014'', 3 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce, hearing entitled ''Action Delayed, Small Business Opportunities Denied: Implementation of Contracting Reforms in the FY 2013 NDAA'', 1 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled ''EPA's Expanded Interpretation of its Permit Veto Authority Under the Clean Water Act'', 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: to hold hearings to examine an assessment of the recovery at five years, 2 p.m., SH–216.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of July 15 through July 18, 2014

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday,* at approximately 12 noon, Senate will vote on the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of Norman C. Bay, of New Mexico, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and Cheryl A. LaFleur, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. If cloture is invoked, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nominations at 3 p.m.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: July 15, Subcommittee on Department of Defense, business meeting to mark up proposed legislation making appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for the Department of Defense, 10 a.m., SD–192.

July 16, Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security, to hold hearings to examine strengthening trade enforcement to protect American enterprise and grow American jobs, 2:30 p.m., SD–138.

July 17, Full Committee, business meeting to mark up proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2015 for the Department of Defense, 10:30 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Armed Services: July 16, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, with the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, to hold a joint hearing to examine options for assuring domestic space access, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

July 17, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of General Joseph F. Dunford, Jr., USMC, for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Commandant of the Marine Corps, Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: July 15, to hold hearings to examine the semiannual Monetary Policy Report to the Congress, 10 a.m., SD–106.

July 16, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection, to hold hearings to examine what makes a bank systemically important, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: July 15, business meeting to consider the nominations of Elliot F. Kaye, of New York, to be a Commissioner and Chairman, and Joseph P. Mohorovic, of Illinois, and Robert S. Adler, of the District of Columbia, both to be a Commissioner, all of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, Judith M. Davenport, of Pennsylvania, and Elizabeth Sembler, of Florida, both to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, Victor M. Mendez, of Arizona, to be Deputy Secretary, and Peter M. Rogoff, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Policy, both of the Department of Transportation, Bruce H. Andrews, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary, and Marcus Dwayne Jadotte, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Commerce, and a Coast Guard Promotion List, Time to be announced, S–216, Capitol.

July 16, Full Committee, with the Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold a joint hearing to examine options for assuring domestic space access, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

July 16, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine consumer choice, consolidation and the future video marketplace, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

July 17, Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Insurance, to hold hearings to examine accountability and corporate culture in wake of the General Motors (GM) recalls, 10 a.m., SR–253.

July 17, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the Federal reserve portfolio, focusing on capitalizing on investments in research and development, 2 p.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: July 15, to hold hearings to examine wildland fire preparedness and to consider the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2015 for the Forest Service, 10:30 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: July 16, Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife, to hold hearings to examine S. 571, to amend the Federal Water Pollution

Control Act to establish a deadline for restricting sewage dumping into the Great Lakes and to fund programs and activities for improving wastewater discharges into the Great Lakes, S. 1153, to establish an improved regulatory process for injurious wildlife to prevent the introduction and establishment in the United States of nonnative wildlife and wild animal pathogens and parasites that are likely to cause harm, S. 1175, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to establish a program to provide loans and loan guarantees to enable eligible public entities to acquire interests in real property that are in compliance with habitat conservation plans approved by the Secretary of the Interior under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, S. 1202, to establish an integrated Federal program to respond to ongoing and expected impacts of extreme weather and climate change by protecting, restoring, and conserving the natural resources of the United States, and to maximize government efficiency and reduce costs, in cooperation with State, local, and tribal governments and other entities, S. 1232, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to protect and restore the Great Lakes, H.R. 1300, to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize the volunteer programs and community partnerships for the benefit of national wildlife refuges, S. 1381, to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to clarify provisions enacted by the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, to further the conservation of certain wildlife species, S. 1650, to amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to exempt certain Alaska Native articles from prohibitions against sale of items containing nonedible migratory bird parts, S. 2225, to provide for a smart water resource management pilot program, S. 2530, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the importation or exportation of mussels of certain genus, and S. 2560, to authorize the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to seek compensation for injuries to trust resources and use those funds to restore, replace, or acquire equivalent resources, 3 p.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: July 15, to hold hearings to examine chronic illness, focusing on addressing patients' unmet needs, 10 a.m., SD–215.

July 16, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robert W. Holleyman II, of Louisiana, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, and Cary Douglas Pugh, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court, 10 a.m., SD–215.

July 17, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the role of trade and technology in 21st century manufacturing, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: July 15, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of John R. Bass, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Turkey, Jane D. Hartley, of New York, to be Ambassador to the French Republic, James D. Pettit, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Moldova, Brent Robert Hartley, of Oregon, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Slovenia, and Kevin F. O'Malley, of Missouri, to be Ambassador to Ireland, all of the Department of State, 10 a.m., SD–419.

July 16, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the Protocol Amending the Convention between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Spain for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and its Protocol, signed at Madrid on February 22, 1990 (Treaty Doc. 113–04), The Convention between the United States of America and the Republic of Poland for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, signed on February 13, 2013, at Warsaw (Treaty Doc. 113–05), H.R. 4028, to amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to include the desecration of cemeteries among the many forms of violations of the right to religious freedom, S. 2577, to require the Secretary of State to offer rewards totaling up to $5,000,000 for information on the kidnapping and murder of Naftali Fraenkel, a dual United States-Israeli citizen, that began on June 12, 2014, S. Res. 498, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding United States support for the State of Israel as it defends itself against unprovoked rocket attacks from the Hamas terrorist organization, S. Res. 500, expressing the sense of the Senate with respect to enhanced relations with the Republic of Moldova and support for the Republic of Moldova's territorial integrity, and the nominations of Alfonso E. Lenhardt, of New York, to be Deputy Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and Marcia Denise Occomy, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Director of the African Development Bank, 10 a.m., S–116, Capitol.

July 16, Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South and Central Asian Affairs, to hold hearings to examine reenergizing United States-India ties, 3 p.m., SD–419.

July 17, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine Central America in crisis and the exodus of unaccompanied minors, 10 a.m., SD–419.

July 17, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Marcia Stephens Bloom Bernicat, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to the People's Republic of Bangladesh, and David Pressman, of New York, to be Alternate Representative of the United States of America for Special Political Affairs in the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador, and to be an Alternate Representative to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during his tenure of service as Alternate Representative for Special Political Affairs in the United Nations, both of the Department of State, 2 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: July 17, Subcommittee on Primary Health and Aging, to hold hearings to examine the need to improve patient safety and reduce preventable deaths, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: July 16, to hold hearings to examine challenges at the border, focusing on examining and addressing the root of the causes behind the rise in apprehensions at the Southern Border, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: July 16, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of the Interior's land buy-back program, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: July 15, to hold hearings to examine S. 1696, to protect a women's right to determine whether and when to bear a child or end a pregnancy by limiting restrictions on the provision of abortion services, focusing on removing barriers to constitutionally protected reproductive rights, 10 a.m., SD–226.

July 15, Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism, to hold hearings to examine taking down botnets, focusing on public and private efforts to disrupt and dismantle cybercriminal networks, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

July 17, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nominations of Pamela Harris, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, Pamela Pepper, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, Brenda K. Sannes, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York, and Patricia M. McCarthy, of Maryland, and Jeri Kaylene Somers, of Virginia, both to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, 9:30 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: July 16, to hold hearings to examine the state of Veterans Affairs health care, 10 a.m., SD–G50.

Select Committee on Intelligence: July 15, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

July 17, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

Special Committee on Aging: July 16, to hold hearings to examine phone scams, focusing on progress and potential solutions, 2:15 p.m., SD–562.

House Committees

Committee on Appropriations, July 15, Subcommittee on Defense, hearing on Overseas Contingency Operations Funding FY 2015, 8 a.m., H–140, The Capitol. This is a closed hearing.

July 15, Full Committee, markup on Interior and Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2015, 10:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, July 15, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on Government Accountability Office review of the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA) community and the restructuring of these agencies as proposed by the Department of Defense, 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

July 16, Full Committee, markup on H. Res. 649, directing the Secretary of Defense to transmit to the House of Representatives copies of any emails in the possession of the Department of Defense or the National Security Agency that were transmitted to or from the email account(s) of former Internal Revenue Service Exempt Organizations Division Director Lois Lerner between January 2009 and April 2011, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

July 16, Full Committee, hearing on Fiscal Year 2015 OCO Budget Request, 10:30 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

July 16, Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, hearing on Unmanned Carrier-Launched Airborne Surveillance and Strike (UCLASS) Requirements Assessment, 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

July 17, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing entitled "Russian Violations of the INF Treaty: After detection-what?", 9:30 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, July 16, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The Long-Term Budget Outlook", 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

July 17, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The President's Funding Request for Overseas Contingency Operations", 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, July 15, Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education, hearing entitled "Protecting America's Youth: An Update from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children", 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, July 15, Full Committee, markup on the following legislation: H.R. 4771, the "Designer Anabolic Steroid Control Act"; H.R. 4250, the "Sunscreen Innovation Act"; H.R. 594, the "Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Community Assistance, Research and Education Amendments of 2014"; H.R. 669, the "Sudden Unexpected Death and Data Enhancement and Awareness Act"; H.R. 4290, the "Wakefield Act of 2014"; H.R. 4450, the "Travel Promotion, Enhancement, and Modernization Act of 2014"; and H.R. 5057, the "EPS Service Parts Act of 2014", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

July 16, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Review of CDC Anthrax Lab Incident", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

July 16, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Failure to Verify: Concerns Regarding PPACA's Eligibility System", 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

July 17, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology; and Subcommittee on Health, joint subcommittee hearing entitled "21st Century Technology for 21st Century Cures", 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, July 15, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "The Department of Justice's 'Operation Choke Point' ", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

July 15, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled "Examining Regulatory Relief Proposals for Community Financial Institutions, Part II", 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

July 16, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Monetary Policy and the State of the Economy", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

July 17, Subcommittee on Monetary Policy and Trade, hearing entitled "A Legislative Proposal Entitled the 'Bank Account Seizure of Terrorist Assets (BASTA) Act' ", 9:45 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, July 15, Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats, hearing entitled "The Future of Turkish Democracy", 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

July 15, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade; and Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, joint subcommittee hearing entitled "The Rise of ISIL: Iraq and Beyond", 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

July 16, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Iran's Destabilizing Role in the Middle East'', 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

July 16, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled ''The Growing Crisis of Africa's Orphans'', 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, July 16, Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security, hearing entitled ''Port of Entry Infrastructure: How Does the Federal Government Prioritize Investments?'', 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, July 15, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security and Investigations, hearing entitled ''Lessons from the States: Responsible Prison Reform'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

July 15, Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet, hearing entitled ''Moral Rights, Termination Rights, Resale Royalty, and Copyright Term'', 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

July 15, Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law, hearing on the ''Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act of 2014'', 3:30 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

July 16, Full Committee, markup on H. Res. 646, directing the Attorney General to transmit to the House of Representatives copies of any emails in the possession of the Department of Justice that were transmitted to or from the email account(s) of former Internal Revenue Service Exempt Organizations Division Director Lois Lerner between January 2009 and April 2011; and H.R. 744, the ''STOP Identity Theft Act of 2013'', 10:15 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

July 17, Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law, hearing entitled ''Guilty until Proven Innocent? A Study of the Propriety & Legal Authority for the Justice Department's Operation Choke Point'', 9:30 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, July 15, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled ''Implementation and Administration of the 2013 Helium Stewardship Act'', 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

July 15, Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs, hearing on the following legislation: H.R. 3229, the ''Indian Health Service Advance Appropriations Act of 2013''; H.R. 4546, the ''Department of the Interior Tribal Self-Governance Act of 2014''; H.R. 4867, the ''Economic Development Through Tribal Land Exchange Act''; and S. 1603, the ''Gun Lake Trust Land Reaffirmation Act'', 11 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

July 16, Full Committee markup on the following legislation: the ''Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act''; H.R. 277, to revise the boundaries of John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Sachuest Point Unit RI–04P, Easton Beach Unit RI–05P, Almy Pond Unit RI–06, and Hazards Beach Unit RI–07 in Rhode Island; H.R. 916, the ''Federal Land Asset Inventory Reform Act of 2013''; H.R. 1810, to revise the boundaries of John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Gasparilla Island Unit in Florida; H.R. 2158, the ''Expedited Departure of Certain Snake Species Act''; H.R. 3572, to revise the boundaries of certain John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System units in North Carolina; H.R. 3806, the ''Great Smoky Mountains National Park Agreement Act of 2013''; H.R. 4751, to make technical corrections to Public Law 110–229 to reflect the renaming of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial, and for other purposes, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, July 15, Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, U.S. Postal Service and the Census, hearing entitled ''Is the Federal Government's General Schedule (GS) a Viable Personnel System for the Future?'', 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

July 16, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''White House Office of Political Affairs: Is Supporting Candidates and Campaign Fund-Raising an Appropriate Use of a Government Office?'', 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

July 17, Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Job Creation and Regulatory Affairs, hearing entitled ''Examining the Justice Department's Response to the IRS Targeting Scandal'', 9 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, July 15, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 4719, the ''Fighting Hunger Incentive Act of 2014'', 3 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

July 16, Full Committee, hearing on a discussion draft of a House Resolution providing for the authority to initiate litigation for actions by the President inconsistent with his duties under the Constitution of the United States, 10 a.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, July 16, Subcommittee on Oversight; and Subcommittee on Environment, joint subcommittee hearing entitled ''Status of Reforms to EPA's Integrated Risk Information System'', 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

July 17, Subcommittee on Research and Technology, hearing entitled ''Policies to Spur Innovative Medical Breakthroughs from Laboratories to Patients'', 9 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, July 15, Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce, hearing entitled ''Action Delayed, Small Business Opportunities Denied: Implementation of Contracting Reforms in the FY 2013 NDAA'', 1 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, July 15, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled ''EPA's Expanded Interpretation of its Permit Veto Authority Under the Clean Water Act'', 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

July 16, Full Committee, markup on the following legislation: General Services Administration Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions; H. Con. Res. 103, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run; H.R. 3044, to approve the transfer of Yellow Creek Port properties in Iuka, Mississippi; H.R. 5078, the ''Waters of the United States Regulatory Overreach Protection Act of 2014''; H.R. 4854, the ''Regulatory Certainty Act''; H.R. 5077, the ''Coal Jobs Protection Act of 2014'', 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, July 16, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Creating Efficiency through Comparison: An Evaluation of Private Sector Best Practices and the VA Health Care System'', 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, July 17, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Ongoing Intelligence Activities'', 9 a.m., 304–HVC. This is a closed hearing.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: July 15, to hold hearings to examine an assessment of the recovery at five years, 2 p.m., SH–216.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, July 15

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 12 noon), Senate will vote on the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of Norman C. Bay, of New Mexico, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and Cheryl A. LaFleur, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. If cloture is invoked on the nominations, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nominations at 3 p.m.

(Senate will recess following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Cheryl A. LaFleur, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, July 15

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Continue consideration of H.R. 5016—Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015. Consideration of H.R. 5021—Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014 (Subject to a Rule). Consideration of H.R. 3086—Permanent Internet Tax Freedom Act under suspension of the Rules.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Barber, Ron, Ariz., E1149
Bustos, Cheri, Ill., E1150
Cicilline, David N., R.I., E1151
Coffman, Mike, Colo., E1149
Dingell, John D., Mich., E1152
Engel, Eliot L., N.Y., E1150
Gibson, Christopher P., N.Y., E1150
Hahn, Janice, Calif., E1149
Neugebauer, Randy, Tex., E1149
Olson, Pete, Tex., E1151, E1152, E1152, E1153
Reichert, David G., Wash., E1149
Ruppersberger, C.A. Dutch, Md., E1149
Schiff, Adam B., Calif., E1151
Schneider, Bradley S., Ill., E1152
Sherman, Brad, Calif., E1151
Slaughter, Louise McIntosh, N.Y., E1150
Tipton, Scott R., Colo., E1151

Congressional Record

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