



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 114<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 162

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2016

No. 2

## Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, January 11, 2016, at 2 p.m.

## House of Representatives

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2016

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SMITH of Nebraska).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
January 5, 2016.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ADRIAN SMITH to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

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

We give You thanks also for the first session of the 114th Congress, and Your sustaining us with Your presence, wisdom, patience, and love. We ask that the efforts of the first session might prove fruitful in the benefits redounding to our Nation and its people.

We ask as well Your forgiveness for the smallness of actions on some occasions and the inability to work together when so many were adversely affected. We know that this is not what You wish for us, not what the American people wish for our Nation, and not what the Members of this people's House have been elected for. Lord, have mercy.

We ask Your blessing now on each Member of Congress, that they might

be their best selves in representing not only their constituents, but also the entire American citizenry. They have taken oaths to do so. Give them the strength and the wisdom to fulfill those oaths.

We thank You as well for this marvelous forum, where the important business of this Nation has been done in the past and will be done in the upcoming second session. May the work to be done be inspired by the wisdom of prophets and the love of saintly people.

May all that we do be done for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

### 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, January 5, 2016.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,  
*Speaker, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Under clause 2(g) of rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I herewith designate Mr. Robert Reeves, Deputy Clerk, to sign any and all papers and do all other acts for me under the name of the Clerk of the House which they would be authorized to do by virtue of this designation, except such as are provided by statute, in case of my temporary absence or disability.

This designation shall remain in effect for the 114th Congress or until modified by me. With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,  
*Clerk of the House.*

### 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 2 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

### CALL OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will use the electronic system to ascertain the presence of a quorum.

Members will record their presence by electronic device.

The call was taken by electronic device, and the following Members responded to their names:

[Roll No. 1]

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—397

Abraham	Barletta	Bishop (MI)
Adams	Barr	Bishop (UT)
Aderholt	Barton	Black
Aguilar	Beatty	Blackburn
Allen	Benishek	Blum
Amash	Bera	Blumenauer
Amodei	Beyer	Bonamici
Ashford	Bilirakis	Bost
Babin	Bishop (GA)	Boustany

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

Boyle, Brendan F.	Fox	Lujan Grisham (NM)	Sánchez, Linda T.	Stefanik	Walker
Brady (TX)	Frankel (FL)	Luján, Ben Ray (NM)	Sanford	Stewart	Walorski
Brat	Franks (AZ)	Lummis	Scarbanes	Stivers	Walters, Mimi
Bridenstine	Frelinghuysen	Lynch	Seal	Swalwell (CA)	Walz
Brooks (AL)	Gabbard	MacArthur	Scalise	Takai	Wasserman
Brooks (IN)	Gallego	Maloney, Carolyn	Schakowsky	Takano	Schultz
Brown (FL)	Garamendi	Marino	Schiff	Thompson (CA)	Walters, Maxine
Brownley (CA)	Garrett	Massie	Schrader	Thompson (MS)	Watson Coleman
Buchanan	Gibbs	Matsui	Schweikert	Thompson (PA)	Weber (TX)
Buck	Gibson	McCarthy	Scott (VA)	Thornberry	Welch
Bueshon	Gohmert	McCaul	Scott, Austin	Tiberi	Wenstrup
Burgess	Goodlatte	McClintock	Sensenbrenner	Tipton	Westerman
Bustos	Gosar	McCollum	Serrano	Tonko	Westmoreland
Butterfield	Gowdy	McDermott	Sessions	Torres	Williams
Byrne	Graham	McGovern	Sewell (AL)	Trott	Wilson (FL)
Calvert	Granger	McHenry	Sherman	Tsongas	Wilson (SC)
Capps	Graves (GA)	McKinley	Shimkus	Turner	Wittman
Capuano	Graves (LA)	McMorris	Shuster	Upton	Womack
Cardenas	Graves (MO)	Rodgers	Simpson	Valadao	Woodall
Carney	Grayson	McNerney	Sinema	Van Hollen	Yarmuth
Carson (IN)	Green, Al	McSally	Sires	Vargas	Yoder
Carter (GA)	Green, Gene	Meadows	Slaughter	Veasey	Yoho
Carter (TX)	Griffith	Meehan	Smith (MO)	Vela	Young (AK)
Cartwright	Grothman	Meeks	Smith (NE)	Velázquez	Young (IA)
Castor (FL)	Guinta	Meng	Smith (NJ)	Visclosky	Young (IN)
Castro (TX)	Guthrie	Messer	Smith (TX)	Walberg	Zeldin
Chabot	Gutiérrez	Mica	Smith (WA)	Walden	Zinke
Chaffetz	Hahn	Miller (FL)			
Chu, Judy	Hanna	Miller (PA)			
Ciçilline	Hardy	Moolenaar			
Clark (MA)	Harper	Mooney (WV)			
Clarke (NY)	Hartzler	Moore			
Clawson (FL)	Hastings	Moulton			
Clay	Heck (NV)	Mullin			
Cleaver	Heck (WA)	Mulvaney			
Clyburn	Hensarling	Murphy (FL)			
Coffman	Herrera Beutler	Murphy (PA)			
Cohen	Hice, Jody B.	Nadler			
Collins (GA)	Hill	Napolitano			
Collins (NY)	Himes	Neal			
Comstock	Holding	Neugebauer			
Conaway	Honda	Newhouse			
Connolly	Hoyer	Noem			
Conyers	Hudson	Nolan			
Cook	Huelskamp	Norcross			
Cooper	Huffman	Nunes			
Costa	Huizenga (MI)	O'Rourke			
Costello (PA)	Hultgren	Olson			
Courtney	Hunter	Palazzo			
Cramer	Hurd (TX)	Pallone			
Crawford	Hurt (VA)	Palmer			
Crenshaw	Israel	Pascarell			
Crowley	Jeffries	Paulsen			
Cuellar	Jenkins (KS)	Payne			
Culberson	Jenkins (WV)	Pearce			
Cummings	Johnson (GA)	Pelosi			
Curbeo (FL)	Johnson (OH)	Perlmutter			
Curbeo (FL)	Johnson, E. B.	Perry			
Davis (CA)	Johnson, Sam	Peters			
Davis, Danny	Jolly	Peterson			
Davis, Rodney	Jones	Pittenger			
DeFazio	Jordan	Pitts			
DeGette	Joyce	Pocan			
Delaney	Kaptur	Poe (TX)			
DelBene	Katko	Poliquin			
Denham	Keating	Polis			
Dent	Kelly (IL)	Pompeo			
DeSantis	Kelly (MS)	Posey			
DeSaulnier	Kelly (PA)	Price (NC)			
DesJarlais	Kildee	Price, Tom			
Deutch	Kilmer	Quigley			
Diaz-Balart	King (NY)	Rangel			
Dingell	Kinzinger (IL)	Ratcliffe			
Doggett	Kirkpatrick	Reed			
Dold	Kline	Reichert			
Donovan	Knight	Renacci			
Doyle, Michael F.	Kuster	Ribble			
Duckworth	LaHood	Rice (SC)			
Duffy	LaMalfa	Richmond			
Duncan (SC)	Lamborn	Rigell			
Duncan (TN)	Lance	Roby			
Edwards	Langevin	Roe (TN)			
Ellison	Larson (CT)	Rogers (AL)			
Ellmers (NC)	Latta	Rogers (KY)			
Emmer (MN)	Lawrence	Rokita			
Engel	Lee	Rooney (FL)			
Eshoo	Levin	Ros-Lehtinen			
Esty	Lewis	Roskam			
Farenthold	Lieu, Ted	Ross			
Farr	LoBiondo	Rothfus			
Fattah	Loeb	Rouzer			
Fitzpatrick	Loeb	Royal-Allard			
Fleischmann	Lofgren	Royce			
Fleming	Long	Ruiz			
Flores	Loudermilk	Ruppersberger			
Forbes	Love	Ryan (WI)			
Fortenberry	Lowenthal	Salmon			
Foster	Lowey				
	Lucas				
	Luetkemeyer				

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### APPOINTMENT AS MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE TO NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT, PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 576

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to House Resolution 576, the Chair appoints the following Members to the committee to notify the President of the United States that a quorum of the House has assembled and that the House is ready to receive any communication that he may be pleased to make:

the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY) and  
the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI).

□ 1900

#### TO INFORM THE SENATE THAT A QUORUM OF THE HOUSE HAS ASSEMBLED

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

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 577

*Resolved*, That the Clerk of the House inform the Senate that a quorum of the House is present and that the House is ready to proceed with business.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### PROVIDING FOR THE HOUR OF MEETING OF THE HOUSE

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

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 578

*Resolved*, That unless otherwise ordered, the hour of daily meeting of the House shall be 2 p.m. on Mondays; noon on Tuesdays (or 2 p.m. if no legislative business was conducted on the preceding Monday); noon on Wednesdays and Thursdays; and 9 a.m. on all other days of the week.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### MAKING IN ORDER MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the order of the House of January 6, 2015, providing for morning-hour debate be extended for the remainder of the 114th Congress, except that House Resolution 578 shall supplant House Resolution 9.

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

There was no objection.

#### NOT VOTING—37

Bass	Kennedy	Rush
Becerra	Kind	Russell
Brady (PA)	King (IA)	Ryan (OH)
Cole	Labrador	Sanchez, Loretta
DeLauro	Larsen (WA)	Scott, David
Fincher	Lipinski	Speier
Fudge	Maloney, Sean	Stutzman
Grijalva	Marchant	Titus
Harris	Miller (MI)	Wagner
Higgins	Nugent	Webster (FL)
Hinojosa	Pingree	Whitfield
Issa	Rice (NY)	
Jackson Lee	Rohrabacher	

□ 1857

The SPEAKER. On this roll call, 397 Members have recorded their presence. A quorum is present.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the proceedings of January 4, 2016, and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. POE of Texas 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.

#### PROVIDING FOR A COMMITTEE TO NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 576

*Resolved*, That a committee of two Members be appointed by the Speaker to notify the President of the United States that a quorum of the House has assembled and that the House is ready to receive any communication that he may be pleased to make.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE IN HONOR OF THE LATE SENATOR DALE BUMPERS**

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, today our Arkansas delegation rises to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant, an exceptional orator, and a distinguished son of Arkansas.

Former Arkansas Governor and four-term United States Senator Dale Leon Bumpers passed away on Friday, January 1, at the age of 90.

Hailing from the small town of Charleston, Arkansas, Senator Bumpers graduated from the University of Arkansas with a degree in political science and followed that with service in the United States Marine Corps during World War II.

After earning his law degree from Northwestern University, Bumpers and his wife, Betty, returned to their hometown of Charleston, where he practiced law. In the wake of the 1954 Supreme Court decision on *Brown v. Board of Education*, Bumpers advised the Charleston School Board to immediately desegregate its school system. Listed as his proudest achievement, the Charleston School District was the first school district in the former Confederacy to desegregate.

Nicknamed by *The New York Times* as the “giant killer,” Senator Bumpers emerged as a dark horse candidate to defeat long-time Governor Orval Faubus in 1970. In his two terms as Governor, he continued and expanded Governor Rockefeller’s era of expansive governmental reform.

In 1974, he defeated five-term U.S. Senator J. William Fulbright in the Democratic primary with 65 percent of the vote to win the Senate seat and serve for 24 years.

When I was a young Senate staffer, it was a pleasure to work with Senator Bumpers and my Second District predecessor, Congressman Ed Bethune, on the completion of the landmark Arkansas Wilderness Act of 1984.

Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, January 10, Dale Bumpers will be laid to rest.

Those of us in the delegation, as we prepare to make our final good-byes, would ask for a moment of silence to honor this Arkansas leader, public servant, and elder statesman.

**BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR GUN OWNERSHIP**

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

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of President Obama’s announcement today to fight the growing epidemic of gun violence in America and make our families more secure and communities safer.

It is just common sense that background checks should be required be-

fore an individual is allowed to buy a firearm, yet Congress refuses to pass legislation to close loopholes that allow gun sales to proceed before background checks are completed.

Under the so-called Charleston loophole that contributed to the mass murder of nine of my constituents, sales can proceed after 3 days, even when the background check is not complete. That is just wrong. My bill, the Background Check Completion Act, will ensure that background checks are completed before sales take place.

I thank the President for his leadership today, and I call on my colleagues, many of whom seem to default to “no,” no matter how reasonable the proposed legislation may be, when all else fails, employ common sense.

**VISITING WITH CONSTITUENTS OF SOUTH CAROLINA’S SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT**

(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, yesterday I traveled across the Second Congressional District of South Carolina, visiting communities in Columbia, West Columbia, Aiken, North Augusta, Barnwell, Orangeburg, and Lexington to present my 2016 legislative agenda. At each stop, I was grateful to share my priorities with constituents and answer questions from the media.

In this new legislative year, I will advance legislation to create jobs for American families and reduce harmful regulations that destroy jobs. We also must protect the economic future for our children and grandchildren by passing balanced budgets and reining in Washington’s out-of-control spending, which is a crushing debt on future generations.

As chairman of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, I am also focusing on promoting peace through strength to support our troops and keep our families safe from Islamic extremists in the global war on terrorism. I will also strive to strengthen our Nation’s cyber capabilities and protect our citizens against cyber attacks by enemies.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President, by his actions, never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

**IN MEMORY OF STAFF SERGEANT PETER TAUB**

(Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Staff Sergeant Peter Taub, one of six victims of a suicide bombing attack in Afghanistan on December 21.

Peter was a remarkable young man. He was raised in Wyncote, Montgomery

County, which I am proud to represent. He served 8 honorable years in the Air Force, assigned to the Office of Special Investigations, and stationed at the Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota.

At just 30 years old, Peter was a devout father, husband, and son, an exemplary soldier and public servant, an American hero.

I offer my sincere condolences to the family and friends Peter left behind and my greatest thanks for his service to our Nation. He gave us all the ultimate sacrifice.

My heart especially goes out to Peter’s family: his 3-year-old daughter, Penelope; his wife, Christina, expecting another child; his mother, Arlene; his father, Joel; and his brother, Jonathan. No parent should be predeceased by a child, and no child should have to grow up without a parent.

These tragic losses are a reminder of the gravity of our foreign policy decisions and military engagement overseas. We must never take these responsibilities lightly. We must never forget the sacrifice that Staff Sergeant Peter Taub and his family have made to protect our freedoms.

May God bless Peter’s family.

**THE HAMMOND SENTENCE**

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, this week a father and son reported to serve again an additional up to 4 years in Federal prison. Their crime? Setting preventative fires on their own property that accidentally spread to Federal lands.

The Hammonds, family farmers from Oregon, had already served time in Federal prison: Dwight 3 months, Steven a year. However, that wasn’t good enough for U.S. Attorney Billy Williams, who used taxpayer dollars to appeal the Hammonds’ original sentence and urged the Ninth Circuit to impose harsher penalties, over the judge’s objection, who had recommended in his vision much less harsh penalties for the crime in question.

Mr. Speaker, the question isn’t whether or not the Hammonds started these fires. They admit they did. The question is whether the U.S. attorney and his administration are prosecuting real criminals or pursuing a political agenda. Mr. Speaker, when a 74-year-old man and a 45-year-old father of three are forced to return to prison when they have already served time and paid hundreds of thousands of dollars in fines for a nonviolent, unintentional crime, the answer couldn’t be more clear whether this is political or not.

**RECOGNIZING CLIFF KOROLL**

(Mr. QUIGLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Cliff Koroll, a Chicago Blackhawks legend.

After signing with the Blackhawks in 1969, Cliff enjoyed 11 seasons as their right winger, where he reached the 50-point mark during four different seasons. He also helped lead the Blackhawks to the Stanley Cup finals twice and later served six seasons as their assistant coach.

His talent led him to be inducted into multiple sports halls of fame, but his greatest accomplishment is leading the Chicago Blackhawks Alumni Association. This group of retired players continually gives back to the Chicago community and has given over \$1 million in scholarships to the most deserving high school players in Illinois.

Cliff is also a supporter of the Chicago Legal Clinic, which provides legal services for immigrants, the disabled, victims of domestic violence, consumers with serious debt issues, and more.

Today I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating Cliff's work and accomplishments.

#### HONORING KEVIN KLINE AND THE SNOWDROP FOUNDATION

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, in the movie "Forrest Gump," Tom Hanks runs for over 3 years.

A good friend of mine is like Forrest Gump. His name is Kevin Kline. He is a DJ on the 93Q morning radio show. His partners, Erica Rico and Tim Tuttle, call him Kevin Gump or Forrest Kline. Why? Because for 55 hours over New Year's, Kevin and others ran, walked, or crawled to save kids with cancer.

With his wife, Trish, Kevin started the Snowdrop Foundation because cancer touched a 16-year-old, who lost her life, named Chelsey Campbell. Snowdrop has raised over \$1 million in just 9 short years. They did this to ensure no child or parent hears those three awful words, "You have cancer."

All Texans are proud of Kevin and Trish and Snowdrop. To quote Kevin's idol: "That's all I have to say about that."

#### A CRITICAL STEP FORWARD

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

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, for too long, calls for Congress to pass commonsense gun control measures—heartfelt appeals from concerned Americans of all ages and ideologies, including gun owners—have fallen on deaf ears.

Despite the mounting death toll, the Republican leadership has refused to consider any new measures to address

the devastating impact of gun violence in America.

We cannot continue to wait for Republicans to come to their senses. The price of delay for our children, for our families, and for our communities is simply too steep. That is why I applaud President Obama for putting American lives above partisan politics.

The President's executive actions will require more gun sellers to be licensed and to conduct background checks, narrowing the dangerous loopholes that allow guns to fall into the hands of criminals or the mentally ill.

The new rules will also make it easier for us to hold irresponsible dealers accountable and to track guns that are lost or stolen. This is a critical step forward, but it is not enough.

I call on my colleagues to join the President in taking real action to prevent gun tragedies and keep the American people safe.

□ 1915

#### PRESIDENT OBAMA'S EXECUTIVE OVERREACH ON GUNS

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

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, President Obama is up to it again with his pen and phone. This time he is undermining the Second Amendment rights of American citizens through executive order.

President Obama's disdain for gun owners has been clear from the beginning. This is another sad chapter in his Presidency. It is a shame the President would exploit the latest act of terrorism in this manner.

The murders of Americans in San Bernardino were due to a radical Islamic ideology, an ideology that this President will not even acknowledge, though these people have declared war upon us, and nothing this President is doing through his unilateral action will address that. It will only serve to hurt law-abiding American citizens. President Obama is shooting at the wrong target.

We are a constitutional republic. The President cannot simply bypass Congress when his ill-advised initiatives are rejected. The President should join Congress in focusing on the growing threat of terrorism rather than making it easier to disarm law-abiding American citizens. We should do all in our power to stop this unconstitutional executive action and overreach.

#### MAKING AMERICA SAFER

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and a privilege to be a Member of this House and to be elected in a wonderful, beautiful economy in the greatest Nation on the Earth.

The year 2015 has expired. We have just begun this session in 2016. But the question, ladies and gentlemen, is: What are we going to do to serve the public? What are the things that we are going to focus on to make sure that our constituents are safer so that we continue to provide a democracy that is an example for other countries?

We have heard just in the first few minutes of these speeches about how we need to make America safer. Well, one way that we can do that is to do our job so that the executive of our country doesn't have to try to do whatever he can to extend his responsibilities because we are not doing enough.

There are too many moments of silence, ladies and gentlemen, where 9, 10, 20, 30, 40, or 50 Americans are killed through senseless violence, and we have done almost nothing about it as a Congress.

#### REVOKE PASSPORTS OF MEMBERS OF FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, ISIS fighters hail from nations all over the world, including the United States. Americans who go to fight the jihadists overseas are able to freely travel back to the United States with their U.S. passports.

These homegrown jihadists are not coming back home to open up coffee shops. They are coming home to harm Americans. We have to stop them by keeping them from coming back at all. That is why the United States House passed the Foreign Terrorist Organization Passport Revocation Act, which I introduced.

The legislation is simple: revoke or deny passports of Benedict Arnold Americans who have assisted designated foreign terrorist organizations. Not only will the bill help law enforcement locate these individuals, it will prevent them from entering the United States at all.

While my bill languishes down the hall in the Senate, Congress did pass a law allowing for the revocation of passports for Americans who are delinquent on their taxes. Mr. Speaker, what is a bigger threat to America and our national security? Tax offenders or terrorists?

Congress must get its priorities straight. It is time for the Senate to pass the House bill and revoke passports of members of foreign terrorist organizations who may or may not be tax cheats.

And that is just the way it is.

#### IRAQI JEWISH ARCHIVES

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, this morning I toured an exhibit at Florida International University's Jewish Museum of Florida, located in Miami Beach, which details the discovery and recovery of artifacts depicting Jewish life in Iraq over the centuries.

I was privileged to be joined by members of the Iraqi Jewish community, including Hillel Shohet and his brother, Maurice Shohet, who played key roles in ensuring that these artifacts remain with the Jewish community.

I was also proud to lead the effort here in Congress to keep the artifacts in the U.S. I led that effort along with my colleague, the gentleman from New York, STEVE ISRAEL, and other congressional colleagues.

These treasures, Mr. Speaker, were confiscated from the Jewish community by Saddam Hussein's intelligence service and were discarded until they were discovered in a flooded basement by our American servicemembers in the year 2003. They were then brought back to our National Archives where they were painstakingly recovered and preserved.

Mr. Speaker, this exhibit is an important piece of the Jewish community's collective memory and must continue to be preserved and shared for generations to come.

#### CONGRATULATING WALNUT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, this evening I rise to recognize the Walnut Hills High School Marching Band. They traveled to Paris last week to participate in La Grande Parade, which runs along the Champs-Élysées.

La Grande Parade is the showcase event in Paris on New Year's Day and attracts hundreds of thousands of spectators from all over the world. So it was a great opportunity to show the world just how talented our students in Cincinnati are. Only four bands from the United States—two high schools and two colleges—were selected to participate in this prestigious event.

It is fitting that Walnut Hills was one of those four bands, as the Marching Blue and Gold have been rated superior for 13 straight years by the Ohio Music Education Association.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the students, parents, teachers, and supporters of Walnut Hills High School, one of the best high schools in Cincinnati, on this well-deserved honor. I know the students in the band put in a lot of hard work for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. They have truly made our community proud.

Go Eagles.

#### E-FREE ACT

(Mr. FITZPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to tell the story of Amanda Dykeman of Illinois, one of the tens of thousands of women permanently harmed by the sterilization device known as Essure.

After Amanda had the device implanted in 2010 at the age of 28, her hair began to fall out, she felt great fatigue, continuously fought urinary tract and kidney infections, and would suffer from severe abdominal and joint pain. She suffered with so much pain that she would contemplate suicide. Her symptoms subsided after a total hysterectomy in 2013, but, physically, she knows that the device left her permanently damaged.

I rise as a voice for the Essure Sisters, who number in the thousands, to tell this Chamber that their stories are real, their pain is real, and their fight is real.

Mr. Speaker, my bill, the E-Free Act, can halt this tragedy by removing this dangerous device from the market. I urge my colleagues to join in this fight because stories like Amanda's are too important to ignore.

#### HARNEY COUNTY, OREGON

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ABRAHAM). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues are aware of the situation in Harney County, Oregon, where a group of armed protesters have overtaken a Federal facility in the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

This group is led largely by people who are not necessarily from Oregon, although they obviously have supporters from Oregon. They were originally there to protest the sentencing of Dwight and Steve Hammond.

I know the Hammonds. I have known them for probably close to 20 years. They are longtime, responsible ranchers in Harney County. They have been sentenced to prison not once, but now twice. I will get into that in a moment.

The point I want to make at the outset is for people in this Chamber to understand what drives people to do what is happening tonight in Harney County.

I have had the great honor and privilege to represent Harney County for a number of years. I have seen the impact of Federal policies from the Clinton administration to the Obama administration. I have seen what happens when overzealous bureaucrats and agencies go beyond the law and clamp down on people. I have seen what courts have done. I have seen the time for Congress to act and then it has not.

I want to put this area in perspective because I think it is really important to understand how big this region is. By size, my congressional district in

Oregon is something like the seventh or eighth biggest in the Congress. If you overlaid it over the east coast, it would start in the Atlantic and end in Ohio.

The county where this occupation is taking place—Harney County—is over 10,000 square miles. There are 7,000 souls inhabiting it. If my math is right, that is one person for every 1.4 miles. One person for every 1.4 miles.

Just this one county is 10 times the size of Rhode Island. It is larger than the State of Maryland. And 72 percent of it is under the command and control of the Federal Government.

It is the public's land. That is true. But what people don't understand is the culture, the lifestyle, of the great American West and how much these ranchers care about the environment, about the future, about their children, about America, and how much they believe in the Constitution. Now we see the extent they will go to in order to defend what they view as their constitutional rights.

Now, I am not defending armed takeovers. I do not think that is appropriate. I think the time has come for those to consider that they have made their case in the public about what is happening in the West, and perhaps it is time for them to realize they have made their case and to go home.

But I want to talk about what happened with the Hammonds. I want to put in perspective what happens almost every year in my district. That is these enormous wildfires.

□ 1930

The Miller Homestead Wildfire in 2012 burned 160,000 acres, mostly in this county, if not all; 250 square miles, a quarter of the size of the State of Rhode Island. That was just in 2012.

The Barry Point Fire that year, in Lake County, next door, burned 93,000 acres. Last summer alone, we burned 799,974 acres across Oregon; that is both forest and high desert. In 2012, 3.4 million acres burned in Oregon.

There was another fire in Malheur County. The Long Draw Fire, in 2012, burned 557,000 acres, five times the size of Rhode Island. So 93,000 acres, 557,000 acres, 160,000 acres, all burning.

The Hammonds are in prison tonight for setting a backfire that they admit to, that burned 139 acres, and they will sit in prison, time served and time going forward, 5 years, under a law that I would argue was never intended to mete out that kind of punishment, and I will get to that in a moment.

I have told you I worked with the Hammonds and many ranchers in Harney County. In the last years of the Clinton administration, despite their own agency's reviews and analysis, Bill Clinton threatened to create a giant monument on Steens Mountain.

When Secretary Babbitt, the Interior Secretary at the time, came before the House Resources Committee, of which I was a member, I said: Mr. Secretary, your own resource advisory committees in the area just reported that

there was no need for additional protection on Steens Mountain, and yet, you and the President are threatening to create this national monument. Why do you waste the time of the citizens to go through a process to determine if additional protections are needed and then ignore what they came up with?

To Bruce Babbitt's credit, he agreed when I told him: I think you would be surprised about what the local ranchers and citizens of Harney County would be willing to do if you give them a chance. To his credit, he said: All right, I will give them that chance. And he did.

We went to work on legislation. It took a full year. I worked with the Hammonds. I worked with Stacy Davies, I worked with all kinds of folks, put a staffer on it full-time, multiple staffs, and we worked with the environmental community and others. And we created the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act, model legislation, never been done before, because I said: We don't have to live by past laws, we write laws.

So we wrote a new law to create a cooperative spirit of management in Harney County. The Hammonds were part of that discussion. We saved a running camp, Harlan Priority Runs. We protected inholder. We tried to do all the right things and create the kind of partnership and cooperation that the Federal Government and the citizens should have.

Fast forward on that particular law. Not long after that became law, and it was heralded as this monumental law of great significance and new era in cooperation and spirit of cooperation, some of those involved on the other side and some of the agencies decided to reinterpret it. The first thing they tried to do is shut down this kids' running camp because they said: Well, too many, maybe more than 20, run down this canyon and back up, as they had for many, many years. They wanted to shut it down. So we had to fight them back and said: No, the law says historical standards.

Then the bureaucrats, because we said: You should have your historical access to your private property, if you are up on Steens Mountain, you should maintain that access like you have always had it. Do you know what the bureaucrats said? They began to solicit from the inholders in this area: How many times did you go up there last year? You see, they wanted to put a noose around the neck of those who were inside. That was a total violation of what we intended, and we had to back them off.

See, the bureaucracy wants to interpret the laws we write in ways they want, and in this case they were wrong, not once, but twice.

Then, a couple of years ago, I learned that, despite the fact we created the first cow-free wilderness in the United States under this law, and said clearly in this law that it would be the responsibility of the government to put up

fencing to keep the cows out, as part of the agreement, the Bureau of Land Management said: No, we are not going to follow that law. And they told the ranchers they had to build the fence.

I networked with my Democrat colleague from Oregon, Mr. DEFAZIO, who was part of writing this law. I said: Peter, you remember that, right? He said: Yeah, I didn't like it, but that was the case. BLM still wouldn't listen. So we continued to push it and they argued back.

Well, it turns out there had been a second rancher who brought this to my attention who they were telling had to do the same thing, build a fence, when the government was supposed to under the law I wrote. The arrogance of the agency was such that they said: We don't agree with you.

Now, there aren't many times, Mr. Speaker, in this job when you can say I know what the intent of the law was, but in this case I could because I wrote the law, I knew the intent.

Oh, that wasn't good enough. No, no, no. No, no, no. The arrogance of these agency people was such that we had to go to the archives and drag out the boxes from 2000, 1999-2000, when we wrote this law, from the hearings that had all the records for the hearings and the floor discussions to talk about the intent. And our retired Member, George Miller, actually we used some of his information where he said the government would provide the fencing. They were still reluctant to follow it. So I put language in the appropriations bill that restated the Federal law.

Do you understand how frustrated I am at this? Can you imagine how the people on the ground feel? Can you imagine? If you are not there, you can't. If you are not there, you can't.

You ridicule them. The Portland Oregonian is running a thing, what do you send? Meals for militia. Let's have fun with this.

This is not a laughing matter from any consequence. Nobody is going to win out of this thing.

This is a government that has gone too far for too long. Now, I am not condoning this takeover in any way. I want to make that clear. I don't think it is appropriate. There is a right to protest. I think they have gone too far. But I understand and hear their anger.

Right now, this administration, secretly, but not so much, is threatening, in the next county over, that looks a lot like this one, Malheur County, to force a monument of 2.5 million acres, we believe. I think this is outrageous. It flies in the face of the people and the way of life and the public access.

There is a company, Keen Shoes, that already has a big marketing campaign. This is about selling shoes, for God's sake.

I call on the President, if he wants to help reduce the tension that is out there, to walk away from this. And if he doesn't want to walk away and say, no, we are not going to do that, to help us bring down this level of frustration

and anger, then at least be honest, or his Secretary of the Interior needs to be honest with us and tell us they are going to do it.

Either they are or they aren't. But all they are is being coy. That feeds into this. It feeds into the anger that I feel. It feeds into the anger out there.

So the President should say: I am not going to do a national monument. I am not going to add more fuel on this fire in the West.

We have fought other issues. More than half of my district is under Federal management, or lack thereof. They have come out with these proposals to close roads into the forests. They have ignored public input. They often claim to have all these open meetings and listen to the public, and then, in the case of Wallowa-Whitman, the forest supervisor who was eventually relieved because of this, I believe, completely ignored all the meetings, all the input, all the work of the counties and the local people, and said: Forget it, I am going my own direction.

There were 900 people that turned out at the National Guard Armory where they had a public hearing, standing room only and beyond, furious.

You see, how do you have faith in a government that doesn't ever listen to you? How do you have faith in a government that, when elected Representatives write a law, those charged with the responsibility of implementing it choose to go the other direction and not do so? That is what is breaking faith between the American people and their government, and that is what has to change.

The other thing that has to change, the law under which the Hammonds were sentenced. Now, they probably did some things that weren't legal. I have given you the size of the acreages that burned naturally. I haven't gotten into the discussion about how these fires are often fought and how the Federal Government frequently will go on private land and set a fire without permission to backburn. That happens all the time.

In fact, in the Barry Point Fire down in Lake County, they set fire on private timber land as a backburn while the owners of the property were putting out spot fires down in the canyon. I drove down there afterwards. They are darn lucky to have come out alive.

There was nobody sentenced under the terrorism act there. Oh, heck no. It is the government. They weren't sentenced. Nobody was charged. Oh, it just happened.

Now, fires are tough to fight. I have great respect for firefighters. There are always two sides on how these fires get fought. But I can tell you, a few years back in Harney County, because I went and held a meeting out there right as the fire was being put out, that the fire crews came in, went on private ground, lit a backfire on private ground, behind a fence line, that then burned out the farmer's fence, the rancher's fence, and burned all the way over and down into

a canyon where there was a wetland, which would have been the natural break to stop the fire from the other side. You see, they never needed to burn that land.

These things happen in the course of fighting fire. It doesn't mean they are right. But rare is it that somebody ends up 5 years in prison.

Let me tell you what the senior judge said when he sentenced the Hammonds the first time, Judge Michael Hogan, senior Federal judge, highly respected in Oregon. He sentenced Dwight Hammond to 3 months and Steve to a year. There were different offenses here.

He said: "I am not going to apply the mandatory minimum because, to me, to do so, under the Eighth Amendment, would result in a sentence which is grossly disproportionate to the severity of the offenses here."

The Judge went on to say: "And with regard to the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996, this sort of conduct would not have been conduct intended under the statute.

"When you ask, you know, what if you burn sagebrush in the suburbs of Los Angeles, and there are homes up the ravines, it might apply. Out in the wilderness here, I don't think that is what the Congress intended.

"In addition, it just would not meet any idea I have of justice proportionality. It would be a sentence which would shock the conscience, to me."

Senior Judge Mike Hogan, when he did the original sentencing.

But, you see, under this 1996 law under which they were charged and convicted, it turns out he had no judicial leeway. He could not mete out a sentence that was proportionate to what the crime was.

So yesterday, Dwight and Steve went to prison again. Dwight will be 73 when he gets out. Steve will be about 50.

Meanwhile, in Harney County, on the ranch, Susie will continue to try and survive; 6,000-acre ranch, she needs grazing permits to make this happen. It would be a cruel and unjust act, by the way, if access to those grazing permits that allow that ranch to work were not extended. What possible good could come out of bankrupting a grandmother that was trying to keep a ranch together, while the husband sits in prison, her son sits in prison? What possible good?

They will serve their sentences. There is nothing, short of clemency that only the President can offer, that we can do. But we can change that law, and we should, so that nobody ever is locked in like that for a situation like this, where a senior judge, literally, on his final day on the bench, says this goes too far, it goes too far. They appealed that, by the way, and lost. But I believe that the judge was right.

We have to listen to the people. We have to understand why events like this are taking place in our communities. They are taking place in cities. We have witnessed that, and we try and get our heads around it.

There are more people from the cities, so there are more Members from the cities. There aren't many of us that represent these vast, wide-open, incredibly beautiful, harsh districts like the one I do.

The people there love the land. It was the ranchers who came up with the concept of the cooperative management. It was the ranchers who loved Steens Mountain that know that for them to survive they have to take care of the range.

□ 1945

They are good people. Their sons and daughters, by a higher proportion, fight in our wars and die, and I have been to their funerals. So to my friends across eastern Oregon, I will always fight for you. But we have to understand there is a time and a way. Hopefully the country through this understands we have a real problem in America: how we manage our lands and how we are losing them.

It is not like we haven't tried here, Mr. Speaker. Year after year we pass bipartisan legislation to provide more active management on our forests so we don't lose them all to fire, and we are losing them all to fire. We are losing firefighters' lives, homes, and watersheds—great resources of the West. Teddy Roosevelt would role over in his grave. He created this wildlife refuge in 1908.

There were some bad actors there in the 1980s, by the way. They were very aggressive running the refuge, basically threatening eminent domain and other things that took ranches. It was bad. That lasted for at least a decade or more. It has gotten better though. It is not perfect. There is a much better relationship, and the refuge and the ranchers work closer together. In fact, during this fire in 2012, the refuge actually opened itself up to the ranchers for hay and feed because theirs was burned out because of this big fire. So there was a better spirit there.

But there are still these problems: the threat of waters of the U.S. shutting down stock ponds and irrigation canals and a way of life, the threat of fire every year that seems to not be battled right and just gets away, and no one is really held accountable; the continued restriction on the lives of the men and women who, for generations, have worked hard in a tough environment. It has just gone too far. It is hurtful.

I hope people understand how serious this is felt and how heartfelt this is by those who pay their taxes and try and live by the law and do the right things and how oppressed they feel by the government that they elect and the government they certainly don't elect, and how much they will always defend the flag and the country, and their sons and daughters would go to war, some will not come back—and they have not from this area.

There is a better solution here. The President needs to back off on the

monument. The BLM needs to make sure Susie Hammond isn't pushed into bankruptcy and has her ranch taken by the government and added to those that have been. We need to be better at hearing people from all walks of life and all regions of our country and understanding this anger that is out there and what we can do to bring about correct change and peaceful resolution.

It is not too late. We can do this. It is a great country. We have the processes to do it right.

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

#### CRIMINALIZATION BY REGULATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I do appreciate the words of my friend from Oregon. These are difficult times, and it is even more difficult when unfairness comes from the United States Government with all its power, with all its resources, when it begins to pick on American citizens, when it uses its resources to snoop on Americans, especially when it uses resources to spy on Americans in order to help maintain power of the government over the people.

One of the problems with ObamaCare is it provides every American's medical records to the Federal Government—as if the Federal Government didn't have enough personal information. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is in the process of gathering people's credit card and debit card information supposedly to protect individuals. What we have seen in our Judiciary Committee as we have had hearings on the abuses by Federal Government bureaucrats is there seems to be this desire among different agencies and departments: They have no business having a SWAT team, but they want one. They want military power to go out and take people down whenever they get ready.

For many years, Congress has not done an appropriate job of keeping in check criminal laws. There are far too many criminal laws, the number of which we don't know exactly, but which allow a violation of a regulation to be a crime, which allows the full power of the Federal Government to go after individuals.

We heard the horror story about the fellow from the Northwest trying the create a better battery. He gets run off the road by three black Suburbans, hauled out of his little gas-efficient car, thrown down on his chest, boot in the back, handcuffs on, and no idea what he had done. He never even had a traffic ticket. It turns out that he hadn't violated any law necessarily, but he had mailed a package to Alaska

that he knew needed to go by ground only, so he checked the box “ground only.”

He didn’t know that he needed a little sticker with an airplane with a line through it. So he didn’t put that on. The result was he was run off the road, thrown to the ground, handcuffed, dragged to jail, then drug off because the Federal Government gets to pick their venue. And since they knew he didn’t really know people in Alaska, and that is where the package was going, they dragged him to Alaska to prosecute there.

When he was finally acquitted—maybe it was jury nullification, they just thought it was too unfair—then the prosecutors, the power of the Federal Government and the vindictive people that control things, decided they couldn’t let him get away with only having done months in jail; so, having ransacked his home under a search warrant because he didn’t put the little sticker on the package he mailed, they went back through all of the accounting of items found, the inventory, and found that there were some chemicals that are required not to be abandoned, and a regulation—again, a regulation some bureaucrats put in place, not Congress—that required those substances were never to be left for more than 14 days. Since the prosecutors had had him dragged off to Alaska and put in jail up there, he was involuntarily forced to leave the substances. They were properly stored, but they were successful in prosecuting him for abandoning the substances.

Or the retired gentleman down in Houston who wasn’t able to testify before our committee because he had had a stroke while he was incarcerated because of the overaggressive prosecution by the Federal Government. He had a greenhouse and raised orchids. He sold to some local florists. He had gotten a package from South America. Apparently, it wasn’t properly packaged according to some bureaucrat’s regulations, and therefore he had his home raided and ransacked. His wife testified she called home and didn’t recognize the voice of the person answering. She asked who it was. He said: Well, who is this? She said: I called my home to talk to my husband, and I have a right to know who you are.

Well, it was a Federal agent. He was handcuffed in his own kitchen because somebody sent him a package from South America that didn’t meet some cubicle jockey’s idea of what was properly sending a package. During the year and a half he was imprisoned, he had a stroke and couldn’t communicate.

Or the poor guy that had lobster shipped to him. He was arrested, incarcerated, and charged with violating not American law, but American law that says, if you violate a foreign law, then you can be arrested in America, and they alleged that he violated a Caribbean island’s laws. That country’s attorney general said: No, we don’t be-

lieve he violated our laws. Nonetheless, he was incarcerated.

The stories go on and on of abuse when a government becomes all powerful the way this one has come close to being. When Congress doesn’t adequately rein it in, there doesn’t seem to be a lot of hope for Americans across the country to be able to stand in the face of such an overwhelming power as our Federal Government.

So I appreciate my friend from Oregon talking about the situation with the Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service. It seems that there are people within the Interior Department that have an insatiable appetite for acquiring more and more and more land, and more and more and more private property taken away from private individuals. It is getting out of control.

If any landowner dares to say, “I want to keep my own private property,” then they can have a right to worry that the Federal Government will come after them, harass them, and make their lives miserable until they finally consent. It is why we should have removed the President’s ability to just name land as a national monument, as President Clinton did, one of the world’s largest deposits of coal in Utah, just put it off limits by calling it a national monument. It was never intended for those purposes. That is why we should have ended—well, actually, it had ended the program that allowed billions of dollars to be accumulated and spent buying more and more land for the government to control.

□ 2000

It is very difficult in my district. It is not like the Federal Government owns one big swath of land. It can surround private property and make the lives of private property owners miserable, make it unbearable, being a horrible neighbor. Even if the Federal Government doesn’t own the private property, they can make usage of that property very unpleasant.

Is it any wonder right now in America that Donald Trump is leading in the Republican primary in so many of the polls? TED CRUZ is viewed as an outsider, though he is in the Senate, because he stood up against the establishment, the status quo. Americans are tired of the Federal Government being unaccountable and becoming so big that it is out of control.

Having prosecuted felony cases early in my career, having been a judge handling thousands of felony cases in Texas, I understand crime. I understand how it has to be stopped. But I also see when the Federal Government becomes a part of the problem instead of part of the solution.

When we had this horrendous shooting in San Bernardino, so many people killed at a Christmas party—or this administration preferred to call it a “holiday party”—where Christians and Jews get singled out, of course this administration won’t prosecute a hate

crime against a Christian or a Jew and then continue to warn us that they certainly will protect against any hate crime against a Muslim. Nonetheless, we find out there was a straw buyer who broke the gun laws to buy a weapon for the killers. We don’t need a new gun law. The man violated the gun laws. And then we found out that actually this administration has been prosecuting fewer gun violations than the Bush administration, and in recent years continues to prosecute fewer and fewer and fewer gun violations.

If one were cynical—especially in view of the Washington adage that no matter how cynical you get in this town, it is never enough to catch up—you might say: Wait a minute. This administration, for example, compared to the Bush administration—in ’04, the Bush administration prosecuted nearly 9,000 gun violation cases brought by the ATF. This administration, in 2013, prosecuted around 5,000, and it has prosecuted fewer each year since. It is almost as if—and I know there wouldn’t be an improper motive. The House rules tell us that. But it is almost as if you had an administration that is not prosecuting gun violations so they can turn around and demand more laws restricting law-abiding gun rights because, if they really wanted to stop gun violence, they would be prosecuting more aggressively.

When we think about the losses of lives, all the lives that could be saved if this administration would simply enforce the laws that exist, it is heart-breaking. You think about those families who lost a loved one because this administration didn’t prosecute the gun violations that could have stopped those losses of lives. It is tragic that this administration will continue to clamber for more laws when the solution should lie first in enforcement of the laws we have before it clambers for more laws.

There is an article published January 5, 2016, saying: “Obama Announces Gun Control Actions, Expands Background Checks” on FOX News.

The article says: “The President, speaking at the White House, said background checks ‘make a difference’ and will be expanded so that they can cover purchases online, at gun shows and in other venues.”

It quotes the President saying: “Anybody in the business of selling firearms must get a license and conduct background checks or be subject to criminal prosecutions.”

Mr. Speaker, we have got to get President Obama some good help. The people around him certainly would not be dishonest enough to misrepresent to the President what the law is, but somebody is misrepresenting to the President what is true and what isn’t because we know he would not be dishonest. He would certainly not intentionally misrepresent to the public when he says that you can just go online and buy a gun without a background check when that is not true.

If you are a criminal, I am sure it is true that that could be done. But for law-abiding individuals, the kind that don't go out and commit crimes, they followed the law. The law requires for gun dealers, whether it is a transaction over the Internet or not, there has to be a background check.

But somebody keeps feeding the President false information that he passes on to the United States citizenry. We have got to get the President some help so he can get the facts straight that he conveys to the American public.

I haven't bought a gun online, but talking to people that have, if you go online to buy a gun, there is going to be a background check. You cannot just have the gun mailed to you. You have to go to a gun store. They don't really appreciate having you buy a weapon online and then come to the store where they have brick and mortar invested in the local economy. They are the ones that have to make sure the law is complied with. But you can't just go online and buy a gun unless you are an outlaw already violating the law, in which case more laws won't make a difference. Only enforcement of existing laws would stop that kind of conduct.

There is an article from Paul Bedard, January 5: "Obama's New Gun Control Force 8X the Size of Pentagon's ISIS Commando Team." It points out: "According to a White House fact sheet, the President plans to deploy 200 more Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives agents 'to help enforce our gun laws.'

"He also plans to add at least 230 new FBI agents to pore over the backgrounds of gun buyers . . . In Iraq, by comparison, the White House is moving to install an estimated 50-200 Special Operations Forces to take down ISIS."

Here again, it is not enough to simply add FBI or ATF agents when this administration refuses to prosecute gun violations, gun law violations, even as aggressively as the Bush administration did. Of course, this administration seems to think the Bush administration was too lax on gun policy, but yet they won't even prosecute but a fraction of the cases that the Bush administration did.

It is also worth noting that, when this article compares to the actions in Iraq, having been to the command center there in northern Iraq myself, having talked to people on the ground there, having talked to people who have done surveys, done studies of what is going on there with ISIS, you find out this administration, yeah, they are sending planes up, but a majority of the ordnances aren't dropped. Apparently, according to one source, even though they see trucks carrying weapons to ISIS, they are not allowed to take the trucks out. If they see supplies going to ISIS, they are not allowed to stop them. They are not allowed to crater the road they are using. This administration has rules of

engagement in place that don't allow the United States to actually defend ourselves against ISIS.

Is it any wonder that it was reported that the radical Islamist terrorists in the Middle East have no fear of this administration or of America because they see how ridiculous the restrictions are that we put on ourselves, our fighting people? They fear, more, Israel because Israel will take legitimate actions to win.

□ 2015

There is an article from AWR Hawkins, 5 January 2016, which reads, "A January 4 White House executive order fact sheet previews the executive gun controls Obama will announce Tuesday.

"The five most offensive aspects of those controls:

"One, the main policy would not have stopped any recent mass shootings," which would indicate—since that appears to be the fact, that nothing he has proposed would change the mass shootings—then, obviously, they are more concerned about either, A, putting on a show or, B, curtailing law-abiding citizens more than actually stopping the mass shootings.

"Two, 225 years of precedent destroyed without any legislative due process."

Some say, "Yes. But we already have background checks. So the President is not changing that." The law is very clear as to what a gun dealer is. He is somebody who is in the business of selling guns.

This administration is now saying, "Hey, if you sell one gun, that can mean being in the business," and that has never been the law. This President is unilaterally attempting to change the law so that, if an uncle wants to sell to his nephew, then this President would try to be a wedge there.

We are not going to prosecute nearly the gun violations like the Bush administration did, but, yes, we will come after that uncle and get between the uncle and the nephew. We are going to be as big an impediment to law-abiding citizens as possible in the way this administration is approaching this; whereas, we are turning a blind eye to so much of the criminal activity, which is the way it appears.

This article from TheBlaze, "Obama's Executive Action on Guns Changes Privacy Rules Between Doctor and Patient," talks about how it will push doctors to report patients they believe may have a problem with the proper use of guns. It is putting a wedge between doctors and patients.

Another article here is from Stephen Gutowski: "Obama Executive Order May Require Those Selling Even a Single Firearm to Become Licensed Dealers." That is not the law. This President is changing the law without there being the congressional passage of a law that he would sign.

Another article is from John Lott, dated January 5. Dr. Lott knows the

gun laws and knows the gun facts. This is from the National Review. Dr. Lott points out, if you really want to fix things, don't charge gun buyers for the background checks. Fix the system so it stops falsely flagging the law-abiding people. This article also points out that 99 percent of the flags turn out to be improper flags.

Three, stop using background checks as de facto registration, which appears to be what they are actually trying to do.

The article from Kelly Riddell, dated July 23, 2014, points out "Obama's Empty Tough Talk: Gun Prosecutions Plummet on His Watch," with the numbers and figures to back that up.

By failing to prosecute gun violations while pressing for more gun laws, it makes one wonder if that is kind of akin to our servicemembers who are in harm's way. For example, in Afghanistan, in the 7¼ years under Commander in Chief George W. Bush, I believe the number of precious American military lives lost was just over 500. Under Commander in Chief Obama, I believe it is at least three times that many or more than that.

What is different? The war is supposed to have basically gone away. We ended it, according to the President. Yet, under his command, people got killed in multiples when the war was supposedly over.

Our military members tell me it is the rules of engagement. We can't defend ourselves. We have a motorcyclist terrorist—a radical Jihadist—come blazing up toward a checkpoint, killing people. You realize, wow, we have a lieutenant that this administration, under Commander Obama, sent to Fort Leavenworth—to prison—for, apparently, giving the order to shoot an Afghan on a motorcycle because he was not slowing down as ordered, he was not yielding to the gunfire over his head. A good way to get Americans killed is to put them in prison if they try to defend themselves or those under their command.

So it just leaves you with the question: Who is this administration really trying to protect? Are we trying to protect our own military members who are in harm's way? It doesn't appear so. Not enforcing the laws against criminals for their gun violations and, instead, demanding more and more control over law-abiding citizens in their use of weapons.

Mr. Speaker, I know a lot of seniors who may not be able to tell you how much money is in their bank accounts; so, they have someone helping them with their bank accounts. But they can sure tell you when somebody is breaking into their homes and when they need a weapon.

We were taught in my 4 years in the Army that a gun is a great equalizer. So if you are 85 years old and somebody is breaking into your home—someone who is strong and powerful and can break your body over his knee—a gun is a great equalizer. But under this

President, if you are not managing your own account, look out. This administration is going to leave you unprotected against those intruders.

It is time America started responding, Mr. Speaker. It is time this year that Americans made clear that we want an administration in America that is more concerned about the law-abiding people than it is with taking away the rights of law-abiding Americans.

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

**REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3762, RESTORING AMERICANS' HEALTHCARE FREEDOM RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2015**

Mr. WOODALL (during the Special Order of Mr. GOHMERT) from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114-387) on the resolution (H. Res. 579) providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 3762) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 2002 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2016, which was

referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

**REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 712, SUNSHINE FOR REGULATORY DECREES AND SETTLEMENTS ACT OF 2015, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1155, SEARCHING FOR AND CUTTING REGULATIONS THAT ARE UNNECESSARILY BURDENSOME ACT OF 2015**

Mr. WOODALL (during the Special Order of Mr. GOHMERT) from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114-388) on the resolution (H. Res. 580) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 712) to impose certain limitations on consent decrees and settlement agreements by agencies that require the agencies to take regulatory action in accordance with the terms thereof, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1155) to provide for the establishment of a process for the review of rules and sets of rules, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. RUSH (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of attending to family member's medical procedure.

**SENATE BILL REFERRED**

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1893. An act to reauthorize and improve programs related to mental health and substance use disorders; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 23 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, January 6, 2016, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

**EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL**

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the first, second, and fourth quarters of 2015, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

**REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, EMILY MURRY, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAR. 27 AND APR. 4, 2015\***

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Emily Murry .....	3/28	4/4	Burma .....		2,079.00		15,666.10				17,745.10
											-190.00
Committee total .....					2,079.00		15,666.10				17,555.10

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.  
<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.  
 \* Amended.

EMILY MURRY, Dec. 18, 2015.

**REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO HONG KONG, TIBET AND BEIJING, CHINA, EXPENDED BETWEEN NOV. 5 AND NOV. 14, 2015**

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Hon. Nancy Pelosi .....	11/7	11/9	Hong Kong .....		757.42		(3)				757.42
	11/9	11/13	China .....		829.20		<sup>3</sup> 1553.74				2382.94
Hon. James McGovern .....	11/7	11/9	Hong Kong .....		757.42		(3)				757.42
	11/9	11/13	China .....		829.20		<sup>3</sup> 1553.74				2382.94
Hon. Betty McCollum .....	11/7	11/9	Hong Kong .....		714.84		(3)				714.84
	11/9	11/13	China .....		829.20		<sup>3</sup> 1553.74				2382.94
Hon. Tim Walz .....	11/7	11/9	Hong Kong .....		757.42		(3)				757.42
	11/9	11/13	China .....		829.20		<sup>3</sup> 1553.74				2382.94
Hon. Joyce Beatty .....	11/7	11/9	Hong Kong .....		757.42		(3)				757.42
	11/9	11/13	China .....		829.20		<sup>3</sup> 1553.74				2382.94
Hon. Alan Lowenthal .....	11/7	11/9	Hong Kong .....		757.42		(3)				757.42
	11/9	11/13	China .....		829.20		<sup>3</sup> 527.74				1356.94
Hon. Ted Lieu .....	11/7	11/9	Hong Kong .....		757.42		(3)				757.42
	11/9	11/13	China .....		829.20		<sup>3</sup> 527.74				1356.94
Wyndee Parker .....	11/7	11/9	Hong Kong .....		714.84		(3)				714.84
	11/9	11/13	China .....		829.20		<sup>3</sup> 527.74				1356.94
Kate Knudson Wolters .....	11/7	11/9	Hong Kong .....		714.84		(3)				714.84
	11/9	11/13	China .....		829.20		<sup>3</sup> 527.74				1356.94
Emily Berret .....	11/7	11/9	Hong Kong .....		714.84		(3)				714.84
	11/9	11/13	China .....		829.20		<sup>3</sup> 527.74				1356.94
Reva Price .....	11/7	11/9	Hong Kong .....		714.84		(3)				714.84
	11/9	11/13	China .....		829.20		<sup>3</sup> 527.74				1356.94
Jorge Aguilar .....	11/7	11/9	Hong Kong .....		714.84		(3)				714.84
	11/9	11/13	China .....		829.20		<sup>3</sup> 527.74				1356.94
Admiral Brian Monahan .....	11/7	11/9	Hong Kong .....		714.84		(3)				714.84
	11/9	11/13	China .....		829.20		<sup>3</sup> 527.74				1356.94

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO HONG KONG, TIBET AND BEIJING, CHINA, EXPENDED BETWEEN NOV. 5 AND NOV. 14, 2015—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Committee total .....					20,328.00		11,990.62				32,318.62

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

<sup>3</sup> Military air transportation.

HON. NANCY PELOSI, Dec. 7, 2015.

**EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.**

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3841. A letter from the President of the United States, transmitting Designation of Funding as an Emergency Requirement, in accordance with language in Title IX of Division K of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016 (H. Doc. No. 114—87); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

3842. A letter from the President of the United States, transmitting Designation of Funding for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism, in accordance with Sec. 6 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016 (H. Doc. No. 114—88); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

3843. A letter from the Acting Associate Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Rates for Interstate Inmate Calling Services [WC Docket No.: 12-375] received December 28, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3844. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting a notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer and Acceptance to Lithuania, Transmittal No. 16-11, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(b)(1); Public Law 90-629, Sec. 36(b) (as amended by Public Law 106-113, Sec. 1000(a)(7)); (113 Stat. 536); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3845. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting a notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Australia, Transmittal No. 16-10, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(b)(1); Public Law 90-629, Sec. 36(b) (as amended by Public Law 106-113, Sec. 1000(a)(7)); (113 Stat. 536); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3846. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process that was declared in Executive Order 12947 of January 23, 1995, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3847. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to North Korea that was declared in Executive Order 13466 of June 26, 2008, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3848. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the Western Balkans

that was declared in Executive Order 13219 of June 26, 2001, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3849. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's Semiannual Report to Congress for April 1, 2015, through September 30, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) Sec. 5(b); Public Law 95-452, Sec. 5(b); (92 Stat. 1103); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3850. A letter from the Vice President (Acting), Congressional and Public Affairs, Millennium Challenge Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's Agency Financial Report for FY 2015, including annual audited financial statements, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a); (104 Stat. 2849); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3851. A letter from the President and CEO, National Safety Council, transmitting the Council's Audit Report, pursuant to Aug. 13, 1953, ch. 429, Sec. 3; (67 Stat. 569); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

3852. A letter from the Senior Regulations Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Vidalia, LA [Docket No.: FAA-2015-1389; Airspace Docket No.: 13-ASW-8] received December 28, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3853. A letter from the Senior Regulations Analyst, PHMSA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Hazardous Materials: Carriage of Battery-Powered Electronic Smoking Devices in Passenger Baggage [Docket No.: PHMSA-2015-0165] (RIN: 2137-AF12) received December 28, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3854. A letter from the Senior Regulations Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes to Production Certificates and Approvals [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0933; Amdt. Nos.: 21-98, 45-29] (RIN: 2120-AK20) received December 28, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3855. A letter from the Regulatory Ombudsman, FMCSA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Electronic Logging Devices and Hours of Service Supporting Documents [Docket No.: FMCSA-2010-0167] (RIN: 2126-AB20) received December 21, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3856. A letter from the Senior Regulations Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; the Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2015-4209; Directorate Identifier 2015-NM-156-AD;

Amendment 39-18302; AD 2015-21-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 28, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3857. A letter from the Senior Regulations Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Technify Motors GmbH Reciprocating Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2015-1383; Directorate Identifier 2015-NE-15-AD; Amendment 39-18293; AD 2015-21-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 28, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3858. A letter from the Senior Regulations Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2015-0869; Directorate Identifier 2015-NE-11-AD; Amendment 39-18296; AD 2015-21-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 28, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3859. A letter from the National Adjutant, Chief Executive Officer, Disabled American Veterans, transmitting the reports and proceedings of the 2015 National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans, held in Denver, Colorado, August 8-11, 2015, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 50308; Public Law 105-225, Sec. 50308; (112 Stat. 1345) (H. Doc. No. 114—89); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and ordered to be printed.

3860. A letter from the Deputy Director, ODRM, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Medicare Program; Prior Authorization Process for Certain Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies [CMS-6050-F] (RIN: 0938-AR85) received December 29, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

**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. CHAFFETZ: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 2347. A bill to amend the Federal Advisory Committee Act to increase the transparency of Federal advisory committees, and for other purposes (Rept. 114-386, Pt. 1) Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WOODALL: Committee on Rules, House Resolution 579. Resolution providing

for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 3762) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 2002 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2016. (Rept. 114-387). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 580. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 712) to impose certain limitations on consent decrees and settlement agreements by agencies that require the agencies to take regulatory action in accordance with the terms thereof, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1155) to provide for the establishment of a process for the review of rules and sets of rules, and for other purposes (Rept. 114-388). Referred to the House Calendar.

#### DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Ways and Means discharged from further consideration. H.R. 2347 was referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. COOK (for himself, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. STEWART, and Mr. TIPTON):

H.R. 4313. A bill to establish a procedure for resolving claims to certain rights-of-way; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. ZELDIN (for himself, Mr. KATKO, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. HURD of Texas, and Mr. RATCLIFFE):

H.R. 4314. A bill to require a plan to combat international travel by terrorists and foreign fighters, accelerate the transfer of certain border security systems to foreign partner governments, establish minimum international border security standards, authorize the suspension of foreign assistance to countries not making significant efforts to comply with such minimum standards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Homeland Security, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE (for herself and Ms. BASS):

H.R. 4315. A bill to authorize funding to increase access to mental health care treatment to reduce gun violence; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and 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 Ms. JACKSON LEE (for herself and Ms. KELLY of Illinois):

H.R. 4316. A bill to provide for the hiring of 200 additional Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives agents and investigators to enforce gun laws; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HANNA (for himself and Mr. TAKAD):

H.R. 4317. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to establish a pilot program providing past performance ratings for other small business subcontractors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 4318. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to permit commercial filmmaking and photography on the United States Capitol grounds, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PERRY (for himself, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. COLE, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. HUELSKAMP, Mr. MILLER of Florida, and Mrs. LOVE):

H.R. 4319. A bill to eliminate the authority of the executive branch to further restrict the conduct of individuals in relation to firearms or ammunition; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. QUIGLEY (for himself, Mr. MEHAN, Mr. KING of New York, and Mr. PASCRELL):

H.R. 4320. A bill to provide for the reporting to State and local law enforcement authorities of cases in which the national instant criminal background check system indicates that a firearm has been sought to be acquired by a prohibited person, so that authorities may pursue criminal charges under State law, and to ensure that the Department of Justice reports to Congress on charges brought and prosecutions secured against prohibited persons who attempt to acquire a firearm; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H. Res. 575. A resolution expressing disapproval of the occupation of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge by a group of armed individuals; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. MCCARTHY:

H. Res. 576. A resolution providing for a committee to notify the President of the assembly of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MCCARTHY:

H. Res. 577. A resolution to inform the Senate that a quorum of the House has assembled; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MCCARTHY:

H. Res. 578. A resolution providing for the hour of meeting of the House; considered and agreed to.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. COOK:

H.R. 4313.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. ZELDIN:

H.R. 4314.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE:

H.R. 4315.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 3, and 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE:

H.R. 4316.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 3, and 18 of the United States Constitution.

Mr. HANNA:

H.R. 4317.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution, which provides Congress with the ability to enact legislation necessary and proper to effectuate its purposes in taxing and spending.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 4318.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 4319.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H.R. 4320.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

[Submitted January 4, 2016]

H.R. 775: Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 1197: Mr. CRAMER.

H.R. 1218: Mr. RUIZ, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 2849: Mr. LANGEVIN.

H.R. 2911: Mr. ALLEN and Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 3384: Mr. TED LIEU of California and Ms. BASS.

H.R. 3539: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.

H.R. 3738: Mr. ISSA.

H.R. 3846: Mr. POCAN, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. VEASEY.

[Submitted January 5, 2016]

H.R. 27: Ms. GRANGER.

H.R. 131: Mr. WESTMORELAND.

H.R. 244: Mr. CRAMER.

H.R. 271: Mr. JONES.

H.R. 546: Ms. CLARKE of New York.

H.R. 815: Mrs. WALORSKI.

H.R. 836: Mrs. WALORSKI.

H.R. 842: Mr. COFFMAN and Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 973: Mr. DONOVAN.

H.R. 997: Mr. BRAT and Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1002: Mr. DOLD, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. LIPINSKI.

H.R. 1220: Mr. MEEKS.

H.R. 1258: Ms. CLARKE of New York.

H.R. 1283: Mr. TIPTON.

H.R. 1336: Mr. MACARTHUR.

H.R. 1401: Mr. STEWART.

H.R. 1431: Mr. PITTS.

H.R. 1432: Mr. PITTS.

H.R. 1475: Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. FATTAH, and Mr. ROHRBACHER.

H.R. 1552: Mr. HONDA.

H.R. 1559: Mr. EMMER of Minnesota.

H.R. 1655: Ms. PINGREE and Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 1671: Mr. ROONEY of Florida.

H.R. 1752: Mr. MOOLENAAR.

H.R. 1769: Mrs. LAWRENCE and Mr. REED.

H.R. 1781: Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 1797: Mr. CLAWSON of Florida.

- H.R. 1818: Mr. MASSIE.  
H.R. 1854: Mr. CONYERS and Ms. JACKSON LEE.  
H.R. 1859: Miss RICE of New York.  
H.R. 2016: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.  
H.R. 2058: Mr. EMMER of Minnesota and Mr. COLLINS of New York.  
H.R. 2066: Mr. FORTENBERRY.  
H.R. 2142: Mr. PERLMUTTER.  
H.R. 2156: Mr. LOEBSACK.  
H.R. 2170: Ms. JACKSON LEE.  
H.R. 2287: Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina.  
H.R. 2296: Mr. CICILLINE.  
H.R. 2302: Ms. KAPTUR.  
H.R. 2328: Mr. EMMER of Minnesota.  
H.R. 2411: Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. FUDGE, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.  
H.R. 2459: Mr. HONDA.  
H.R. 2521: Ms. SLAUGHTER.  
H.R. 2536: Ms. JACKSON LEE.  
H.R. 2602: Mrs. LAWRENCE.  
H.R. 2648: Ms. KAPTUR.  
H.R. 2660: Mr. PERLMUTTER.  
H.R. 2850: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.  
H.R. 2858: Ms. CLARKE of New York.  
H.R. 2880: Mr. AGUILAR and Mrs. BEATTY.  
H.R. 3046: Ms. WILSON of Florida and Mr. MCGOVERN.  
H.R. 3061: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.  
H.R. 3099: Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania and Ms. FRANKEL of Florida.  
H.R. 3136: Mrs. WALORSKI.  
H.R. 3152: Mr. HUFFMAN.  
H.R. 3222: Mr. GOWDY and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.  
H.R. 3225: Ms. CLARKE of New York.  
H.R. 3229: Ms. NORTON and Mr. RUIZ.  
H.R. 3235: Miss RICE of New York.  
H.R. 3250: Ms. CLARKE of New York.  
H.R. 3326: Mr. MESSER.  
H.R. 3339: Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 3351: Mr. MCNERNEY.  
H.R. 3381: Mr. CRAMER, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.  
H.R. 3406: Mr. POCAN.  
H.R. 3423: Mr. TED LIEU of California.  
H.R. 3516: Mr. COLLINS of Georgia.  
H.R. 3551: Mr. RANGEL.  
H.R. 3634: Mr. RANGEL.  
H.R. 3687: Mr. RIBBLE.  
H.R. 3694: Mr. COFFMAN.  
H.R. 3720: Ms. LOFGREN.  
H.R. 3722: Mr. FORTENBERRY and Mr. PITTINGER.  
H.R. 3742: Mr. TURNER.  
H.R. 3765: Mr. PETERS and Mr. EMMER of Minnesota.  
H.R. 3830: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.  
H.R. 3841: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.  
H.R. 3865: Ms. JACKSON LEE.  
H.R. 3870: Ms. GABBARD.  
H.R. 3917: Mr. BARR, Mr. TIPTON, and Mr. KLINE.  
H.R. 3926: Mr. TED LIEU of California and Mr. LOWENTHAL.  
H.R. 3940: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.  
H.R. 3954: Mr. JONES.  
H.R. 3990: Mr. HONDA.  
H.R. 4017: Mr. HARRIS and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.  
H.R. 4018: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida and Ms. SINEMA.  
H.R. 4041: Ms. LEE.  
H.R. 4062: Mr. BUCSHON.  
H.R. 4063: Mr. JONES.  
H.R. 4073: Mr. REICHERT.  
H.R. 4124: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.  
H.R. 4137: Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. CARNEY, and Mr. COHEN.  
H.R. 4140: Mr. GIBSON.  
H.R. 4153: Mr. GALLEG0.  
H.R. 4171: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.  
H.R. 4185: Mrs. HARTZLER, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, and Mr. EMMER of Minnesota.  
H.R. 4199: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.  
H.R. 4238: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida.  
H.R. 4247: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.  
H.R. 4269: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.  
H.J. Res. 74: Mr. MILLER of Florida and Mr. SCHWEIKERT.  
H. Con. Res. 105: Mr. GOSAR, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, and Mr. MILLER of Florida.  
H. Res. 54: Mr. DONOVAN.  
H. Res. 207: Mrs. LAWRENCE and Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.  
H. Res. 220: Ms. ESHOO.  
H. Res. 221: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.  
H. Res. 230: Ms. CLARKE of New York.  
H. Res. 289: Mr. CONYERS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.  
H. Res. 343: Mr. VEASEY, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. PALLONE, and Mr. DENT.  
H. Res. 394: Mr. MOULTON.  
H. Res. 440: Mr. BRAT.  
H. Res. 569: Mr. RUIZ, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Mr. HUFFMAN.  
H. Res. 571: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. LANCE, and Mr. MILLER of Florida.

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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. GOODLATTE

The amendment to be offered by Representative Goodlatte, or a designee, to H.R. 712, the "Sunshine for Regulatory Decrees and Settlement Act," does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.