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No. 120

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 10, 2012.

I hereby appoint the Honorable STEVE WOMACK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

PRAYER

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

As the Members of the people's House return to the Capitol, call them as well with Your gentling voice of collegiality.

When a sense of alienation shadows all of our souls, we find our differences difficult to bear; we move away from each other. Insofar as the spirit of alienation has descended upon this House, help each Member to overcome unnecessary divisions that hamper productive work on behalf of our Nation.

Bring them to a deeper level of awareness of Your Spirit, and make us one Nation. Give the Members listening hearts, willing to give to each other time and attention and ready to respond to Your spirit living in each one.

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

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the

last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore 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.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, DC,
August 15, 2012.

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

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: I write to inform you that I have notified California Governor Jerry Brown of my resignation from the House, effective midnight tonight, August 15th.

It has been a tremendous honor to represent my friends and neighbors from California's Central Valley, both in Congress and the California State Assembly. I look back with pride on what we have accomplished. The real honor of serving in Congress is not working in historic buildings, but in laboring with so many unbelievably talented and dedicated individuals who serve our Nation daily.

Sincerely,

DENNIS CARDOZA.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, DC,
August 15, 2012.

Hon. EDMUND G. BROWN,
Governor of California,
Sacramento, CA.

DEAR GOVERNOR BROWN: I write to inform you that I will resign my House seat, effective midnight tonight, August 15th.

It has been a tremendous honor to represent my friends and neighbors from California's Central Valley, both in Congress and the California State Assembly. I look back with pride on what we have accomplished. The real honor of serving in Congress is not working in historic buildings, but in laboring with so many unbelievably talented and dedicated individuals who serve our Nation daily.

Sincerely,

DENNIS CARDOZA.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from California (Mr. CARDOZA), the whole number of the House is 430.

COMMUNICATION FROM DISTRICT DIRECTOR, THE HONORABLE ROBERT A. BRADY, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Ilene Jenofsky, District Director, the Honorable ROBERT A. BRADY, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, DC,
August 15, 2012.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena for testimony issued by the Philadelphia Municipal Court, Criminal Division, in connection with a

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

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



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criminal prosecution currently pending before that court.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and precedents of the House.

Sincerely,

ILENE JENOFSKY,
District Director.

COMMUNICATION FROM CON-
STITUENT SERVICES REP-
RESENTATIVE, THE HONORABLE
ROBERT A. BRADY, MEMBER OF
CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Warren Raines, Constituent Services Representative, the Honorable ROBERT A. BRADY, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, DC,
August 15, 2012.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a subpoena for testimony issued by the Philadelphia Municipal Court, Criminal Division, in connection with a criminal prosecution currently pending before that court.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and precedents of the House.

Sincerely,

WARREN RAINES,
Constituent Services Representative.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

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

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

CABIN FEE ACT OF 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3397) to modify

the Forest Service Recreation Residence Program by implementing a simple, equitable, and predictable procedure for determining cabin user fees, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3397

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Cabin Fee Act of 2012”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Definitions.
- Sec. 3. Cabin user fees.
- Sec. 4. Payment of cabin transfer fees.
- Sec. 5. Right of appeal and judicial review.
- Sec. 6. Effect.
- Sec. 7. Regulations.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **AUTHORIZATION; AUTHORIZE.**—The terms “authorization” and “authorize” mean the issuance of a special use permit for the use and occupancy of National Forest System land by a cabin owner under the Recreation Residence Program.

(2) **CABIN.**—The term “cabin” means a privately built and owned recreation residence and related improvements on National Forest System land that—

(A) is authorized for private use and occupancy; and

(B) may be sold or transferred between private parties.

(3) **CABIN OWNER.**—The term “cabin owner” means—

(A) a person authorized by the Secretary to use and to occupy a cabin; and

(B) a trust, heir, or assign of a person described in subparagraph (A).

(4) **CABIN TRANSFER FEE.**—The term “cabin transfer fee” means a fee that is paid to the United States on the transfer of a cabin between private parties for money or other consideration that results in the issuance of a new permit.

(5) **CABIN USER FEE.**—The term “cabin user fee” means an annual fee paid to the United States by a cabin owner in accordance with an authorization for the use and occupancy of a cabin.

(6) **CURRENT APPRAISAL CYCLE.**—The term “current appraisal cycle” means the completion of Forest Service review and acceptance of—

(A) initial typical lot appraisals; and

(B) second appraisals, if ordered by cabin owners and approved by the Forest Service.

(7) **CURRENT CABIN USER FEE.**—The term “current cabin user fee” means the most recent cabin user fee, as adjusted under section 3(c).

(8) **LOT.**—The term “lot” means a parcel of National Forest System land on which a person is authorized to build, use, occupy, and maintain a cabin.

(9) **NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM.**—The term “National Forest System” has the meaning given that term in section 11 of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1609).

(10) **RECREATION RESIDENCE PROGRAM.**—The term “Recreation Residence Program” means the Recreation Residence Program established under the last paragraph under the heading “FOREST SERVICE” in the Act of March 4, 1915 (16 U.S.C. 497).

(11) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service.

(12) **TYPICAL LOT.**—The term “typical lot” means a cabin lot, or group of cabin lots, in

a tract that is selected for use in an appraisal as being representative of, and that has similar value characteristics as, other lots or groups of lots within the tract.

SEC. 3. CABIN USER FEES.

(a) **PAYMENT OF CABIN USER FEES.**—Cabin owners shall pay an annual cabin user fee established by the Secretary in accordance with this section.

(b) **INITIAL CABIN USER FEES.**—

(1) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall establish initial cabin user fees in accordance with this subsection.

(2) **ASSIGNMENT TO VALUE TIERS.**—On completion of the current appraisal cycle, as required by paragraph (4), the Secretary shall assign each permitted lot on National Forest System land to 1 of 10 tiers based on the following considerations:

(A) Before assigning the lots to tiers, all appraised lot values shall be adjusted, or normalized, for price changes occurring after the appraisal, in accordance with the National Association of Homebuilders/Wells Fargo Housing Opportunity Index.

(B) Second appraisal values shall supersede initial lot appraisal values for the normalization and ranking process under subparagraph (A).

(C) The tiers shall be established, on a national basis, according to relative lot value, with lots having the lowest adjusted appraised value assigned to tier 1 and lots having the highest adjusted appraised value assigned to tier 10.

(D) The number of lots (by percentage) assigned to each tier is contained in the table set forth in paragraph (3).

(E) Data from incomplete appraisals may not be used to establish the fee tiers under this subsection.

(F) Until assigned to a tier under this subsection, the Secretary shall assess (and may adjust annually subject to clause (ii)) an interim fee for permitted cabin lots (including lots with incomplete appraisals) in an amount equal to the lesser of—

(i) \$5,000; or

(ii) the amount of the current cabin user fee, as determined under the Cabin User Fee Fairness Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6201 et seq.), which amount the Secretary may increase annually by not more than 25 percent, except that the increased fee shall not exceed the otherwise scheduled fee determined under the Cabin User Fee Fairness Act of 2000.

(3) **AMOUNT OF INITIAL CABIN USER FEES.**—The initial cabin user fees, based on the assignments under paragraph (2), are as follows:

Fee Tier	Approximate Percent of Permits Nationally	Fee Amount
Tier 1	5 percent	\$500
Tier 2	12 percent	\$1,000
Tier 3	22 percent	\$1,500
Tier 4	22 percent	\$2,000
Tier 5	10 percent	\$2,500
Tier 6	9 percent	\$3,000
Tier 7	7 percent	\$3,500
Tier 8	5 percent	\$4,000
Tier 9	5 percent	\$4,500
Tier 10	3 percent	\$5,000

(4) **DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION OF CURRENT APPRAISAL CYCLE.**—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete the current appraisal cycle.

(5) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The initial cabin user fees required by this subsection shall take effect beginning with the first calendar year beginning after the completion of the current appraisal cycle.

(c) ANNUAL ADJUSTMENTS OF CABIN USER FEE.—Once initial cabin user fees have been assessed, based on the tier assignments under subsection (b)(2), the Secretary shall use changes in the Implicit Price Deflator for the Gross Domestic Product published by the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce, applied on a 5-year rolling average, to assess an annual adjustment to cabin user fees.

(d) EFFECT OF DESTRUCTION, SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE, OR LOSS OF ACCESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall reduce the cabin user fee to \$100 per year for a cabin if—

(A) the cabin is destroyed or suffers substantial damage in an amount that is greater than 50 percent of replacement cost of the cabin; or

(B) access to the cabin is significantly impaired, whether by catastrophic events, natural causes, or governmental actions.

(2) TERM OF REDUCED FEE.—The reduced fee under paragraph (1) shall be in effect until the later of—

(A) the last day of the year in which the destruction or impairment occurs; or

(B) the date on which the cabin may be lawfully reoccupied and normal access has been restored.

SEC. 4. PAYMENT OF CABIN TRANSFER FEES.

As a condition of the issuance by the Secretary of a new authorization for the use and occupancy of the cabin, the cabin owner transferring the cabin shall pay to the Secretary a cabin transfer fee in the amount of \$1,200.

SEC. 5. RIGHT OF APPEAL AND JUDICIAL REVIEW.

(a) RIGHT OF APPEAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any action of a cabin owner to exercise rights in accordance with section 6, the Secretary shall by regulation grant to the cabin owner the right to an administrative appeal of the determination of a new cabin user fee, fee tier, or whether or not to reduce a cabin user fee under section 3(d).

(2) APPLICABLE LAW.—An appeal under paragraph (1) shall be pursuant to the appeal process provided under subpart C of part 251 of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation).

(b) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A cabin owner that contests a final decision of the Secretary under this Act may bring a civil action in United States district court.

(2) VENUE.—The venue for an action brought before the United States district court under this subsection shall be in the Federal judicial district in which the cabin is located.

(3) EFFECT ON MEDIATION.—Nothing in this Act precludes a person from seeking mediation for an action under this Act.

SEC. 6. EFFECT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act limits or restricts any right, title, or interest of the United States in or to any land or resource.

(b) SPECIAL RULE FOR ALASKA.—In determining a cabin user fee in the State of Alaska, the Secretary shall not establish or impose a cabin user fee or a condition affecting a cabin user fee that is inconsistent with 1303(d) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3193(d)).

SEC. 7. REGULATIONS.

Not later than December 31, 2013, the Secretary shall issue regulations to carry out this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Cabin Fee Act, which I have sponsored for several Congresses, sets a new fee schedule for the 14,000 privately owned cabins in our national forests. It creates a simple, straightforward, and predictable fee schedule that is fair to cabin owners, the Forest Service, and the American taxpayer.

H.R. 3397 would replace the current complex and unfair payment system by assigning cabin fees to tiers based on the cabin lot's appraised value. The fees would rise with inflation, but otherwise would be a fixed fee. This means that families would no longer face sudden, unexpected jumps to unaffordable levels, and the maximum fees are kept from going above \$5,000 a year.

As considered on the House floor today, the Cabin Fee Act is revenue neutral. The CBO score is zero.

Many of the private cabins on Forest Service land are simple, rustic structures hand-built by the grandparents of current owners early in the last century and passed down from generation to generation. The overwhelming majority of these cabins are modest family retreats.

The purpose of this bill is to keep the fees affordable for people such as teachers, factory workers, and retirees, and not just millionaires, which is what would result if we do not make the change in the law.

The cabin owners affected by this bill are charged an annual fee for the use of their land on which their cabin sits. They do not get any ownership rights to the land. They have only a temporary and highly restricted use permit for basically the footprint of their cabin.

Because a limited use permit is not comparable to the rights acquired when somebody owns property in fee simple, it has proven impossible under current law to establish a fair basis for setting the fees charged to the cabin owners. The current system has resulted in unrealistic, arbitrary fee hikes that are completely unaffordable for average families.

For example, in the Northwest, the Seattle Times published a report that cabin owners in Lake Wenatchee, which is in my district, received notice that their fees would increase by more than 1,000 percent, from \$1,400 a year to \$17,000 a year. Skyrocketing fees also make these seasonal cabins unmarketable, leaving families who are unable to pay the high fees also unable to sell their cabins.

Unless Congress acts to bring about a course correction, thousands of cabin owners will be forced to abandon family heirloom cabins as the currently planned hike in fees goes into effect. This bill is strongly supported by the Forest Service because it preserves this cherished century-old program while greatly reducing and simplifying the Service's administrative burden.

The need to fix this problem has bipartisan support in the House and the Senate. So I urge support of the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

CBO ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 3397, THE CABIN FEE ACT OF 2012, WITH AN AMENDMENT, AS PROVIDED TO CBO BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2012

By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2012–2017	2012–2022
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact ^a	0	2	-5	-3	-2	0	1	2	2	2	2	-8	0

Note: Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

a. H.R. 3397 would establish a new schedule for the fees paid to the federal government by individuals who own cabins located on Forest Service lands. The bill also would establish a transfer fee that would be assessed on owners who sell their cabins. Because H.R. 3397, as amended, would cap annual cabin fees at \$5,000 and prevent scheduled fee increases from being implemented as they would be under current law, CBO estimates that enacting the bill would, in general, lower annual offsetting receipts over the 2012–2022 period. However, CBO estimates that enacting the legislation would increase receipts over the 2014–2016 period because we expect that cabin fees would be increased more gradually under current law than under the bill over that period. On net, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would increase offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending) by \$8 million over the 2012–2017 period and would have no significant impact on direct spending over the 2012–2022 period.

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

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3397, sponsored by our Chairman HASTINGS, authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture

to adjust the fees for private cabins on national forest lands.

We remain concerned about the impact this legislation may have on cabin owners of modest means, of which there are many. It appears that in order to reduce the fees for owners in the highest bracket, fees on the middle- and lower-value cabins would have to increase.

Many members of the committee do not object to the passage of this legislation at this time, although I wanted to bring up some personal concerns about the inequity of the new fee system. I'd like to work with the chairman and the cabin owners and the other body to achieve an equitable solution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time and urge adoption of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3397, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BILLFISH CONSERVATION ACT OF 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2706) to prohibit the sale of billfish, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2706

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Billfish Conservation Act of 2012".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The United States carefully regulates its domestic fisheries for billfish and participates in international fishery management bodies in the Atlantic and Pacific.

(2) Global billfish populations have declined significantly, however, because of overfishing primarily through retention of bycatch by non-United States commercial fishing fleets.

(3) Ending the importation of foreign-caught billfish for sale in the United States aligns with U.S. management measures of billfish and protects the significant economic benefits to the U.S. economy of recreational fishing and marine commerce and the traditional cultural fisheries.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY.

The Congress enacts this Act pursuant to clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON SALE OF BILLFISH.

(a) PROHIBITION.—No person shall offer for sale, sell, or have custody, control, or possession of for purposes of offering for sale or selling billfish or products containing billfish.

(b) PENALTY.—For purposes of section 308(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1858(a)), a violation of this section shall be treated as an act prohibited by section 307 of that Act (16 U.S.C. 1857).

(c) EXEMPTIONS FOR TRADITIONAL FISHERIES AND MARKETS.—

(1) Subsection (a) does not apply to billfish caught by US fishing vessels and landed in the State of Hawaii or Pacific Insular Areas as defined in section 3(35) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1802(35)).

(2) Subsection (a) does not apply to billfish landed by foreign fishing vessels in the Pacific Insular Areas when the foreign caught billfish is exported to non-US markets or retained within Hawaii and the Pacific Insular Areas for local consumption.

(d) BILLFISH DEFINED.—In this section the term "billfish"—

(1) means any fish of the species—

(A) *Makaira nigricans* (blue marlin);
(B) *Kajikia audax* (striped marlin);
(C) *Istiompax indica* (black marlin);
(D) *Istiophorus platypterus* (sailfish);
(E) *Tetrapturus angustirostris* (shortbill spearfish);

(F) *Kajikia albida* (white marlin);

(G) *Tetrapturus georgii* (roundscale spearfish);

(H) *Tetrapturus belone* (Mediterranean spearfish); and

(I) *Tetrapturus pfluegeri* (longbill spearfish); and

(2) does not include the species *Xiphias gladius* (swordfish).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2706, the Billfish Conservation Act, authored by our colleague from Florida (Mr. MILLER).

Under current law, it is illegal to import or sell Atlantic billfish. Despite this, the U.S. is one of the major importers of billfish in the world. While Pacific billfish populations in general are in better shape than Atlantic billfish, threats to both oceans' billfish from foreign fishing fleets remain.

As long as the U.S. allows a market for these fish, their population levels are likely to worsen. To add more protection for both the Atlantic and Pacific billfish, the legislation would make it illegal to sell specific billfish species or possess those billfish for sale, whether they are Atlantic or Pacific.

Now, I note, Mr. Speaker, that concern had been raised at the June hear-

ing that U.S. fishermen in Hawaii and the Pacific insular areas might be disadvantaged by these new rules and that the local consumption of billfish products might be made illegal. The bill was amended during committee consideration to address this concern; and the legislation, as amended, now protects these U.S. fishermen and the existing limited, traditional local consumption of billfish products while still providing additional and increased protection for billfish populations in the United States.

This is good legislation. I support it. And I reserve the balance of my time.

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

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2706, the Billfish Conservation Act, seeks to ban imports of foreign-caught marlin, sailfish, and spearfish into the United States. Now, these fish, as we know from prized photographs of our friends and many of our past experiences, are highly valued as recreational game-fish and serve as the top predators in ocean ecosystems—the so-called lions and tigers of the sea.

While this bill is a small step forward and has the support of recreational fishing and commercial interests, we can and should do much more for the conservation of billfish. Specifically, developing and using more selective commercial fishing gear, cracking down on illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing, and passing legislation, such as the bill recently introduced by our colleague from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), to combat seafood fraud would provide even more protections for these iconic species. However, I and most of my colleagues, I believe, support passage of H.R. 2706; and we hope that it is a precursor to further action on this important issue.

I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1610

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER), the author of this legislation.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, thank you for the recognition.

I thank the gentleman from Washington, the chairman of the committee, for his recognition and his leadership on this effort, as well as Dr. JOHN FLEMING, the subcommittee chairman, and all the members of the House Natural Resources Committee for their support of this particular piece of legislation.

I also have to thank members of the sportsmen's community, members of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, and in particular, Congressmen DUNCAN from South Carolina and WITTMAN, BOREN, MICHAUD, and BONNER, and my counterparts in the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus leadership—that would be Congressmen ROSS, LATTA,

and SHULER—for all their efforts to help advance this legislation in a bipartisan effort.

Today, I join my colleagues in support of H.R. 2706, which is the Billfish Conservation Act of 2012.

As the chairman has already said, the United States is the largest importer of billfish products in the world. Our populations continue to be affected by foreign commercial overfishing, and the importing of billfish only exacerbates the problem that exists today.

Without passage of this bill and strengthening of the current ban of the Atlantic-caught billfish to include the sale and harvest of all billfish—excluding, as has been already said on the floor today, those fisheries in the State of Hawaii and Pacific insular area—the current ban will continue to be undermined through loopholes that have hurt our anglers and the economy.

By eliminating the sale in the continental U.S., passage of this bill will support the billfish population growth, a healthy ocean ecosystem, and improve recreational fishing opportunities. As a result of the increased recreational fishing opportunities, this bill provides a huge economic boost to generate billions of dollars through direct expenditures and marine-related jobs and sales without placing a burden on the U.S. seafood market and its consumers.

I want to urge all my colleagues to support this very important piece of legislation to help conserve a very depleted fish population, preserving our Nation's fishing heritage, and provide for economic growth during a time when our country needs it most.

Mr. HOLT. May I ask the chairman if he has additional speakers?

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I have no more requests for time. If the gentleman yields back, I'm prepared to yield back.

Mr. HOLT. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield back the balance of my time and urge adoption of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2706, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NORTH TEXAS ZEBRA MUSSEL BARRIER ACT OF 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6007) to exempt from the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 certain water transfers by the North Texas Municipal Water District and the Greater Texoma Utility Authority, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6007

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "North Texas Zebra Mussel Barrier Act of 2012".

SEC. 2. COMPLIANCE WITH LACEY ACT.

The Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3371 et seq.) and section 42 of title 18, United States Code, shall not apply with respect to any water transfer by the North Texas Municipal Water District and the Greater Texoma Utility Authority using only closed conveyance systems from the Lake Texoma raw water intake structure to treatment facilities at which all zebra mussels are extirpated and removed from the water transferred.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Chairman RALPH HALL's bill to provide relief to 1.6 million people living in the Dallas/Fort Worth area necessitated because of a bizarre set of circumstances.

In 1989, the North Texas Municipal Water District constructed a pumping station in Lake Texoma, providing up to 125 million gallons per day of safe drinking water to one of the most rapidly growing regions in the country, the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Sometime later, the enactment of a boundary adjustment resulted in a small portion of the pumping station being shifted from Texas to Oklahoma. In 2009, zebra mussels were discovered in the lake. This has caused a significant problem because it is in violation of the Lacey Act to transport zebra mussels across State lines.

So, to resolve this, the Water District has proposed to construct a \$300 million, 46-mile closed pipeline that will transport Lake Texoma water to its treatment facility in Wylie, Texas. All zebra mussels will then be destroyed there, and the entire effort will be accomplished without any cost to Federal taxpayers.

This project was issued a section 404 Clean Water Act permit in May, and it was supported by the U.S. Wildlife Service district office in Arlington, Texas. However, as happens so many times, the Washington, D.C., head-

quarters of Fish and Wildlife is not so supportive and has suggested what it describes as a nonlegislative solution: an agreement with the Justice Department not to prosecute North Texas Municipal Water District for transporting zebra mussels.

Now, just think about this, Mr. Speaker. As someone who believes that we are a Nation of law, I am deeply troubled by the notion that a Federal agency would suggest that it would not seek to prosecute, under the law, those who may violate the law. I just think that's the wrong approach, and this approach is the right approach.

So I urge adoption of H.R. 6007, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 6007, the North Texas Zebra Mussel Barrier Act, provides a very specific and necessary—we believe—exemption to the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981.

The Lacey Act is vital to our Nation's interests because it prevents the spread of undesirable, injurious species such as zebra mussels. In fact, zebra mussels may be a textbook example, a poster child for injurious introduced species.

These mussels are the bane of many a power plant or municipal water operator. Millions are spent each year just to keep intake and outflow pipes clear of these creatures. They harm our fisheries by crowding out native species and taking all their food, and they're driving many native mussels to extinction.

H.R. 6007 would allow the North Texas Municipal Water District and the Greater Texoma Utility Authority to transport water that contains zebra mussels from the Oklahoma side of Lake Texoma to Texas. However, all the water would be kept in closed conveyance systems, we are assured; and we are further assured that all water would be fully treated, with all zebra mussels being fully removed before being released into any water body. The biologists, the limnologists, the hydrologists, the water engineers assure us of these things.

I do want to emphasize that zebra mussels are pernicious and insidious. I am loathe, and I think many of my colleagues are loathe, to weaken or seek exemption from the Lacey Act, which controls invasive species. However, Texas needs access to this water, and the aforementioned entities have a comprehensive plan for ensuring, we are told, that these water transfers will not cause zebra mussels to spread.

So for these reasons, and with this understanding, I rise in support of H.R. 6007. I do strongly urge that this bill, which is put forward as a remedy for a very difficult and unique situation, should not be used to set any precedent for granting exemptions to the Lacey Act or in any way weakening our protections against invasive species.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I'm very pleased to yield 3 minutes to the author of this legislation, our distinguished colleague from Texas, Chairman RALPH HALL.

□ 1620

Mr. HALL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I, of course, rise today in support of H.R. 6007, the North Texas Zebra Mussel Barrier Act of 2012. When I read in the papers and hear in the press that Republicans and Democrats can't get together on anything, well, we're together on something today, and I think the gentlemen have adequately described the enemy.

North Texas has a very serious problem with an invasive aquatic species called zebra mussel. I'd never heard of them before. I hope I never hear of them again. Zebra mussels are going to attach to probably just about anything. They infest and cover rocks, attach to boats and docks, and clog water pipelines. North Texas has a unique situation due to a Texas-Oklahoma boundary change that requires a congressional solution. You know you hear people say it takes an act of Congress to get something accomplished. Well, that's exactly what we're here doing today.

The local water folks have been working extremely hard to prevent the spread of zebra mussels while simultaneously attempting to provide enough clean water for our citizens, but they absolutely need our help. They need this help. H.R. 6007 allows the North Texas Municipal Water District to pump water from Lake Texoma straight into the Wylie, Texas, Water Treatment Plant where the water can be cleaned of zebra mussels without being in violation of the Lacey Act. These folks are the only ones who have tackled and solved this problem. They're not the only ones who have tackled it, but they're the only ones who have solved this problem. It has been at their own expense, and they have solved it. Now they need our support.

In the late 1980s, the North Texas Municipal Water District built the Lake Texoma pump station to better serve its use. This was built entirely within the Texas border and in accordance with the Army Corps of Engineers' 1939 survey, which defined the Texas and Oklahoma boundary line.

In 2000, a variation in the Texas-Oklahoma border was enacted into law, and the pump station ended up straddling the two States. Since the Lacey Act prohibits the transfer of zebra mussels across State lines, it effectively has banned the use of the Texoma water pump station since the year 2009, which was when zebra mussels first appeared in Lake Texoma. The North Texas Municipal Water District generally receives 28 percent of its water supply from Lake Texoma.

H.R. 6007 will enable the water district to resume pumping water to bet-

ter serve more than 1.5 million users and to do so in a manner that provides safe water in the tradition of its 20-year history. The bill will allow the Texoma water pump to reopen, to provide much-needed jobs and to provide enough clean water to the community during a season of very severe drought, when water is desperately needed.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield the gentleman an additional 1 minute.

Mr. HALL. On May 3 of this year, the Army Corps of Engineers approved a 404 permit that will allow the construction of a 46-mile water pipeline from Lake Texoma straight into the Wylie Water Treatment Plant, which would remove 100 percent of the zebra mussels and would provide clean water for North Texas citizens and businesses.

This is a commonsense solution, a necessary solution and one for which I certainly want to thank the chairman, DOC HASTINGS.

Mr. HOLT. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS).

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I believe the facts of the case that have been clearly enumerated by both sides are very important for this Congress to understand in that this is an agreement on both sides. Yet I think what has happened is that, due to the bipartisan leadership back on the committee between not just Mr. HOLT and the chairman but also with the gentleman, Mr. FLEMING, it has really come to the aid and assistance, not just in a bipartisan way but in a commonsense way.

It is the opportunity for 1.6 million people who need this desperately to be able to get water at a time of drought, at a time of much consternation in Texas where we have fires and drought and heat and a lot of problems. This means that the people of North Texas know that Chairman RALPH HALL and this committee worked very carefully to make sure that they went through regular order, to make sure that they knew the facts of the case, to make sure that they studied this well.

I really want to offer, not just my support for this, but my thanks to the committee and to the committee chairman for the hard work that has been done by this. I don't make apologies for coming to the floor to do things that are in the best interests of the people of Texas, but this has become necessary as a result of directives back in Texas and the inability of people to clearly resolve this. So I am very pleased to support not just this bill, H.R. 6007, but also the concept of Congress working together through using common sense.

Mr. Speaker, we are here today to discuss an issue which is vital to North Texas. H.R. 6007, the North Texas Zebra Mussel Barrier

Act, provides an elegant solution to a growing problem. Currently, 1.6 million customers of the North Texas Municipal Water District, many of whom are my constituents, have restricted access to water as a result of the discovery of zebra mussels in Lake Texoma. Additionally, water transfers have become complicated because of a surveying error resulting in the incorrect designation of the District's Lake Texoma intake station as being in Oklahoma rather than in Texas. This surveyor's error, made more than a decade ago by the Red River Boundary Compact, means that water transfers of zebra mussels now cross a state line. Such a transfer triggers the Lacey Act, which is designed to prevent the spread of invasive species across state lines.

In response, the North Texas Municipal Water District has been forced to suspend all pumping from Lake Texoma for the past three years. This water source constitutes roughly 28 percent of the North Texas Municipal Water District's available supply of raw water. Such a reduction in available resources has put a tremendous stress on the District and its ability to assure its customers that there will be an adequate supply of water in the future.

H.R. 6007 would allow North Texas Municipal Water District to resume water transfers from Lake Texoma through a completely closed conveyance system that delivers water directly into their water treatment facility. To achieve this, the North Texas Municipal Water District has committed approximately \$300 million to build a 46-mile long pipeline. The District has approved the funding and obtained the necessary 4-0-4 permits required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to begin construction.

Such a conveyance system would provide safe and dependable means for the District to access the water they have legal rights to while ensuring, with 100 percent reliability, that Zebra Mussels will not be transferred into Texas waters. Their treatment facility will employ chemical and mechanical means of filtration to eliminate any risk of propagation of invasive species. Such techniques have been proven successful in other areas of the country and have been approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Ultimately, H.R. 6007 will restore the adequate and steady stream of water to over 1.6 million Texans without the use of taxpayer dollars while complying with the Lacey Act's intended goal of preventing the spread of invasive species.

Mr. HOLT. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6007, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2489) to authorize the acquisition and protection of nationally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 under the American Battlefield Protection Program, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2489

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act of 2012”.

SEC. 2. REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND WAR OF 1812 AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION.

Section 7301(c) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–11) is amended as follows:

(1) In paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(A) BATTLEFIELD REPORT.—The term ‘battlefield report’ means, collectively—

“(i) the report entitled ‘Report on the Nation’s Civil War Battlefields’, prepared by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, and dated July 1993; and

“(ii) the report entitled ‘Report to Congress on the Historic Preservation of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Sites in the United States’, prepared by the National Park Service, and dated September 2007.”; and

(B) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking “Battlefield Report” and inserting “battlefield report”.

(2) In paragraph (2), by inserting “eligible sites or” after “acquiring”.

(3) In paragraph (3), by inserting “an eligible site or” after “acquire”.

(4) In paragraph (4), by inserting “an eligible site or” after “acquiring”.

(5) In paragraph (5), by striking “An” and inserting “An eligible site or an”.

(6) By redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (9).

(7) By inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraphs:

“(6) WILLING SELLERS.—Acquisition of land or interests in land under this subsection shall be from willing sellers only.

“(7) REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the activities carried out under this subsection, including a description of—

“(A) preservation activities carried out at the battlefields and associated sites identified in the battlefield report during the period between publication of the battlefield report and the report required under this paragraph;

“(B) changes in the condition of the battlefields and associated sites during that period; and

“(C) any other relevant developments relating to the battlefields and associated sites during that period.

“(8) PROHIBITION ON LOBBYING.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds provided pursuant to this section may be used for purposes of lobbying any person or entity regarding the implementation of this section or be granted, awarded, contracted, or otherwise be made available to any person, organization, or entity that participates in such lobbying.

“(B) LOBBYING DEFINED.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘lobbying’ means to directly

or indirectly pay for any personal service, advertisement, telegram, telephone call, letter, printed or written matter, or other device intended or designed to influence in any manner a Member of Congress, a jurisdiction, or an official of any government to favor, adopt, or oppose by vote or otherwise, any legislation, law, ratification, policy, land use plan (including zoning), or appropriation of funds before or after the introduction of any bill, resolution, or other measure proposing such legislation, law, ratification, policy, or appropriation.”.

(8) In paragraph (9) (as redesignated by paragraph (6)), by striking “2013” and inserting “2017”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 addressed the preservation and protection of Civil War battlefields through conservation easements or through the purchase of land from willing sellers through Federal grants. H.R. 2489 renews this effort, which will soon expire, and it adds the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 battlefields to those eligible for protection.

The Natural Resources Committee made several improvements to the legislation as introduced, including a reduction of the authorization from 10 years to 5 years. Also, the authorization was cut in half to save up to \$50 million over the course of the program. It is important to note that we have not raised the authorization one cent over current levels; therefore, there is no increase in spending.

Finally, the committee added language to prohibit these funds from being used for lobbying activities or from being distributed to organizations that participate in lobbying. With so many existing needs within the National Park Service, we want to ensure that these funds go specifically for battlefield protection and not to outside advocacy groups. These battlefields are part of our history, and we should do everything we can to ensure that future generations understand what our forefathers went through to ensure our freedoms.

So, with that, I support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I would like to thank my colleagues from the Natural Resources Committee

for working with me to bring this bill to the floor today, our bipartisan bill, which is the American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act. I was pleased to work with Chairman HASTINGS and Chairman BISHOP and Ranking Members MARKEY and GRIJALVA to move this bill through our committee, and I would like to thank the majority and minority staffs for their hard work.

The bill before us today reauthorizes the American Battlefield Protection Program, which is a competitive grant program that matches Federal dollars with private money to preserve historic war sites. H.R. 2489 builds on the success of the Civil War Battlefield Protection Program, which has preserved Civil War battlefield sites. The legislation also expands the grant program to include over 670 historic battlefields and associated sites from the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812.

Since 1996, when the Battlefield Protection Program was first authorized, the program has helped preserve many important sites, including, for example, the Fort Gregg, New Market Heights Battlefield in Virginia.

□ 1630

In fiscal year 2011, a protection grant helped preserve a 7.2-acre property best remembered because of the unquestioned valor of the African American Union soldiers who fought there. There are many other examples that I could point to: the Wilderness Crossroads, the Reynolds Tract, Perryville Battlefield in Kentucky, the Slaughter Pen Farm, Fredericksburg Battlefield in Virginia, and so forth.

H.R. 2489 would allow the American Battlefield Protection Program to collaborate with State and local governments, nonprofit organizations, and willing sellers—and I do want to emphasize that point—to protect the most endangered historical sites, and to provide up to half the costs of purchasing battlefield land threatened by sprawl and commercial development.

From Lexington, where the shot was heard around the world, to Gettysburg, where Lincoln brilliantly summarized the description of the conception and proposition of our Nation, the stories of the American Revolution and the Civil War bring to life the ideals of liberty and democracy fostered by our Founders.

Unfortunately, urbanization, suburban sprawl, and unplanned commercial and residential development are constantly encroaching on many of the significant battlefields of the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the Civil War. This encroachment poses a severe and growing risk to the preservation of these historic sites.

History is best experienced by those who can touch it, feel it, and live it, and the battlefields of the American Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the Civil War provide a unique opportunity for Americans to experience where and how the epic struggle for our

Nation's independence and identity took place.

In my home State of New Jersey, there are more sites of military engagements than in any other State. More military engagements were fought in New Jersey than in any other State. New Jersey played an influential role in the War for Independence.

I was pleased to join Representative FRELINGHUYSEN and Senator LAUTENBERG, and the rest of the New Jersey delegation, in establishing some years ago the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area in our State. The Crossroads Association has made enormous progress toward promoting our State's rich heritage, and the bill before us today, I think, is vital for organizations like Crossroads in New Jersey and others to perform their important work.

As the Civil War Trust said in their letter supporting this legislation:

Preserving these American historic treasures is essential to remember the sacrifices our ancestors made to secure our freedom and independence, and to preserve our Republic.

Historical sites, once lost, are gone forever. They exist only on the pages of books and in fading memories. We must act to preserve these valuable sites while we still can. Approving this bill will demonstrate that the Members of this House can work together. Historic preservation is not a Republican issue, not a Democratic issue. Historic preservation is an American issue because it is our shared history that we are working to preserve and to protect.

I thank the majority for working with me on this bill. During the 111th Congress, similar legislation was twice approved by this body with near unanimous support. In this Congress, the American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act is again enjoying bipartisan support, and I certainly hope the other body will act promptly so that we can get about the work of preserving these sites.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2489, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, this is good legislation, and I urge its adoption.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2489, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

STUDY OF VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY-BASED FLOOD INSURANCE OPTIONS

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 6186) to require a study of voluntary community-based flood insurance options and how such options could be incorporated into the national flood insurance program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6186

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

SECTION 1. STUDIES OF VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY-BASED FLOOD INSURANCE OPTIONS.

(a) STUDY.—

(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall conduct a study to assess options, methods, and strategies for making available voluntary community-based flood insurance policies through the National Flood Insurance Program.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—The study conducted under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) take into consideration and analyze how voluntary community-based flood insurance policies—

(i) would affect communities having varying economic bases, geographic locations, flood hazard characteristics or classifications, and flood management approaches; and

(ii) could satisfy the applicable requirements under section 102 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4012a); and

(B) evaluate the advisability of making available voluntary community-based flood insurance policies to communities, subdivisions of communities, and areas of residual risk.

(3) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study required under paragraph (1), the Administrator may consult with the Comptroller General of the United States, as the Administrator determines is appropriate.

(b) REPORT BY THE ADMINISTRATOR.—

(1) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives a report that contains the results and conclusions of the study conducted under subsection (a).

(2) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include recommendations for—

(A) the best manner to incorporate voluntary community-based flood insurance policies into the National Flood Insurance Program; and

(B) a strategy to implement voluntary community-based flood insurance policies that would encourage communities to undertake flood mitigation activities, including the construction, reconstruction, or improvement of levees, dams, or other flood control structures.

(c) REPORT BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date on which the Administrator submits the report required under subsection (b), the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) review the report submitted by the Administrator; and

(2) submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives a report that contains—

(A) an analysis of the report submitted by the Administrator;

(B) any comments or recommendations of the Comptroller General relating to the report submitted by the Administrator; and

(C) any other recommendations of the Comptroller General relating to community-based flood insurance policies.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) and the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to add extraneous material on this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6186, introduced by my friend and colleague on the Financial Services Committee, Congresswoman GWEN MOORE.

H.R. 6816 would require the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, the agency which administers the National Flood Insurance Program, NFIP, to conduct a study on the advantages and disadvantages of providing voluntary community-based flood insurance through NFIP and report its recommendations for implementation to Congress within 18 months. H.R. 6186 also requires the Government Accountability Office, GAO, to analyze FEMA's report and submit its comments or recommendations on it to Congress within 6 months.

Community-based flood insurance is an insurance technique where a risk assessment is made for all the buildings in a community, and then premiums to cover that risk are paid collectively by that community rather than the current practice of assessing each building individually and having each individual owner pay a premium. This innovative tool may represent a new and better way for some communities at risk of flooding to take the necessary steps to protect their citizens.

In fact, FEMA has stated in congressional testimony that voluntary community-based flood insurance could help the NFIP better account for the full cost of flood risk, as well as provide incentives to encourage communities to implement greater flood mitigation measures. Thus, we think it's appropriate to commission this study of the community-based flood insurance concept so that FEMA can understand how it could be put to the greatest benefit.

Congresswoman MOORE's community-based flood insurance study provision was originally introduced as part of H.R. 1309, the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2011, the bipartisan, long-term NFIP reauthorization measure that passed the House with over 400 votes

last summer. During the previous year, Congresswoman MOORE's study language was also included as part of long-term NFIP reauthorization efforts that passed the House three additional times as part of other bills.

Unfortunately, Congresswoman MOORE's text, which is now H.R. 6186, was not included in the bipartisan Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act that was signed into law on July 6. However, the Financial Services Committee remains committed to enacting this provision, and I want to commend Congresswoman MOORE for all her hard work on this measure, and I am a cosponsor.

With that, I would urge my colleagues to support H.R. 6186, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to start out by expressing my deepest appreciation to the manager of this bill, Representative BIGGERT, and also a cosponsor of this legislation, in addition to Representative BACHUS and Representative WATERS, a bipartisan initiative.

□ 1640

As Mrs. BIGGERT has indicated, this study was originally included in the flood insurance bill that passed the House but was later dropped for reasons of expediency. It was not controversial in negotiations with the Senate. I believe that a community-based flood insurance option may eventually provide a wonderful cost-saving option for communities within the framework of the overall National Flood Insurance Program.

The potential for savings and community empowerment certainly merits a study. H.R. 6186 would require FEMA to study voluntary community-based flood insurance options and examine how such options could be incorporated into the National Flood Insurance Program.

The idea is to study group flood insurance policies for a National Flood Insurance Program-participating community or a FEMA-designated flood plain so that everyone in the community would pay the same rate. Now, this approach has merit because it means not only potentially lower rates due to increased participation, but there is also the option of providing lower-income households with access to vouchers to purchase flood insurance as part of the group.

The group rating, of course, would spread the risk to an affordable extent for each individual homeowner. An analogy for this concept is group or employee health insurance coverage versus individual coverage. We all understand that group coverage is less expensive than individual coverage due to the economies of scale of streamlined underwriting. The difference is, in this case, a community, not an individual, would be the policy holder.

Now, this brings me to a very important potential benefit of this approach:

increased incentives for communities to take affirmative actions to mitigate the threat from floods in the community. Now, while an individual flood insurance holder has absolutely no incentive or means to, say, build stronger levees or dikes, a community policyholder would have the means and incentives to take those kinds of precautions. In theory, under this model, the homeowner would pay insurance like a utility bill on a monthly or quarterly basis.

Finally, I want to point out that there is precedent for this idea. Under current regulations, FEMA could issue group flood insurance policies. The program was limited, but it was successful. This bill only adds that FEMA examine the cost and benefits of using this approach on an ongoing basis as an option for communities.

I urge all my House colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. BIGGERT. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6186.

The question was taken.

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

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

FHA EMERGENCY FISCAL SOLVENCY ACT OF 2012

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4264) to help ensure the fiscal solvency of the FHA mortgage insurance programs of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4264

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “FHA Emergency Fiscal Solvency Act of 2012”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.
- Sec. 2. FHA annual mortgage insurance premiums.
- Sec. 3. Indemnification by FHA mortgagees.
- Sec. 4. Early period delinquencies.
- Sec. 5. Semiannual actuarial studies of MMIF during periods of capital depletion.
- Sec. 6. Delegation of FHA insuring authority.
- Sec. 7. Authority to terminate FHA mortgagee origination and underwriting approval.

Sec. 8. Authorization to participate in the origination of FHA-insured loans.

Sec. 9. Reporting of mortgagee actions taken against other mortgagees.

Sec. 10. Default and origination information by loan servicer and originating direct endorsement lender.

Sec. 11. Deputy Assistant Secretary of FHA for Risk Management and Regulatory Affairs.

Sec. 12. Establishment of Chief Risk Officer for GNMA.

Sec. 13. Report on mortgage servicers.

Sec. 14. FHA emergency capital plan.

Sec. 15. FHA safety and soundness review.

Sec. 16. FHA disclosure standards.

Sec. 17. Report on streamlining FHA programs.

Sec. 18. Budget compliance.

SEC. 2. FHA ANNUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE PREMIUMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 203(c)(2) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(c)(2)(B)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding clause (i)—
(A) by striking “may” and inserting “shall”;

(B) by striking “not exceeding 1.5 percent” and inserting “not less than 0.55 percent”; and

(C) by inserting “and not exceeding 2.0 percent of such remaining insured principal balance” before “for the following periods:”; and

(2) in clause (ii), by striking “1.55 percent” and inserting “2.05 percent”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) take effect upon the expiration of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. INDEMNIFICATION BY FHA MORTGAGEES.

Section 202 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1708) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(i) INDEMNIFICATION BY MORTGAGEES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary determines that the mortgagee knew, or should have known, of a serious or material violation of the requirements established by the Secretary with respect to a mortgage executed by a mortgagee approved by the Secretary under the direct endorsement program or insured by a mortgagee pursuant to the delegation of authority under section 256 such that the mortgage loan should not have been approved and endorsed for insurance, and the Secretary pays an insurance claim with respect to the mortgage within a reasonable period specified by the Secretary, the Secretary may require the mortgagee approved by the Secretary under the direct endorsement program or the mortgagee delegated authority under section 256 to indemnify the Secretary for the loss, irrespective of whether the violation caused the mortgage default.

“(2) FRAUD OR MISREPRESENTATION.—If fraud or misrepresentation was involved in connection with the origination or underwriting and the Secretary determines that the mortgagee knew or should have known of the fraud or misrepresentation, the Secretary shall require the mortgagee approved by the Secretary under the direct endorsement program or the mortgagee delegated authority under section 256 to indemnify the Secretary for the loss regardless of when an insurance claim is paid.

“(3) APPEALS PROCESS.—The Secretary shall, by regulation, establish an appeals process for mortgagees to appeal indemnification determinations made pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2).

“(4) REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES.—The Secretary shall issue regulations establishing appropriate requirements and procedures governing the indemnification of the

Secretary by the mortgagee, including public reporting on—

“(A) the number of loans that—

“(i) were not originated or underwritten in accordance with the requirements established by the Secretary; and

“(ii) involved fraud or misrepresentation in connection with the origination or underwriting; and

“(B) the financial impact on the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund when indemnification is required.”.

SEC. 4. EARLY PERIOD DELINQUENCIES.

Subsection (a) of section 202 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1708(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(8) PROGRAMMATIC REVIEW OF EARLY PERIOD DELINQUENCIES.—The Secretary shall establish and maintain a program—

“(A) to review the cause of each early period delinquency on a mortgage that is an obligation of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund;

“(B) to require indemnification of the Secretary for a loss associated with any such early period delinquency that is the result of a material violation, as determined by the Secretary, of any provision, regulation, or other guideline established or promulgated pursuant to this title; and

“(C) to publicly report—

“(i) a summary of the results of all early period delinquencies reviewed under subparagraph (A);

“(ii) any indemnifications required under subparagraph (B); and

“(iii) the financial impact on the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund of any such indemnifications.

“(9) DEFINITION OF EARLY PERIOD DELINQUENCY.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘early period delinquency’ means, with respect to a mortgage, that the mortgage becomes 90 or more days delinquent within 24 months of the origination of such mortgage.”.

SEC. 5. SEMIANNUAL ACTUARIAL STUDIES OF MMIF DURING PERIODS OF CAPITAL DEPLETION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (4) of section 202(a) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1708(a)(4)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by inserting “except as provided in subparagraph (B),” after “to be conducted annually.”;

(2) in the second sentence, by inserting “, except as provided in subparagraph (B),” after “annually.”;

(3) by striking the paragraph designation and heading and all that follows through “The Secretary shall provide” and inserting the following:

“(4) INDEPENDENT ACTUARIAL STUDY.—

“(A) ANNUAL STUDY.—The Secretary shall provide”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(B) SEMIANNUAL STUDIES DURING PERIODS OF CAPITAL DEPLETION.—During any period that the Fund fails to maintain sufficient capital to comply with the capital ratio requirement under section 205(f)(2)—

“(i) the independent study required by subparagraph (A) shall be conducted semiannually and shall analyze the financial position of the Fund as of September 30 and March 31 of each fiscal year during such period; and

“(ii) the Secretary shall submit a report meeting the requirements of subparagraph (A) for each such semiannual study.”.

(b) ANALYSIS OF QUARTERLY ACTUARIAL STUDIES.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall conduct an analysis of the cost and feasibility of providing for an independent actuarial study of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund on a cal-

endar quarterly basis, which shall compare the cost and feasibility of conducting such a study on a quarterly basis as compared to a semi-annual basis and shall determine whether such an actuarial study can be conducted on a quarterly basis without substantial additional costs to the taxpayers. Not later than the expiration of the 90-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress setting forth the findings and conclusion of the analysis conducted pursuant to this subsection.

SEC. 6. DELEGATION OF FHA INSURING AUTHORITY.

Section 256 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–21) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (c);

(2) in subsection (e), by striking “, including” and all that follows through “by the mortgagee”; and

(3) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively.

SEC. 7. AUTHORITY TO TERMINATE FHA MORTGAGE ORIGINATION AND UNDERWRITING APPROVAL.

Section 533 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1735f–11) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of subsection (b), by inserting “or areas or on a nationwide basis” after “area” each place such term appears; and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking “(c)” and all that follows through “The Secretary” in the first sentence of paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(c) TERMINATION OF MORTGAGEE ORIGINATION AND UNDERWRITING APPROVAL.—

“(1) TERMINATION AUTHORITY.—If the Secretary determines, under the comparison provided in subsection (b), that a mortgagee has a rate of early defaults and claims that is excessive, the Secretary may terminate the approval of the mortgagee to originate or underwrite single family mortgages for any area, or areas, or on a nationwide basis, notwithstanding section 202(c) of this Act.

“(2) PROCEDURE.—The Secretary”.

SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ORIGINATION OF FHA-INSURED LOANS.

(a) SINGLE FAMILY MORTGAGES.—Section 203(b) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(b)) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following new paragraph:

“(1) Have been made to a mortgagee approved by the Secretary or to a person or entity authorized by the Secretary under section 202(d)(1) to participate in the origination of the mortgage, and be held by a mortgagee approved by the Secretary as responsible and able to service the mortgage properly.”.

(b) HOME EQUITY CONVERSION MORTGAGES.—Section 255(d) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20(d)) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following new paragraph:

“(1) have been originated by a mortgagee approved by, or by a person or entity authorized under section 202(d)(1) to participate in the origination by, the Secretary;”.

SEC. 9. REPORTING OF MORTGAGEE ACTIONS TAKEN AGAINST OTHER MORTGAGEES.

Section 202 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1708), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(j) NOTIFICATION OF MORTGAGEE ACTIONS.—The Secretary shall require each mortgagee, as a condition for approval by the Secretary to originate or underwrite mortgages on single family or multifamily housing that are insured by the Secretary, if such mortgagee engages in the purchase of mortgages insured by the Secretary and

originated by other mortgagees or in the purchase of the servicing rights to such mortgages, and such mortgagee at any time takes action to terminate or discontinue such purchases from another mortgagee based on any determination or evidence of fraud or material misrepresentation in connection with the origination of such mortgages, to notify the Secretary of the action taken and the reasons for such action not later than 15 days after taking such action.”.

SEC. 10. DEFAULT AND ORIGINATION INFORMATION BY LOAN SERVICER AND ORIGINATING DIRECT ENDORSEMENT LENDER.

(a) COLLECTION OF INFORMATION.—Paragraph (2) of section 540(b) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1712 U.S.C. 1735f–18(b)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) For each entity that services insured mortgages, data on the number of claims paid to each servicing mortgagee during each calendar quarter occurring during the applicable collection period.”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—Information described in subparagraph (C) of section 540(b)(2) of the National Housing Act, as added by subsection (a) of this section, shall first be made available under such section 540 for the applicable collection period (as such term is defined in such section) relating to the first calendar quarter ending after the expiration of the 12-month period that begins on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 11. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF FHA FOR RISK MANAGEMENT AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF POSITION.—Subsection (b) of section 4 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3533(b)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “(1)” after “(b)”; and

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

“(2) There shall be in the Department, within the Federal Housing Administration, a Deputy Assistant Secretary for Risk Management and Regulatory Affairs, who shall be appointed by the Secretary and shall be responsible to the Federal Housing Commissioner for all matters relating to managing and mitigating risk to the mortgage insurance funds of the Department and ensuring the performance of mortgages insured by the Department.”.

(b) TERMINATION.—Upon the appointment of the initial Deputy Assistant Secretary for Risk Management and Regulatory Affairs pursuant to section 4(b)(2) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Act, as amended by subsection (a) of this section, the position of chief risk officer within the Federal Housing Administration, filled by appointment by the Federal Housing Commissioner, is abolished.

SEC. 12. ESTABLISHMENT OF CHIEF RISK OFFICER FOR GNMA.

Section 4 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3533) is amended by adding after subsection (g), as added by section 1442 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Public Law 111–203; 124 Stat. 2163), the following new subsection:

“(h) There shall be in the Department a Chief Risk Officer for the Government National Mortgage Association, who shall—

“(1) be designated by the Secretary;

“(2) be responsible to the President of the Association for all matters related to evaluating, managing, and mitigating risk to the programs of the Association;

“(3) be in the competitive service or the senior executive service;

“(4) be a career appointee;

“(5) be designated from among individuals who possess demonstrated ability in general

management of, and knowledge of and extensive practical experience in risk evaluation practices in large governmental or business entities; and

“(6) shall not be required to obtain the prior approval, comment, or review of any officer or agency of the United States before submitting to the Congress, or any committee or subcommittee thereof, any reports, recommendations, testimony, or comments if such submission include a statement indicating that the views expressed therein are those of the Chief Risk Officer of the Association and do not necessarily represent the views of the Secretary.”.

SEC. 13. REPORT ON MORTGAGE SERVICERS.

(a) EXAMINATION.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall conduct an examination into mortgage servicer compliance with the loan servicing, loss mitigation, and insurance claim submission guidelines of the FHA mortgage insurance programs under the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), and an estimate of the annual costs to the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund, since 2008, resulting from any failures by mortgage servicers to comply with such guidelines.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than the expiration of the 120-day period that begins upon the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress on the results of the examination conducted pursuant to subsection (a), including recommendations for any administrative and legislative actions to improve mortgage servicer compliance with the guidelines referred to in subsection (a).

SEC. 14. FHA EMERGENCY CAPITAL PLAN.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than the expiration of the 30-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall develop, submit to the Congress, and commence implementation of an emergency capital plan for the restoration of the fiscal solvency of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund (in this section referred to as the “Fund”).

(b) CONTENTS.—The emergency capital plan developed pursuant to this section shall—

(1) provide a detailed explanation of the processes and controls by which amounts of capital that are assets of the Fund are monitored and tracked;

(2) establish a plan to ensure the financial safety and soundness of the Fund that avoids the need for borrowing amounts from the Treasury of the United States to meet obligations of the Fund; and

(3) describe the procedure by which, if necessary, any amounts from the Treasury needed to meet obligations of the Fund will be obtained from the Treasury.

(c) MONTHLY REPORTS.—

(1) REPORTS.—Subject to paragraph (3), upon the conclusion of each calendar month ending after the 14-day period that begins on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall submit to the Congress a report assessing the financial status of the Fund at the conclusion of such month and setting forth the information described in paragraph (2).

(2) CONTENTS.—Each report required under paragraph (1) for a month shall contain the following information regarding the Fund as of the conclusion of such month:

(A) The number of mortgages that are obligations of the Fund that are 60 or more days delinquent, the expected losses to the Fund associated with such delinquent mortgages, and the methodology used to make such calculation.

(B) The number of mortgages that are obligations of the Fund that have a loan-to-value ratio at the time of origination that is

less than 80 percent and the percentage of all mortgages that are obligations of the Fund having such a ratio.

(C) The number of mortgages that are obligations of the Fund that had an original principal obligation exceeding 125 percent of the median house price, for a home of the size of the residence subject to the mortgage, for the area in which such residence is located, and the percentage of all mortgages that are obligations of the Fund having such an original principal obligation.

(D) The number of mortgages that are obligations of the Fund for which the mortgagor’s income at the time of origination of the mortgage is greater than the median income for the area in which the residence subject to the mortgage is located, and the percentage of all mortgages that are obligations of the Fund for which the mortgagor has such an income.

(E) The balances for the financing and capital reserve accounts of the Fund.

(F) Any actions taken during such month to help ensure the financial soundness of the Fund and compliance with section 205(f) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1711(f); relating to a capital ratio requirement).

(3) TERMINATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—The requirement to submit reports under paragraph (1) shall terminate on the first date after the date of the enactment of this Act that the Fund attains a capital ratio (as such term is defined in section 205(f)(3) of the National Housing Act) of 2.0 percent.

SEC. 15. FHA SAFETY AND SOUNDNESS REVIEW.

(a) REVIEW.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall provide for an independent third party to—

(1) conduct a one-time review of the mortgage insurance programs and funds of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development that shall determine, as of the time of such review—

(A) the financial safety and soundness of such programs and funds; and

(B) the extent of loan loss reserves and capital adequacy of such programs and funds; and

(2) to submit a report under subsection (b). Such review shall be conducted in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applicable to the private sector and Federal entities.

(b) REPORT.—The report under this subsection shall describe the methodology and standards used to conduct the review under subsection (a)(1), set forth the results and findings of the review, including the extent of loan loss reserves and capital adequacy of the mortgage insurance programs and funds of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and include recommendations regarding restoring such reserves and capital to maintain such programs and funds in a safe and sound condition.

(c) TIMING.—The review required under subsection (a) shall be completed, and the report required under subsection (b) shall be submitted, not later than the expiration of the 60-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to alter or affect, or exempt the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development from complying with, any laws, regulations, or guidance relating to preparation or submission of budgets or audits or financial or management statements or reports.

SEC. 16. FHA DISCLOSURE STANDARDS.

Not later than the expiration of the 90-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall review and revise all standards and requirements relating

to disclosure of information regarding the mortgage insurance programs and funds, including actuarial studies conducted under section 202(a)(4) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1708(a)(4)), quarterly reports under section 202(a)(5) of such Act, and annual audited financial statements under section 538 of such Act (12 U.S.C. 1735f-16), to ensure that, after the date of the enactment of this Act, such disclosures—

(1) provide meaningful financial and other information that is timely, comprehensive, and accurate;

(2) do not contain any material misstatements or misrepresentations;

(3) make available all relevant information; and

(4) prohibit material omissions that make the contents of the disclosure misleading.

SEC. 17. REPORT ON STREAMLINING FHA PROGRAMS.

(a) EXAMINATION.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall conduct an examination of the mortgage insurance and any other programs of the Federal Housing Administration to identify—

(1) the level of use and need for such programs;

(2) any such programs that are unused or underused; and

(3) methods for streamlining, consolidating, simplifying, increasing the efficiency of, and reducing the number of such programs.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than the expiration of the 12-month period that begins upon the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress on the results of the examination conducted pursuant to subsection (a), including recommendations for any administrative and legislative actions to streamline, consolidate, simplify, increase the efficiency of, and reduce the number of such programs.

SEC. 18. BUDGET COMPLIANCE.

The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall allocate \$2,500,000 from the account for Administrative Contract Expenses each fiscal year through September 30, 2017, which amounts shall be available only for the purposes of this Act and the amendments made by this Act, including such additional actuarial reviews as may be required by section 5 of this Act and the amendments made by such section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) and the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and add extraneous material on this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4264, the FHA Emergency Fiscal Solvency Act of 2012, will provide the tools necessary to ensure the financial soundness of the Federal Housing Administration, or FHA. Right now, FHA is well below its mandatory 2 percent capital reserve with only .24 percent to cover losses.

The administration’s fiscal year 2013 budget recently admitted that the FHA

may need a \$688 million taxpayer bailout because of the depleted capital reserve fund. Last Friday, September 7, HUD issued its FHA quarterly report, which said that it anticipates increased foreclosures, claim activity, and related expenditures.

The FHA has had an abysmal fiscal track record and, to top it off, recent data furnished by the GAO confirmed that the FHA represents about 75 percent of the insured mortgage market. FHA is a government program that has put taxpayers at significant risk and flies in the face of private capital returning to the housing financial market.

The FHA Emergency Fiscal Solvency Act will provide FHA with the tools that it needs to shore up the program, lower the program's risk, and reduce taxpayers' liabilities.

The bill would establish for the first time a minimum annual premium of 55 basis points and allow FHA to charge up to 2.05 percent. It would strengthen FHA's ability to recoup losses from lenders for fraudulent, misrepresented and early delinquent loans, and it would allow FHA on a nationwide basis to terminate bad lenders. It also codifies the position of FHA Deputy Assistant Secretary for Risk and establishes a chief risk officer for Ginnie Mae.

These are commonsense targeted changes that would ensure accountability and financial stability within the FHA. On March 27, the Financial Services Committee unanimously passed this bill, and I would urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4264.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I believe that H.R. 4264 will further strengthen and protect the MMI fund, and I would urge all Members to adopt this resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. BIGGERT. I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4264, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL CENTURY OF SERVICE COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2139) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the

establishment of Lions Clubs International, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2139

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Lions Clubs International Century of Service Commemorative Coin Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds as follows:

(1) Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization founded in 1917 by Chicago business leader Melvin Jones. Lions Clubs International empowers volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions clubs.

(2) Today, Lions Clubs International has over 1.35 million members in more than 45,000 clubs globally, extending its mission of service throughout the world every day.

(3) In 1945, Lions Clubs International became one of the first nongovernmental organizations invited to assist in drafting the United Nations Charter and has enjoyed a special relationship with the United Nations ever since.

(4) In 1968, Lions Clubs International Foundation was established to assist with global and large-scale local humanitarian projects and has since then awarded more than \$700 million to fund five unique areas of service: preserving sight, combating disability, promoting health, serving youth and providing disaster relief.

(5) In 1990, the Lions Clubs International Foundation launched the SightFirst program to build comprehensive eye care systems to fight the major causes of blindness and care for the blind or visually impaired. Thanks to the generosity of Lions worldwide, over \$415 million has been raised, resulting in the prevention of serious vision loss in 30 million people and improved eye care for hundreds of millions of people.

(6) On June 7, 2017, Lions Clubs International will celebrate 100 years of community service to men, women, and children in need throughout the world.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) \$1 SILVER COINS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall mint and issue not more than 400,000 \$1 coins in commemoration of the centennial of the founding of the Lions Clubs International, each of which shall—

- (1) weigh 26.73 grams;
- (2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and
- (3) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the centennial of the Lions Clubs International.

(2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

- (A) a designation of the value of the coin;
- (B) an inscription of the year "2017"; and

(C) inscriptions of the words "Liberty", "In God We Trust", "United States of America", and "E Pluribus Unum".

(b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

(1) chosen by the Secretary after consultation with Lions Clubs International Special Centennial Planning Committee and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) MINT FACILITY.—Only one facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this Act.

(c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins under this Act only during the calendar year beginning on January 1, 2017.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

- (1) the face value of the coins;
- (2) the surcharge provided in section 7 with respect to such coins; and
- (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

(b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this Act shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Lions Clubs International Foundation for the purposes of—

(1) furthering its programs for the blind and visually impaired in the United States and abroad;

(2) investing in adaptive technologies for the disabled; and

(3) investing in youth and those affected by a major disaster.

(c) AUDITS.—The Lions Clubs International Foundation shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts received under subsection (b).

(d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin would result in the number of commemorative coin programs issued during such year to exceed the annual 2 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code. The Secretary may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.

The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that—

(1) minting and issuing coins under this Act will not result in any net cost to the United States Government; and

(2) no funds, including applicable surcharges, shall be disbursed to any recipient

designated in section 7 until the total cost of designing and issuing all of the coins authorized by this Act (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the United States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 9. BUDGET COMPLIANCE.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DOLD) and the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and add extraneous material on this bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 2139, the Lions Clubs International Century of Service Commemorative Coin Act.

Mr. Speaker, this bill, which authorizes the minting and issuing of commemorative coins in 2017, celebrates the 100th anniversary of the world's largest service club organization, Lions Clubs International. Lions Clubs International empowers volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace, and promote international understanding through service in Lions Clubs.

□ 1650

The Lions Club was established, Mr. Speaker, in 1917 by Chicago business leader Melvin Jones after he posed this simple question to his local business club: "What if people put their talents to work improving their communities?" Now headquartered in Oak Brook, Illinois, the organization has grown over the years from that simple question, Mr. Speaker, to 46,000 clubs and 1.35 million members globally. In that time, the Lions Club has organized local youth programs, taken up the banner to try to eradicate blindness, and participated in the drafting of the United Nations charter.

The Lions Club has worked in countless ways to improve the lives of people all over the world, Mr. Speaker. Here are just a few of the highlights from this storied and generous organization. In 1925, Helen Keller addressed the Lions Club at their international convention in Cedar Point, Ohio. She chal-

lenged them to become the "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness." The Lions embraced this challenge and have since helped in the effort to save the sight of more than 15 million children through eye screenings, glasses, and other treatments. They have established eye care centers that have reached more than 120 million children and prevented serious vision loss for more than 30 million worldwide.

In 1945, the Lions Club became the first nongovernmental organization invited to assist in the drafting of the United Nations charter. Since then, the Lions Club has worked closely with the United Nations, providing aid and manpower for the United Nations Children's Fund; the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization; and the World Health Organization.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation does not merely recognize the accomplishments of Lions all over the world. The people who voluntarily buy Lions Club coins each will pay a surcharge on top of the cost of producing and marketing the coin. The coins will be sold at a price which will recover all taxpayer costs, and the surcharges go to the Lions Club to further its work.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation recognizes and celebrates the accomplishments of a truly selfless organization and all of its members, who give so much of themselves each and every day. I am proud to be one of the 292 cosponsors of this bill and of the 69 senators who have sponsored the companion bill introduced by my good friend, Senator MORAN of Kansas. I look forward to its swift passage in this House and over in the Senate, and I want to make sure that it gets to the President's desk for signature.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MOORE. I am so happy to be able to speak affirmatively about this legislation. I'm really impressed with the storied history of the Lions and their dynamic history, where they serve in more than 200 countries and geographic areas. I am particularly struck by their service and stewardship to our young people across the world, and I'm so proud to be a cosponsor of this legislation. I would urge all Members to support this resolution.

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

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to another Member from the State of Illinois, the chief deputy whip, (Mr. ROSKAM).

Mr. ROSKAM. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Today is a day when we can celebrate accomplishment in the private sector and in the volunteer sector, and to celebrate a rich history and a century of accomplishment—accomplishment that is borne of service to one another.

The gentleman from Illinois a minute ago gave a brief history of the Lions Club International. I am honored

to serve as the representative for the Lions Club International headquarters. They're an organization that not only, as was previously mentioned, has an impact here in the United States but has had an impact around the world. And I would argue that if you have an impact on vision for children, if you have an impact on vision for others, you're not just having an impact on that family but you're having a generational impact.

And so here we are today, celebrating the Lions Club International as they're on the cusp of a new century. So there's a lot to celebrate. There's a lot to be proud of here. And I want to thank also Chairman BACHUS and Ranking Member FRANK and the staff of the Financial Services Committee and the Lions around the world who reached out and built a constituency for this legislation today. I am a strong supporter, and I am pleased to be a part of this bipartisan effort.

I urge its passage.

Mr. DOLD. I just want to wrap up by saying it is indeed an honor to be able to stand up here in a bipartisan way to pay tribute to literally the millions of members of the Lions Club that are doing such great work all across the globe.

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

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,

Washington, DC, August 1, 2012.

Hon. SPENCER BACHUS,

Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,

Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BACHUS, I am writing concerning H.R. 2139, the "Lions Clubs International Century of Service Commemorative Coin Act," which is scheduled for floor action the week of July 30, 2012.

As you know, the Committee on Ways and Means maintains jurisdiction over matters that concern raising revenue. H.R. 2139 contains a provision that establishes a surcharge for the sale of commemorative coins that are minted under the bill, and this falls within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means.

However, as part of our ongoing understanding regarding commemorative coin bills and in order to expedite this bill for floor consideration, the Committee will forgo action. This is being done with the understanding that it does not in any way prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation in the future.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 2139, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration.

Sincerely,

DAVE CAMP,

Chairman.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,

Washington, DC, August 1, 2012.

Hon. DAVE CAMP,

Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CAMP, I am writing in response to your letter regarding H.R. 2139,

Lions Clubs International Century of Service Commemorative Coin Act, which is scheduled for Floor consideration under suspension of the rules on Wednesday, August 1, 2012.

I wish to confirm our mutual understanding on this bill. As you know, section 7 of the bill establishes a surcharge for the sale of commemorative coins that are minted under the bill. I acknowledge your committee's jurisdictional interest in such surcharges as revenue matters and appreciate your willingness to forgo action by the Committee on Ways and Means on H.R. 2139 in order to allow the bill to come to the Floor expeditiously. Also, I agree that your decision to forgo further action on this bill will not prejudice the Committee on Ways and Means with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation. Therefore, I would support your request for conferees on those provisions within your jurisdiction should this bill be the subject of a House-Senate conference.

I will include this exchange of letters in the Congressional Record when this bill is considered by the House. Thank you again for your assistance and if you should need anything further, please do not hesitate to contact Natalie McGarry of my staff at 202-225-7502.

Sincerely,

SPENCER BACHUS,
Chairman.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, August 1, 2012.

Hon. DAVE CAMP,

Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CAMP: I am writing in response to your letter regarding H.R. 2139, Lions Clubs International Century of Service Commemorative Coin Act, which is scheduled for Floor consideration under suspension of the rules on Wednesday, August 1, 2012.

I wish to confirm our mutual understanding on this bill. As you know, section 7 of the bill establishes a surcharge for the sale of commemorative coins that are minted under the bill. I acknowledge your committee's jurisdictional interest in such surcharges as revenue matters and appreciate your willingness to forego action by the Committee on Ways and Means on H.R. 2139 in order to allow the bill to come to the Floor expeditiously. Also, I agree that your decision to forego further action on this bill will not prejudice the Committee on Ways and Means with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation. Therefore, I would support your request for conferees on those provisions within your jurisdiction should this bill be the subject of a House-Senate conference.

I will include this exchange of letters in the Congressional Record when this bill is considered by the House. Thank you again for your assistance and if you should need anything further, please do not hesitate to contact Natalie McGarry of my staff at 202-225-7502.

Sincerely,

SPENCER BACHUS,
Chairman.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DOLD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2139, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

REVISING AUTHORITY OF LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS TO ACCEPT GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6122) to revise the authority of the Librarian of Congress to accept gifts and bequests on behalf of the Library, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6122

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

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY OF LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS TO ACCEPT GIFTS AND BEQUESTS.

(a) EXPANDING TYPES OF GIFTS THAT MAY BE ACCEPTED.—The first undesignated paragraph of section 4 of the Act entitled “An Act to create a Library of Congress Trust Fund Board, and for other purposes”, approved March 3, 1925 (2 U.S.C. 160), is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking “in the name of the United States” and all that follows and inserting the following: “in the name of the United States and in the interest of the Library, its collections, or its service, gifts or bequests of money for immediate disbursement, personal property valued at \$25,000 or less, nonpersonal services, or voluntary and uncompensated personal services.”;

(2) in the second sentence, by inserting “of money” after “bequests”; and

(3) in the third sentence, by striking “enter them” and inserting “enter the gift, bequest, or proceeds”.

(b) TREATMENT OF GIFTS OF SECURITIES.—The first undesignated paragraph of section 4 of such Act (2 U.S.C. 160) is amended by inserting after the first sentence the following new sentence: “In the case of a gift of securities, the Librarian shall sell the gift and provide the donor with a receipt from the proceeds of the sale.”.

(c) PUBLIC REPORT ON ACCEPTED GIFTS.—Section 4 of such Act (2 U.S.C. 160) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of the first undesignated paragraph, by striking “Nothing” and inserting “(a) ACCEPTANCE AND DISBURSEMENT OF GIFTS.—Nothing”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(b) PUBLIC REPORT ON ACCEPTED GIFTS.—In each Annual Report of the Library of Congress, the Librarian of Congress shall include a description of each gift or bequest accepted under this section during the year involved which is valued at \$1,000 or more.”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6122 to revise the authority of the Librarian of Congress to accept gifts and bequests on behalf of the Library, and for other purposes. This bill simply authorizes the Librarian of Congress to accept nonmonetary gifts of securities, personal property valued at \$25,000 or less, and voluntary and uncompensated personal services. The Librarian is required to disclose a description of each gift or bequest valued at \$1,000 or more in the Annual Report of the Library of Congress.

Over its history, the Library has been offered various types of donations that it has not had authority to accept. These would include donations of IT equipment, audiovisual equipment, and volunteer services outside of the American Folklife Center or the Center for the Book. While the Library is currently authorized to accept monetary gifts, this bill authorizes benevolent individuals to give back to the Library in other ways that would be beneficial to the Library's mission and therefore to this Congress and to the United States.

I would urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 6122, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of legislation to authorize the Library of Congress to accept certain gifts on behalf of the Library. Expanding the Librarian's authority to accept gifts other than money is in the best interests of the Library. Occasionally, the Library is offered gifts that would be beneficial but which the Librarian cannot today accept, such as voluntary personal services or vintage equipment needed to play old movies or audio recordings.

Further, the bill authorizes the Librarian to accept gifts of marketable securities for immediate disbursement and other personal property valued at \$25,000 or less. In this budgetary era, authority to accept and make good use of such donations will serve the Library well.

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

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I would ask all Members to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HARRIS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6122.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

□ 1700

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

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

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 406

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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

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

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 132

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

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

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

SEC. 2. ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF CERTAIN HOUSE DOCUMENTS.

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

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

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

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

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

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

□ 1710

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

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

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

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

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I have no more requests for time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO) for as much time as he may consume.

Mr. SERRANO. First of all, I want to thank the chairman and the ranking member for bringing this bill to the floor.

In 2001, I sponsored the original resolution which created the "Hispanic Americans in Congress" book. And to some folks watching this debate, that may not be the most important bill we will debate in the next couple of days—or it may be, for that matter—but on the other hand, when you really think of the historic nature of this resolution and what happened in 2001, where this book became a very big item in libraries and communities throughout the Nation—in fact, Members of Congress received a lot of mail and phone calls at that time asking for copies, and of course it was a very limited amount.

Now, this resolution would allow for a growth in that number, but most importantly, dealing with the world we deal in today, this resolution allows for a digital copy to be made available. Now, I don't know the specific language of the bill, but I would imagine that any American then can take that digital copy and make their own copy, and so libraries and schools and individuals will be able to make that number grow. And it's important to know why that is an important thing to do.

"Women in Congress," "African Americans in Congress," "Hispanic Americans in Congress" was simply a way for people to say we have a lot of information about these particular communities in terms of what they've done in sports, in show business, in business, but there's little information—very little—as to what has happened in Congress since the beginning of time of our Republic. So this book, when it first came out, was really something that incurred a lot of research and brought about a lot of discussion because people just did not know how long back there had been Hispanic Americans in Congress.

Finally, with the growth of the Latino leadership community, with the fact that when this book first came out, to be honest, it was really a book about this side of the aisle, now the next book will be about a wide side of the aisle, both sides, because it has grown dramatically, and we suspect after the next election the number will even grow more dramatically.

So I thank you both for bringing this resolution up. I hope all Members vote for it unanimously and we can get the book printed as soon as possible.

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

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 132.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ACCEPTANCE OF STATUE OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS FOR PLACEMENT IN EMANCIPATION HALL

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6336) to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to accept a statue depicting Frederick Douglass from the District of Columbia and to provide for the permanent display of the statue in Emancipation Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6336

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

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Frederick Douglass, born Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey in Maryland in 1818, escaped from slavery and became a leading writer, orator, and publisher, and one of the Nation's most influential advocates for abolitionism, women's suffrage, and the equality of all people.

(2) The contributions of Frederick Douglass over many decades were crucial to the abolition of slavery, the passage of the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution of the United States, the support for women's suffrage, and the advancement of African-Americans after the Civil War.

(3) After living in New Bedford, Massachusetts, Frederick Douglass resided for 25 years in Rochester, New York, where he published and edited "The North Star", the leading African-American newspaper in the United States, and other publications.

(4) Self-educated, Frederick Douglass wrote several influential books, including his best-selling first autobiography, "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave", published in 1845.

(5) Frederick Douglass worked tirelessly for the emancipation of African-American slaves, was a pivotal figure in Underground Railroad activities, and was an inspiration to enslaved Americans who aspired to freedom.

(6) As a well-known speaker in great demand, Frederick Douglass traveled widely, visiting countries such as England and Ireland, to spread the message of emancipation and equal rights.

(7) Frederick Douglass was the only African-American to attend the Seneca Falls Convention, a women's rights convention held in Seneca Falls, New York in 1848.

(8) During the Civil War, Frederick Douglass recruited African-Americans to volunteer as soldiers for the Union Army, including 2 of his sons, who served nobly in the Fifty-Fourth Massachusetts Regiment.

(9) In 1872, Frederick Douglass moved to Washington, DC, after a fire destroyed his home in Rochester, New York.

(10) Frederick Douglass was appointed as a United States Marshal in 1877 and was named Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia in 1881.

(11) Frederick Douglass became the first African-American to receive a vote for nomination as President of the United States at a major party convention for the 1888 Republican National Convention.

(12) From 1889 to 1891, Frederick Douglass served as minister-resident and consul-general to the Republic of Haiti.

(13) Frederick Douglass was recognized around the world as one of the most important political activists in the history of the United States.

(14) Frederick Douglass died in 1895 in Washington, DC and is buried in Rochester, New York.

(15) Frederick Douglass's achievements and influence on the history of the United States merit recognition in the United States Capitol.

SEC. 2. ACCEPTANCE OF STATUE OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS FOR PLACEMENT IN EMANCIPATION HALL.

(a) ACCEPTANCE.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Joint Committee on the Library shall accept from the District of Columbia the donation of a statue depicting Frederick Douglass, subject to the terms and conditions that the Joint Committee considers appropriate.

(b) PLACEMENT.—The Joint Committee shall place the statue accepted under subsection (a) in a suitable permanent location in Emancipation Hall of the United States Capitol.

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to accept a statue depicting Frederick Douglass from the District of Columbia and to provide for the permanent display of the statue in Emancipation Hall of the United States Capitol."

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6336, a bill that I had the privilege to introduce with my esteemed colleague, the representative from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON). This bill appropriately places a statue of Frederick Douglass into Emancipation Hall in the U.S. Congress.

Frederick Douglass is a pivotal figure in American history who had an unyielding dedication to equal rights,

the abolition of slavery, and the advancement of women's suffrage. In addition to a gripping personal saga detailing his flight from slavery to freedom, Frederick Douglass inspired a nation through both his compelling anti-slavery writings and his rhetoric.

Published in 1845, his eloquent autobiography "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave" undercut pro-slavery arguments. He challenged enslavement, and he inspired individuals seeking their freedom.

After the Civil War, he served in a number of government positions and became the first African American to receive a vote for nomination as President of the United States at the 1888 Republican National Convention—yes, I would repeat, the Republican National Convention. He was a proud Republican.

Mr. Speaker, September 22 marks the 150th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln signing the preliminary proclamation that paved the way for the Emancipation Proclamation to be signed on January 1, 1863. How fitting that a statue honoring Frederick Douglass, a man who brought freedom to so many, will be on display in Emancipation Hall.

In considering the remarkable achievements of Frederick Douglass and his contributions to our rich history, his presence within the U.S. Capitol will honor this institution and serve as an endearing testimony to the struggle for freedom and equality.

I would like to thank again my colleague, the Congresswoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON). I know she, unfortunately, couldn't be here today because I know she has a requirement to teach a class; otherwise, she would be here. But I wanted to thank her for her tireless work to bring this statue to the Capitol, as well as our counterparts in the Senate, the Senate Rules Committee. As many know, Senator SCHUMER introduced the companion legislation in the Senate. I thank my ranking member for his support in this effort.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure, and I look forward to welcoming the statue of Frederick Douglass to Emancipation Hall very soon.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for H.R. 6336, to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to accept the statue of Frederick Douglass and provide for its permanent display in Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center.

Often considered the father of the civil rights movement, Frederick Douglass' place in history was earned with deep-seated courage and an unshakable belief in the equality of all human beings. A former slave, Douglass went on to become one of the most

prominent figures of the movement to free the slaves. His statue should serve as a reminder to millions of visitors to this great place of both how far we've come and how far we still have to go.

Mr. Speaker, I'd also like to thank my chairman, Mr. LUNGREN, for his patience—this was a long time coming—and his negotiations and for his respect, and also for his unyielding cooperation.

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

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

One of the great things about Frederick Douglass is that he inspired a nation not only by the example of his lifetime in releasing the bonds of slavery and becoming a free man, but he was self-educated. He was a great orator, a great writer, a great inspiration to this country.

There's not too many people that you can talk about that actually can take credit, tremendous credit, for the passage of three amendments to the U.S. Constitution—13th, 14th, and 15th. There's not many people who were on the right side of history in such a tremendous way, someone who not only worked to encourage African Americans to fight in the Civil War on the side of freedom, but also later on to work to ensure that the message of freedom that was the promise of both our Declaration of Independence and our Constitution was embodied specifically in the Constitution by these amendments.

He was a powerful man who was very proud of his history and proud of his place in history in terms of leading a political movement and showing that African Americans were not just freed slaves that somehow got their freedom at the suffrage of the other members of society, but that they fought for it, they struggled for it, and they had both physical courage and intellectual power that inspired the Nation to recognize the fact that we had fallen so far short of the promise of our Constitution and the Declaration of Independence.

□ 1720

I'm afraid that too many young people today don't know the story of Frederick Douglass. In a small way, this may help to rekindle the interest in Frederick Douglass so that when the young people come here to this Capitol, as they often do, and they look at the statues and they ask who is that and what did he do or what did she do, people can now look proudly to the statue of Frederick Douglass and explain what it is he did and why his powerful legacy is still an inspiration to all of us today.

So I would hope that our Members would unanimously support this legislation and that we would soon see Frederick Douglass return to the United States Capitol in this way.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 6336, and to express my deep gratitude to Chairman DAN LUNGREN for introducing the bill, for consulting with me on it, and for bringing it to the House floor. I would also like to thank Senator DICK DURBIN for including a provision in the Senate Appropriations Committee-passed fiscal year 2013 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill to place the Frederick Douglass statue in the U.S. Capitol and Senator CHARLES SCHUMER for introducing the Senate companion to H.R. 6336.

The District of Columbia government commissioned the Douglass statue, with the intention of giving it to the American people as a gift to be displayed in the Capitol. Douglass, an iconic leader for equal rights for African Americans and women and an internationally celebrated human rights advocate, spent much of his life as a D.C. resident and served as a local public official. His home in Southeast D.C., which is now the Frederick Douglass National Historic Site, sits only a few miles from the Capitol. Since the statue was completed in 2007, I have been pursuing legislation to have Congress accept the District's gift. When Congress built the Capitol Visitor Center, it named the main room "Emancipation Hall" in honor of the slaves who helped to build the Capitol. Nevertheless, the Capitol still has a long way to go in telling the nation's story, including the role of African Americans in U.S. history. Currently, there are 180 statues and busts in the Capitol, and the Douglass statue would only be the third portraying an African American.

The time has come for the Congress to accept the District of Columbia's gift. I urge the House to pass the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6331, as amended.

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

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to accept a statue depicting Frederick Douglass from the District of Columbia and to provide for the permanent display of the statue in Emancipation Hall of the United States Capitol."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 21 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

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

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5544, MINNESOTA EDUCATION INVESTMENT AND EMPLOYMENT ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5949, FISA AMENDMENTS ACT RE-AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2012

Mr. NUGENT, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 112-660) on the resolution (H. Res. 773) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5544) to authorize and expedite a land exchange involving National Forest System land in the Laurentian District of the Superior National Forest and certain other National Forest System land in the State of Minnesota that has limited recreational and conservation resources and lands owned by the State of Minnesota in trust for the public school system that are largely scattered in the checkerboard fashion within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and have important recreational, scenic, and conservation resources, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5949) to extend the FISA Amendments Act of 2008 for five years, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

- H.R. 6122, by the yeas and nays;
- H.R. 2139, by the yeas and nays;
- H.R. 6186, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

REVISING AUTHORITY OF LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS TO ACCEPT GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6122) to revise the authority of the Librarian of Congress to accept gifts and bequests on behalf of the Library, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 377, nays 0, not voting 52, as follows:

[Roll No. 557]

YEAS—377

Adams	Akin	Amash
Aderholt	Altmire	Amodei

Andrews	Ellison	Lewis (GA)
Austria	Ellmers	Lipinski
Baca	Emerson	LoBiondo
Bachus	Engel	Loeb
Barber	Eshoo	Lofgren, Zoe
Barletta	Farenthold	Long
Barrow	Farr	Lucas
Bartlett	Fattah	Luetkemeyer
Barton (TX)	Fincher	Lujan
Bass (NH)	Fitzpatrick	Lummis
Becerra	Fleischmann	Lungren, Daniel E.
Benishek	Fleming	Lynch
Berg	Forbes	Mack
Berkley	Fortenberry	Mack
Biggert	Fox	Marchant
Bilbray	Frank (MA)	Marino
Bilirakis	Franks (AZ)	Markey
Bishop (GA)	Frelinghuysen	Matheson
Bishop (NY)	Fudge	Matsui
Bishop (UT)	Garamendi	McCarthy (CA)
Black	Gardner	McCarthy (NY)
Blackburn	Garrett	McCauley
Blumenauer	Gerlach	McClintock
Bonamici	Gibson	McCollum
Bonner	Gingrey (GA)	McDermott
Bono Mack	Gonzalez	McGovern
Boren	Goodlatte	McHenry
Boustany	Gosar	McIntyre
Brady (PA)	Gowdy	McKeon
Brady (TX)	Granger	McKinley
Bralley (IA)	Graves (GA)	McMorris
Brooks	Graves (MO)	Rodgers
Brown (FL)	Green, Al	McNerney
Buchanan	Green, Gene	Meehan
Bucshon	Griffin (AR)	Meeks
Buerkle	Griffith (VA)	Mica
Burgess	Grijalva	Michaud
Butterfield	Grimm	Miller (FL)
Calvert	Guinta	Miller (MI)
Camp	Guthrie	Miller (NC)
Campbell	Hahn	Miller, Gary
Canseco	Hall	Moore
Cantor	Hanabusa	Moran
Capito	Hanna	Mulvaney
Capps	Harris	Murphy (CT)
Capuano	Hartzler	Murphy (PA)
Carnahan	Hastings (FL)	Myrick
Carney	Hastings (WA)	Neal
Carson (IN)	Hayworth	Neugebauer
Carter	Heck	Noem
Cassidy	Hensarling	Nugent
Castor (FL)	Herrera Beutler	Nunes
Chabot	Higgins	Nunnelee
Chaffetz	Himes	Olson
Chandler	Hinchee	Olver
Chu	Hinojosa	Owens
Clarke (MI)	Hochul	Palazzo
Clarke (NY)	Holden	Pallone
Clay	Holt	Pascarella
Cleaver	Honda	Paulsen
Clyburn	Hoyer	Pearce
Coffman (CO)	Huelskamp	Pelosi
Cohen	Huizenga (MI)	Pence
Cole	Hultgren	Perlmutter
Conaway	Hunter	Peters
Connelly (VA)	Hurt	Peterson
Conyers	Israel	Petri
Cooper	Issa	Pingree (ME)
Costa	Jackson Lee	Pitts
Costello	(TX)	Poe (TX)
Courtney	Jenkins	Polis
Cravaack	Johnson (GA)	Pompeo
Crawford	Johnson (OH)	Posey
Crenshaw	Johnson, E. B.	Price (GA)
Critz	Johnson, Sam	Price (NC)
Crowley	Jones	Quayle
Cuellar	Jordan	Quigley
Culberson	Kaptur	Rahall
Cummings	Keating	Reed
Davis (CA)	Kelly	Rehberg
Davis (IL)	Kildee	Reichert
DeFazio	Kind	Renaacci
DeGette	King (IA)	Reyes
DeLauro	Kingston	Ribble
Denham	Kissell	Richardson
Dent	Kline	Rigell
DesJarlais	Kucinich	Roby
Deutch	Labrador	Roe (TN)
Diaz-Balart	Lamborn	Rogers (AL)
Dicks	Lance	Rogers (KY)
Dingell	Landry	Rogers (MI)
Doggett	Langevin	Rohrabacher
Dold	Lankford	Rokita
Doyle	Larsen (WA)	Rooney
Dreier	Larson (CT)	Ros-Lehtinen
Duffy	Latham	Roskam
Duncan (SC)	LaTourette	Ross (AR)
Duncan (TN)	Latta	Ross (FL)
Edwards	Levin	Rothman (NJ)

Roybal-Allard	Shuster	Visclosky
Royce	Simpson	Walberg
Runyan	Sires	Walsh (IL)
Ruppersberger	Slaughter	Waltz (MN)
Ryan (OH)	Smith (NE)	Wasserman
Sánchez, Linda T.	Smith (NJ)	Schultz
Sanchez, Loretta	Smith (TX)	Waters
Sarbanes	Smith (WA)	Watt
Scalise	Southerland	Waxman
Schakowsky	Stark	Webster
Schiff	Stearns	Welch
Schilling	Stivers	West
Schmidt	Sullivan	Westmoreland
Schrader	Sutton	Whitfield
Schwartz	Terry	Wilson (SC)
Schweikert	Thompson (CA)	Wittman
Scott (SC)	Thompson (MS)	Wolf
Scott (VA)	Thompson (PA)	Womack
Scott, Austin	Thornberry	Woodall
Scott, David	Tiberi	Woolsey
Sensenbrenner	Tipton	Yarmuth
Serrano	Tonko	McCauley
Sessions	Tsongas	Yoder
Sewell	Turner (NY)	Young (AK)
Sherman	Upton	Young (FL)
Shimkus	Van Hollen	Young (IN)
	Velázquez	

NOT VOTING—52

Ackerman	Gutiérrez	Paul
Alexander	Harper	Platts
Bachmann	Heinrich	Rangel
Baldwin	Herger	Richmond
Bass (CA)	Hirono	Rivera
Berman	Jackson (IL)	Rush
Boswell	Johnson (IL)	Ryan (WI)
Broun (GA)	King (NY)	Schock
Burton (IN)	Kinziger (IL)	Shuler
Ciavarella	Lee (CA)	Speier
Coble	Lewis (CA)	Stutzman
Donnelly (IN)	Lowey	Tierney
Filner	Maloney	Towns
Flake	Manzullo	Turner (OH)
Flores	Miller, George	Walden
Gallegly	Nadler	Wilson (FL)
Gibbs	Napolitano	
Gohmert	Pastor (AZ)	

□ 1853

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 557, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 557 I was unavoidably detained and did not vote. If I had been present, I would have voted "yea."

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL CENTURY OF SERVICE COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas). The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2139) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the establishment of Lions Clubs International, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DOLD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 376, nays 2,

answered "present" 1, not voting 50, as follows:

[Roll No. 558]

YEAS—376

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Altmire
Amodi
Austria
Baca
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Benishiek
Berg
Berkley
Biggert
Billray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Chu
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Clever
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart

Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farenthold
Farr
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxy
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
E.
Lynch
Mack
Marchant
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neal
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Oliver
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quayle
Quigley
Rahall

Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Ribble
Richardson
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Rothman (NJ)
Rothman (TX)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Sanchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schilling

Schmidt
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry

Tiberi
Tipton
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Van Hollen
Visclosky
Walberg
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster
Welch
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NAYS—2

Brady (TX)

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Mulvaney

NOT VOTING—50

Amash
Ackerman
Alexander
Andrews
Bachmann
Baldwin
Berman
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Burton (IN)
Cicilline
Coble
Donnelly (IN)
Finer
Flake
Flores
Gallegly
Gibbs

Gutierrez
Pastor (AZ)
Paul
Platts
Rangel
Richmond
Rivera
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Schock
Shuler
Spier
Tierney
Towns
Velázquez
Walden

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1900

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 558, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

STUDY OF VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY-BASED FLOOD INSURANCE OPTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6186) to require a study of voluntary community-based flood insurance options and how such options could be incorporated into the national flood insurance program, and for other

purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 364, nays 11, not voting 54, as follows:

[Roll No. 559]

YEAS—364

Aderholt
Akin
Altmire
Amodi
Austria
Baca
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berg
Berkley
Biggert
Billray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Chu
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart

Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart (TX)
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Engel
Eshoo
Farenthold
Farr
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Garamendi
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hahn
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind

Honda
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind

Miller, Gary	Roby	Smith (WA)
Moore	Roe (TN)	Southerland
Moran	Rogers (AL)	Stark
Mulvaney	Rogers (KY)	Stearns
Murphy (CT)	Rogers (MI)	Stivers
Murphy (PA)	Rohrabacher	Stutzman
Neal	Rokita	Sullivan
Neugebauer	Ros-Lehtinen	Sutton
Noem	Roskam	Thompson (CA)
Nugent	Ross (AR)	Thompson (MS)
Nunes	Rothman (NJ)	Thompson (PA)
Nunnelee	Roybal-Allard	Thornberry
Olson	Royce	Tipton
Olver	Runyan	Tonko
Owens	Ryan (OH)	Tsongas
Palazzo	Sánchez, Linda	Turner (NY)
Pallone	T.	Turner (OH)
Pascrell	Sanchez, Loretta	Upton
Paulsen	Sarbanes	Van Hollen
Pearce	Scalise	Velázquez
Pelosi	Schakowsky	Visclosky
Pence	Schiff	Walsh (IL)
Perlmutter	Schilling	Walz (MN)
Peters	Schmidt	Wasserman
Peterson	Schrader	Schultz
Petri	Schwartz	Waters
Pingree (ME)	Schweikert	Watt
Pitts	Scott (SC)	Waxman
Platts	Scott (VA)	Webster
Poe (TX)	Scott, Austin	Welch
Polis	Scott, David	West
Pompeo	Sensenbrenner	Westmoreland
Posey	Serrano	Whitfield
Price (GA)	Sessions	Wilson (SC)
Price (NC)	Sewell	Wittman
Quigley	Sherman	Wolf
Rahall	Shimkus	Womack
Reed	Shuster	Woodall
Rehberg	Simpson	Woolsey
Reichert	Sires	Yarmuth
Renacci	Slaughter	Yoder
Reyes	Smith (NE)	Young (AK)
Richardson	Smith (NJ)	Young (FL)
Rigell	Smith (TX)	Young (IN)

NAYS—11

Adams	Miller (MI)	Ross (FL)
Amash	Quayle	Tiberi
Benishek	Ribble	Walberg
Gohmert	Rooney	

NOT VOTING—54

Ackerman	Gibbs	Nadler
Alexander	Gutierrez	Napolitano
Andrews	Harper	Pastor (AZ)
Bachmann	Heinrich	Paul
Baldwin	Hergert	Rangel
Bass (CA)	Hirono	Richmond
Berman	Holden	Rivera
Broun (GA)	Jackson (IL)	Ruppersberger
Burton (IN)	Johnson (IL)	Rush
Canseco	King (NY)	Ryan (WI)
Ciçilline	Kinzinger (IL)	Schock
Cleaver	Lee (CA)	Shuler
Coble	Lewis (CA)	Speier
Donnelly (IN)	Lewis (GA)	Terry
Filner	Lowey	Tierney
Flake	Manzullo	Towns
Flores	Miller, George	Walden
Gallely	Myrick	Wilson (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1906

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 559, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

AMERICA NEEDS REAL SOLUTIONS FOR JOBS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to ad-

dress the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, the Bureau of Labor Statistics released the latest jobs report. For 43 months, our Nation's unemployment rate has remained above 8 percent. Last month, only 96,000 more people found jobs and, sadly, 368,000 people were discouraged and defeated and gave up searching for jobs. To make matters worse, for persons with jobs, the average hourly wages decreased and labor force participation is the lowest in 31 years.

The President's policies have failed to create jobs, failed to encourage economic growth, and failed to reassure hardworking Americans that we can restore hope for American families. The American people deserve better. They deserve leadership in Washington that will fight to create jobs. It is past time for the liberal-controlled Senate to act on the dozens of bipartisan bills the House has passed and approved promoting jobs for American families.

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

MEXICO/CANADA/UNITED STATES ENERGY ALLIANCE

(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, Texans are growing more concerned about the rising cost of gasoline. One lady recently wrote me:

My husband drives a truck. As gas prices rise, so does the cost of diesel. This affects the cost of every single thing we buy. That includes food.

Gasoline prices are the one thing that people should not need to worry about. We have the resources, but Washington keeps them under lock and key. And we still import half our oil from unstable dictators like Chavez and the OPEC monopoly.

Americans can no longer afford to be beholden to the turmoil in the Middle East. So what about this idea?

United States, Mexico, and Canada are rich with God-given natural resources. So working together in a new strategic energy partnership, our three nations could become the world's new energy superpower alliance to compete with OPEC. Let's create an energy supply built to last with our North American allies and finally make OPEC and Middle Eastern dictators irrelevant.

And that's just the way it is.

DON'T CUT THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, just recently it was announced that 50 million Americans experience food insecurity—and experi-

enced it in the last year. What that means is that families in the United States suffer without food. A predominant number of those are single parents and children.

What are we as a country if we allow children to go hungry in this particular great land?

I just came back from Africa, and saw children who are hungry. But yet we were there to encourage better technology to promote agricultural development. But today, this Congress, this House, Republican Congress, is cutting \$16 billion from the Supplemental Nutrition Program. We can do better.

I want to work with this Congress to ensure that 50 million Americans are not hungry in this great land. Let us revisit the cutting of the Supplemental Nutrition Program because our children are begging, they're asking us: Do we care?

We do care. We cannot cut \$15 billion, \$16 billion from the Supplemental Nutrition Program with 50 million Americans experiencing food insecurity—working Americans, Americans with children. The time to stop is now and support those families.

REMEMBERING THE 9/11 ATTACKS

(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, tomorrow our Nation will mark the 11th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. At community gatherings across the country, neighbors will come together to honor the memory of those lost in New York, Pennsylvania, and our Nation's capital, including a ceremony in Bucks County at the 9/11 Garden of Reflection, the official Pennsylvania memorial to the victims of the September 11 attacks.

As I stand before you this evening, I'm reminded of the President's address to the Nation the evening of the attacks. In his remarks to the Nation, the President said that:

Terrorist attacks can shake the foundations of our biggest buildings, but they cannot touch the foundation of America. These acts shatter steel, but they cannot dent the steel of American resolve.

Eleven years later, our resolve has never been stronger, and we continue to honor the memory of those tragically lost that day.

□ 1920

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WOODALL). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. COURTNEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. COURTNEY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Here we are today on September 10, 5 weeks since Speaker BOEHNER pushed

through a motion to recess for 5 weeks at a time when our Nation faces so many challenges, so many ticking clocks in terms of must-do items, some of which have already cleared the U.S. Senate, like the farm bill. And yet despite that need out there from the country, looking for some action and certainty out of this Chamber, the majority again said, Nope. We're going home for 5 weeks. And we're going to leave dairy farmers whose price supports expired on August 31 left hanging in the breeze—despite the fact that the U.S. Senate has passed a farm bill with Dairy Security Act provisions that reforms the price structure, saves the taxpayer money, and provides some horizon so that the folks who are getting up every morning and milking cows could have some certainty in terms of whether or not their business, their operations, have any sense of future.

They are losing money every day in New England. The feed costs, the high energy costs. And the Dairy Security Act, which was part of the Senate farm bill, and by the way was also incorporated in the House Agriculture Committee in its committee bill, will, in fact, provide that sense of security and future for dairy farmers. Yet the Speaker put through a motion to recess for 5 weeks.

August 31 has come and gone, and these guys and women are out there and they are faced with total fear, and those are the faces that I saw when I was home in August about the fact that this Congress, particularly the House of Representatives controlled by the Republicans, refused to take up a farm bill despite the fact that we had weeks of time to do it before the expiration of the price supports for dairy farmers.

Obviously, American agriculture is far broader than just the dairy industry. It also includes commodity crops in the great Midwest, which are facing a historic drought right now where the security of crop insurance is so important.

Joining me here this evening to report in from the Midwest is a great Congressman from eastern Iowa, my colleague and friend, Congressman BRUCE BRALEY, and I would like to yield to him to talk about what the lack of a farm bill means in your great State.

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. I thank my friend for yielding.

The thing that I think we need to focus on at the beginning is 62 days. It's been 62 days since the House Agriculture Committee reported a strong, bipartisan farm bill that passed out of committee after extensive debate and numerous amendments, and that's on the heel of the Senate Ag Committee passing a farm bill with strong bipartisan support, that passed the entire Senate where it's incredibly difficult to pass anything these days with a strong bipartisan vote.

So I think the question on the minds of many of my constituents in Iowa's

First District is when is the House going to vote on a farm bill, which in the past has always been a bipartisan priority of the House and the Senate.

Now, my district in Iowa has been burning up all summer. Almost every part of the First District of Iowa has been classified as extreme drought conditions. Now, what does that mean? Well, I will tell you what it means to the eye when you go out and visit the farms that I visited back in the First District in July and August.

Corn that normally fills up an entire ear, and the ear is typically about this long, now is coming out on ears that are this long that if you're lucky has a fraction of the kernels per ear that you would normally see in a typical Iowa cornfield. Stalks of corn were burning up in July and had to be chopped because they have no value other than the insurance policy that was in place on those crops because commodity insurance has been available to those farmers.

Soybeans were more fortunate because they weren't burning up and got late rain that allowed them to mature, and we're hopeful that the bean crop will not be as devastated to the extent that the corn is.

This is profound, it's real, it's going to have dramatic implications for the cost of food in this country, for the cost of fuel in this country. And while we sit here and do nothing in the House to get a farm bill reported out into conference committee, farmers back in my district are looking at what's going to happen this fall when they face dramatically reduced yields. Then we roll into the period of time this winter when they're buying crop inputs for next spring. All of these things have enormous ripple effects on our domestic economy.

Then you look at what's happening with our nutrition programs, which will also be expiring on September 30. And we know how many people depend on those nutrition programs. Who are they? Most of them are seniors, the elderly, who depend on those food stamp programs. It's people who are disabled and on fixed incomes and working and are underemployed right now.

So this failure to act is having profound consequences for the people I represent in Iowa. I have done 14 listening posts on the farm, food, and jobs bill in Iowa this summer, and we get people from across the spectrum who will be dramatically impacted if Congress fails to act.

You look at the rural economic development title of the farm bill. It has profound implications throughout this country, and it's not based on whether a district is blue or red or purple. Every single district in this country is impacted by our failure to act.

That's why I'm glad to be here tonight talking about these implications, and I hope to be bringing to the floor soon a discharge petition that has been delayed because of the inaction on this bill but that will give every Member of

the House of Representatives the opportunity to go down and record on a piece of paper whether they want to see a farm bill brought to the floor for a vote, an up-or-down vote, and I encourage all of my colleagues to take a serious look at joining me in signing that discharge petition so we finally get action on the long overdue piece of legislation.

Mr. COURTNEY. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. I'll be happy to yield back to my colleague.

Mr. COURTNEY. I think your last point about the fact that we are now at a place where the Democratic minority is finding itself in a position where they really have almost no choice but to seek a discharge petition.

The fact is is that this week the majority, Speaker BOEHNER's office and the House Majority Leader, Congressman CANTOR, issued their agenda for the week which lists the bills that they are proposing to take up for votes. And for those listening around the country, I think it's important to remember that the Republican majority controls that agenda. I mean, that is something that we have no control in our caucus of adding or subtracting.

Looking at that agenda this week, I was hoping when I got back from the 5-week break that the Speaker's office would have responded to what is happening all over the country, which is a hue and cry demanding action on a farm bill.

But the fact is, as I think the gentleman from Iowa knows, is that there is nothing on that agenda that indicates we are going to take up a farm bill this week. Incredible. I mean, just amazing, that, you know, at a time when the American Farm Bureau has been doing a circuit throughout the Midwest holding hearings, holding events, drawing attention to this fact. Even in New England and Connecticut, which is not viewed as a sort of agriculture powerhouse, I mean the fact is I had roundtables with the Connecticut Farm Bureau who are just dumbfounded that an issue like this could get sort of swept up in just sort of the do-nothing record of the Republican majority in this Congress.

I also think it's important for people to remember the Senate farm bill which passed, as the gentleman indicated, on a bipartisan basis actually saves the taxpayers \$23 billion over the next 5 years.

□ 1930

It came in with a lower cost than the baseline from the last farm bill, so it actually helps the deficit situation.

The House Agriculture Committee bill that you mentioned that got reported out also reduces the deficit. Again, I think it went a little too heavy in terms of the reductions on the nutrition side, but I am confident that that can get worked out in a conference committee if the House would take up a bill and send a bill to a conference committee.

But the fact of the matter is is your leadership, in terms of bringing out a discharge petition, is probably not something that you woke up thinking you'd love to do 6 months from now, but it's really an act of necessity because this majority will not even send a signal that anything is even being planned to take up a bill this week.

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. I think the thing that is so disturbing to so many of us who represent parts of rural America that are heavily dependent on agriculture is this has never been a partisan stalemate in the past. Usually, the farm bill bogs down over regional differences over how you structure a bill that's going to get the necessary support to get the necessary votes on the floor. There is strong bipartisan support here in the House among our colleagues.

Earlier, Congressman WELCH initiated a Dear Colleague letter—they got 60 signatures—calling on leadership from both the House Democrats and Republicans to come together, get this bill to the floor, bring it for an up-or-down vote so that people get to see who's willing to put their vote behind crafting a bipartisan bill that can get support and move this country forward. That's the disturbing thing is I'm confident that there would be broad support across this Chamber to get a bill on the floor, to have an amendment process, to allow people to offer amendments to improve the bill. That's what happens in committee. That's what happened in this particular case. But when we can't even get a bill to the floor—and everything we're hearing is that there's no plan to bring a bill to the floor before the election—and then you look at everything that's being pushed back into the so-called lame duck session—which you know, Congressman COURTNEY, is one of the worst times to bring people together with everything going on—it's very frustrating, because this is a bill that could have and should have been passed before the August recess, and that's why it's so frustrating.

Mr. COURTNEY. This week, I think we are going to see the impact outside of the beltway, because it's my understanding that over 30 to 50 groups are going to be converging on Washington, advocates of American agriculture ranging from the real traditional American Farm Bureau to the Farmers Union, to specific commodity crop groups who, as you point out, sometimes have some pretty heated disagreements about regional issues and about allocations within the farm bill; and they may still have some today in terms of the way the Senate bill was voted out in the House committee, but they all agree on one item, which is that it is time for this House of Representatives to act.

This is not a debate club here that people were sent to, and it's also not a place where political strategists can sort of play games with people's lives about how the agenda is handled. I

mean, this is a place where so many sectors of American society depend on us, again, at the end of the day, rising to our constitutional duty, sometimes having to really compromise on some very difficult measures, but, nonetheless, we have a duty to act. We have a duty to really make sure that the people who sent us here can rely on the fact that we're not here just to fight and sort of try and get political gain out of every issue that comes to the floor.

Again, what the Connecticut farmers were saying to me when I was back home is that they just cannot believe that the farm bill has now become a partisan issue, but the Republican leadership controlling this House apparently believes it is. They won't even bring up a bill for a vote.

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Well, I think one of the things that's helpful is to talk about some misconceptions about the farm bill. This isn't just something that affects farmers. At every one of my farm bill listening posts, I started off by pointing out that in 1900, my State of Iowa had 11 Members of Congress in the House of Representatives and Florida had two, and there were about 40 percent of Americans at that time who lived on farms. After the next election, we will have four Representatives from my State of Iowa in the House and Florida will have 28; and now, less than 1½ percent of the American population lives on farms. So that illustrates why it's such a big challenge anymore to put this bill together.

But when you look at who showed up at my farm bill listening post, it wasn't just people engaged in agriculture. There were plenty of farmers there. There were representatives from the corn growers, the soybean producers, the cattlemen, and the pork producers, but there were also people there from Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, the Sierra Club, Trout Unlimited. There were people from nutrition groups who were involved in providing food to underserved portions of the community. There were people there from school lunch programs impacted. There were people from rural electric cooperatives who serve not just rural America today, but even medium- and small-size cities. You had people there from all these different groups who came together, from energy groups who were part of the energy title of the farm bill.

Everybody who eats in this country is impacted by what's in this bill. Everybody who puts fuel in their vehicles is impacted by what's in this bill. For many people in America, this is one of the most important economic development bills we pass every 5 years.

The reason we do it every 5 years is because when you're involved in the types of operations that produce the food, fiber, and fuel we depend on, you don't just do it on a week-to-week, month-to-month business plan. You have to know right now what you're

going to put in the ground next spring and what it's going to cost to do it and what type of risk you're taking on in order to be successful and continue in that operation.

And so you can't just kick the can down the road—which we are so good at in this body—and hope it all works out in the end, because for many farmers that will be too late. That's why it's time to come together and work in a bipartisan manner to solve this problem and get it done, because the American people are depending upon us. If we don't do it until after the election, it's too late.

Mr. COURTNEY. To follow up on that point, one of the aspects of this farm bill which I think is actually so exciting is that there's a major reform in terms of how we're going to reduce, to some degree, the American taxpayers' liability for crop production in this country. We are definitely eliminating crop subsidies once and for all, direct cash payments to farms, in both the Senate bill and in the House Agriculture Committee bill. We are eliminating direct payment subsidies. That's where the largest portion of savings are actually being generated, the \$23 billion in the Senate and the roughly \$33 billion in the House bill. We are basically going to be using much more of a crop insurance, risk insurance model where the farmers have a little more skin in the game. The producer is going to have a little more skin in the game and the taxpayer is going to have a little less.

From almost every angle, when you look at the hard work that's been put into the measure this year in terms of, again, lowering costs, trying to wean the system away from direct cash payments, doing some important, I think, exciting reforms in terms of promoting farmers' markets and marketing specialty crops—which, again, I'm sure Iowa is just like New England and California and other places where there has just been this renaissance of local agriculture. Food security issues and the growing awareness about the fact that healthier foods for school cafeterias or family dinner tables is something that people are just really engaged in as almost never before.

This farm bill promotes all of that positive change in terms of nutrition habits all the way to school cafeterias, but also, again, helping producers deal with a different structure in terms of how their business model is going to run. As you point out, you can't do that with a 3-month extension or a 9-month extension or a 12-month extension. We need a 5-year farm bill. We need something exactly along the lines of what the Senate produced on a bipartisan basis.

Again, it is just incredible that this leadership, the Republican leadership, doesn't hear what is out there right now both on the producer side and on the nutrition side. People want this Congress to get this item done, and it just should not be a partisan issue.

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. One of the other common themes that I heard at all of my listening tours—and this is uniform across the country, whether you're living in Connecticut or Iowa or California or any other part of the country—the average age of the farmers in Iowa is 59, and we have a lot of people who are nearing the end of their farming careers. We need to have opportunities for young farmers and young people who want to get involved in agriculture to get their foot in the door.

So that's one of the exciting things about this farm bill is, for young farmers and beginning farmers who may be doing it as a second career, they may be working at a John Deere factory in Waterloo and farming on a part-time basis because it's in their blood, it's what they love the most out of life, but to give people that opportunity to get started, we have to be focusing on some innovative new ways of allowing them to earn an income from farming.

□ 1940

Whether that's specialty crops, which you mentioned earlier, whether it's dealing with orchards and other types of new and innovative ways of raising money from production agriculture, all of those things are at a standstill if this bill doesn't move. And that is one of the reasons why it's inspiring, at a time when so much that focuses on Congress is about partisan bickering, that there is actually an enormous opportunity here to reach across the aisle to our friends on the other side and say, join us, make this happen, bring this bill to the floor. We will work with you to improve this bill and get it to a conference committee so that we can get an up-or-down vote on the future of agriculture in America.

Mr. COURTNEY. Just to kind of put the period on that is that right now the House Republican leadership is looking like we've only got 8 days of real, full floor action for the whole month of September. Again, incredibly, after basically leaving town and passing a motion to recess, the Republican leadership, now that we're back, has only scheduled 8 full session days, which, again, really shows why your discharge petition for the farm bill is so critical in that we really need to get this thing moving, because there clearly will be a conference. There's going to be some disagreement with the Senate. But on the fundamental structure of the bill there really isn't. I mean, the reform of subsidy payments, there's overlap in both bills.

The savings that that will generate, the dairy issue which I mentioned earlier, how we are again going from a historic change in terms of an industry that's had total cash payment subsidies to a risk insurance model, which, again, commodity crop folks like yours have dealt with that for decades. We're now putting dairy into that same model.

But 8 days does not give us much margin for error in terms of the way

this place operates. And again, that's the Republican schedule which came out.

I know, as far as yourself and myself and our colleagues on our side of the aisle, you know, we're prepared to roll up our sleeves and stay here as long as it takes, and frankly, we've got other issues which I think all of us would be more than happy to plunge into, whether it's the fiscal cliff, whether it's sequestration, whether it's the postal reform bill, which the Senate has passed, whether it's the Violence Against Women Act that again, incredibly, even though law enforcement leaders all across the country are imploring Congress to move on the Violence Against Women Act, the leadership hasn't set a conference group to get that bill done.

This is stuff that should be just baseline givens, in terms of just running the country. And yet we have got an agenda this week which, other than maybe doing a CR to keep the government from closing on October 1, that's it in terms of what the Republican leadership has put forward.

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Well, I think that one of the things that we need to make sure everybody understands is, as of September 30, September 30, which is just a couple of weeks away, there is no farm bill. We revert back to a 1949 farm bill that nobody in this country wants to see happen, including the Secretary of Agriculture, who would be given extraordinary powers that were given under that old farm bill to determine markets, to determine prices, to select winners and losers.

It would be a horrible situation. And that's why the American people are depending on us to put aside our partisan bickering, to come together and solve this problem. And that's why I'm looking forward to working with my Republican colleagues to get support for this discharge petition and work to get signatures so that we can bring this bill to a vote on the floor, which is what should have happened before August 1.

Mr. COURTNEY. And it is a shame because really, if you look at the U.S. economy right now, particularly in terms of balance of trade, agriculture is probably the brightest spot, even with all the challenges that have happened this summer. I mean, export of American farm products, whether it's beef or commodities, is actually really helping the balance of trade for this country.

There was a story this morning in *The New York Times* about Mexico, about how their rising middle class now—I mean, made in America, particularly for food products, is something that the consumer market is really stampeding towards.

And again, to allow this September 30 deadline to happen and to suddenly, you know, have complete almost chaos in terms of pricing mechanisms, in terms of, again, insurance payments, in terms of cash payments, which, presumably, would somehow have to con-

tinue, really would hurt growth in this country, which American agriculture has actually been helping sort of pull up for other sectors.

I want to thank the gentleman for joining me here this evening to talk about that point.

Again, there was a Bloomberg News report also earlier today that said that telemarketers now have a higher approval rating than the U.S. Congress. And again, the colloquy we just listened to this evening about the farm bill, it's no wonder. The work schedule which the Republican majority has put forward over the last 18 months would make Homer Simpson blush.

I mean, the fact of the matter is we've had repeated recesses. We've had a work product, in terms of actual numbers of bills that have been discussed and brought forward on the floor, at historic lows. We've had a shutdown crisis in April of last year where, literally, the country was on the edge of its seat in terms of whether or not the U.S. government was going to shut down last April of 2011.

We had, for the first time in American history, the prospect of a default on the full faith and credit of this country, when the debt limit issue was run up to, again, the final seconds before Treasury would have no authority to sell bonds to pay the bills for this country. First time in American history we confronted that prospect.

Under Ronald Reagan, the debt limit was extended 18 times with little or no fuss, yet this majority has intentionally sort of pushed these sorts of pressure points over the last 18 months, 2 years, to score political points. And that's something which MITCH MCCONNELL, the Senate minority Leader, made very clear was the number one priority of the Republicans in Washington: to cripple this President and to deprive him of reelection in a second term.

And now, as we stand here on September 10, we are now looking at another cliff that's facing this country, the fiscal cliff which is at the end of December, the Tax Code reverts back to pre-2001, raising taxes for middle class families all across the country.

President Obama has put out a plan which would protect the income of all Americans up to \$250,000. And I want to repeat that. Every American would still retain their tax cuts from 2001 up to \$250,000. For those who are fortunate enough to be above that threshold of adjusted gross income, then the rates would revert back to the Clinton era for people to pay a little bit more. And the Congressional Budget Office has scored that change as helping the deficit by roughly 800 to \$900 billion.

You know, a couple of nights ago we had an opportunity, as a Nation, to listen to William Clinton, to President Clinton talk about his record in office, when his fiscal policies put the Nation's public finances in the black for the first time in decades.

I mean, a lot of us who grew up in the fifties and sixties could not sort of remember a time when America was paying its bills and paying down its debt. President Clinton presided over policies which got us to that point.

It was also an economy which produced 22 million jobs. We had unemployment rates below 4 percent in many States like my own, in the State of Connecticut, where unemployment was between two and three percent in 1998 and 1999. And he did it in way that was fair and balanced.

And the speech that he gave in Charlotte the other night reminded us that when you actually invest in the middle class, when you make sure that middle class families have the tools to raise their family, to educate their children, to cover their health care needs, to buy a house and afford a house, to provide the means so that seniors over 65 won't be bankrupted by health care bills, the fact of the matter is that's the formula for success for growth in this country.

And, again, the 1990s is Exhibit A for the success of those policies, which the President, when he gave his acceptance speech, reemphasized that, again, he is willing to extend the tax cuts for income up to \$250,000 for all Americans, rich and poor, that we would revert the rates back to the Clinton era, which now even Mr. Romney is talking very positively about the Clinton years and praises President Clinton's tenure in office.

Well, he ought to adopt the plan that President Clinton is suggesting.

□ 1950

That's a plan which will put the public finances of our country back into better balance and which will provide a more solid footing. Even more than that, if we were able to come together with that reasonable compromise—averting the fiscal cliff—it would give this country and particularly the business community the confidence of knowing that their tax exposure—that the fiscal status of this country—is not literally going to be driven up to the cliff, up to the brink, over periods of short, monthlong time periods, just as it was in 2011 and 2012.

That really, unfortunately, sadly, is the legacy of the 112th Congress under Speaker BOEHNER's tenure. That's why telemarketers are more popular than Members of the U.S. Congress, which is according to the Bloomberg News report that came out earlier today. We have a leadership which has shown itself quite willing to defy all of the hopes of the American people that we would get people working together and compromise and extend a horizon for people so that they can make decisions to invest and to hire. Rather, we have seen under the direction of folks like MITCH MCCONNELL that the number one priority is not what matters for the American people; the number one priority is to bring down this President.

That was the number one issue everywhere I went when I was home over

the last 5 weeks: When are we going to see some compromise out of the Republican leadership to come together for fiscal policies that will avert the fiscal cliff? When are we going to come together to diffuse the sequestration chain saw that's sitting out there on January 1, which is going to cut through the Federal Government both on the defense side and on the non-defense side?

I think it's important to remember nondefense interests, whether it's hospitals or medical providers, are looking at a 2 percent across-the-board cut in Medicare payments if sequestration goes into effect. Education, whether it's K through 12, whether it's student loans, are also going to get hit with that chain saw. We're going to see it with the National Institutes of Health, which is doing incredibly exciting work in terms of coming up with cures for cancer by using genome research. That chain saw is going to cut through NIH in terms of the great research projects that are going on in that institution. We would also see the chain saw hit defense.

In industry after industry in which you need to have a horizon, whether it's building F-35 fighter planes, whether it's building surface ships down in Virginia or nuclear submarines up in the State of Connecticut, the fact of the matter is the sequestration option, as Secretary Leon Panetta—the Secretary of Defense—has said, would be catastrophic for the national defense of this country. There are proposals on the table which would avert the implementation of sequestration. I sit on the Armed Services Committee. We had a hearing with leaders from the aerospace industry. We had leaders from the administration—the head of the Budget Office, the Undersecretary of Defense, Ashton Carter, who handles budget policy.

If you look at the budget which President Obama put out in January and if you look at PAUL RYAN's budget resolution in 2011, what you will see is, in fact, there is overlap between the two that could easily get us to the point of diffusing the sequestration chain saw that I mentioned out there. We have to hit a target of \$1.2 trillion in terms of deficit reduction to avert sequestration from going into effect. If you look at the savings from the draw-down in Afghanistan, which PAUL RYAN and the Republican majority put in their budget resolution in 2011, according to the Congressional Budget Office, it totals roughly about \$800 billion, and that's post-2014. That was in the Ryan budget. President Obama, in his budget plan, had exactly the same measure, which would save roughly \$800 billion. If the two sides would come together and agree that we could pass a measure that locks in those savings, then you've really gotten to about two-thirds of the sequestration target set up under the Budget Control Act.

We can do this. We can do this this week if people would actually, basi-

cally, put down their cudgels—again, 8 weeks away from an election—and say: Let's do something that's for the benefit of the country; let's eliminate that uncertainty that's hanging out there; let's tell those firms that are wrestling with whether or not they have to issue WARN notices, layoff notices, to their workers because of sequestration sitting out there on January 1.

Let's come together. Let's get this thing done. Let's look at the President's budget, and let's look at PAUL RYAN's budget. Let's find the areas of common agreement, which do exist, and let's get this thing fixed so that the American economy is not facing another one of these runups. Unfortunately, the majority back in April of 2011 was willing to push this country to a government shutdown, and later, in August, was willing to default on the full faith and credit of this country. Let's not do that. Let's allow the American people the opportunity to have some security, which is that their jobs, that our national defense, that health care providers, that educators, that people who are in the critical areas of research and development over at NIH are not going to have the rug pulled out from under them because of sequestration, which was part of a package from which Speaker JOHN BOEHNER proudly announced he got 98 percent of what he wanted. Again, when the Budget Control Act passed, the Speaker was interviewed, and he was boasting about the fact that the Republicans got 98 percent of what they wanted. Within that package was the sequestration mechanism. Mr. RYAN, the candidate for Vice President, actually also publicly boasted about the fact that sequestration was a compromise which the two sides agreed to.

So everybody has got their fingerprints on it. The fact of the matter is that it's sitting out there, and it's creating uncertainty in the U.S. economy. There are measures that are both within the Ryan budget and the Obama budget which overlap and from which we could easily implement a compromise to diffuse that sequestration chain saw that's sitting out there. All it takes is the willingness of this Chamber, led by the Speaker, who is now trying to distance himself from the deal that he embraced back in August of last year, to come forward and say, okay, let's sit down and hammer this out. You could do it on the back of an envelope within a matter of a day or two in terms of the areas of agreement that exist between the Obama budget and the Ryan budget.

The failure to do that—the failure to bring up a farm bill, the failure to bring up a postal reform bill, the failure to bring up a Violence Against Women Act for conference and for final resolution, the failure to implement budgets on the health and labor and education subcommittee, which the majority just basically, I guess, decided they're just not going to do—is why Bloomberg News came out with

their report today saying that Congress is now less popular than telemarketers.

This is one of the most despised Congresses in American history, and it has been led by Republican leaders who, again, have shown that they are more interested in trying to weaken this President than in trying to strengthen our country. This is with regard to issue after issue, whether or not it's the farm bill, whether or not it's the postal reform—where we have a system that is literally now technically in bankruptcy—whether it's the Violence Against Women Act, whether it's getting budgets done in regular order, whether it's diffusing sequestration, whether it's averting the fiscal cliff.

We went home for 5 weeks without acting on any of these measures because of a recess motion that the Speaker put forward. The country is basically sitting there, waiting to see whether or not we have either a short-term future or a long-term future, which all of these issues are so critical to determining. We are going to be watching this agenda over the next few days. What we saw today from the majority leader's office indicated no farm bill, no postal reform bill, nothing related to any measures to try and deal with sequestration. We have seen a do-nothing agenda this week by the majority following 5 weeks of being back in the districts.

The American Farm Bureau was doing a cross-country barnstorm about the fact that we need to get that measure passed so we can create some certainty and horizon for the men and women who are getting up every morning and milking cows and planting crops and harvesting crops, those who desperately, particularly with the drought conditions in the Midwest, need to have some certainty that there is going to be crop insurance in place to make sure that they are not going to go bankrupt.

We have a measure which passed in the U.S. Senate—it's a bipartisan bill—which saves the taxpayer \$23 billion, and yet we have a leadership which won't even bring up a farm bill for consideration. The bill that came out of committee wasn't perfect, but it is a measure which we need to act on to send to conference so that the agriculture sector of this country can have some confidence about what kind of future they're going to have beyond the next few weeks or until September 30, which is when the law of this country reverts back to that of the 1949 farm bill.

So that's the message which I certainly heard on my break and that Mr. BRALEY heard on his break. I think we're going to hear it this week when representatives of commodity crop groups—the American Farm Bureau, the American Farmers Union—are going to be gathering in the U.S. Capitol and demanding action so that we can at least allow one sector the ability and the confidence to know that

they have some future, both short term and long term.

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

□ 2000

GOP FRESHMEN HOUR

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LANDRY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentlewoman from Alabama (Mrs. ROBY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to be here this evening alongside some of my freshman colleagues.

We want to have a real frank discussion with the American people tonight about a milestone that we hit just last week. This is not a milestone of historic significance that we're proud of, and that is that our national debt has now hit \$16 trillion. This brings no pride or cause to celebrate to the American people, nor should it to any Member of this body or our friends in the Senate or in the White House. That is approximately \$51,000 for every man, woman, and child in this country. It's unacceptable, and it doesn't, quite frankly, have to be this way.

I want to point you to a few of the President's own words that he said when he was campaigning to be the President of the United States:

We can't afford another 4 years of the kind of deficits we've seen during the last 8. We can't afford to mortgage our children's future on another mountain of debt.

Where are we today? Today we're at a place that is far worse than 4 years ago. With our debt now at \$16 trillion, we've not seen anything significant from this White House in an effort to reduce our debt. Instead, all we hear about is new programs that are going to require more taxpayer dollars and not an effort to rein in this out-of-control spending. I want to talk about that tonight.

Tonight we also want to focus on jobs. This is the number one issue facing the American people right now. We need to get America back to work. And this government, this body right here, we don't create the jobs, but we sure can help create an environment in which job creation is right. We have done a lot here in the House to do that. We've passed over 30 bills. They're sitting in the Senate awaiting action.

We are going to continue to highlight what we've learned, in this hour, over the course of our time back at home.

I have my friend from Colorado standing here. I would just say to you, Mr. GARDNER, that I'm sure you can say the same about what you learned over the district work period. From traveling from town to town, from county to county in Alabama's Second District over and over again, I have witnessed that the debt has stifled job creation because all it has done is create more uncertainty.

All of the regulation and red tape that has been passed in the previous Congress that this Congress has been unable to undue because of the lack of action in the Senate and ObamaCare, all of that has contributed to more and more uncertainty. People are hurting.

I've traveled around and looked into the eyes of folks, and they can't take any more. Their businesses are on the line, and that then, in turn, is a reflection of what's going to happen in their households.

Mr. GARDNER. The gentlelady from Alabama is exactly right.

Thank you for your leadership on the economy, on getting this country turned around, and getting our businesses back in shape to hire once again.

Over the past couple of years since being elected, I've traveled over 65,000 miles to be in every nook and cranny of the district of eastern Colorado and northern Colorado. We've held 74 town meetings to make sure that we are listening to everybody's voices, to make sure that people have an opportunity to address their concerns, their ideas to make our government better, to make our economy grow and healthy once again.

The points that you talk about, I don't know that anything is more relevant in the conversations that we have today than the point that was made at a town meeting just last week in Julesburg, Colorado, up in northeastern Colorado. It's just a hop, skip, and a jump from the panhandle of Nebraska. A young lady raised her hand and said:

I'm a single mom. I have three kids at home. I've had two jobs. Now I only have one. I'm looking for a second one. I can't make ends meet because my job doesn't pay enough, and energy prices continue to increase.

She's trying to find health care for her children. Talk about somebody who is the front lines of our economy who is suffering because of the past 3½ years of failed economic policies.

The Congressional Budget Office recently issued a review of what can happen at the end of this year if nothing is done to avoid the fiscal cliff to deal with sequestration and to deal with the looming tax increases. This is what the Congressional Budget Office has stated:

In particular, large budget deficits and growing debt would reduce national saving, leading to higher interest rates, more borrowing from abroad, and less domestic investment—which in turn would lower the growth of incomes in the United States.

While we talk about growing the economy, while we talk about economic growth and the need to get businesses and companies around this country hiring again, at the same time there's this negative pressure being placed on them because Congress can't do its job to control spending. We are \$16 trillion in debt. You mentioned it was nearly \$51,000 for every man, woman, and child. We've got a 10-month-old at home. Our 10-month-old

owes \$51,000 as his share of the Federal debt. That's \$51,000 apiece.

That negative pressure, that mounting debt, deficits that are over a trillion dollars every year, makes it more and more difficult for businesses to have access to the capital that they need to grow. It makes it more and more difficult for companies to operate, because all of a sudden they find themselves competing with the Federal Government for those scarce resources.

The next thing we know, government is going to have to look at tax increases to try to finance what's already over \$200 billion a year in interest payments. Our businesses are saying: Government, can you get out of the way so we can let America work, so that we can run our businesses the way that we want to, not the way Washington wants to?

At the same time, you've got a Congress, including the United States Senate, that hasn't passed a budget in the past 3½ years, hasn't done the fundamental duty that it's required to do, and that's to make sure that this government knows where it's going to spend its money, to make sure this government knows how much money it has coming in and how much money is going out. But they refuse to pass a budget.

They refuse it, make no mistake, not because they think they need more time or because they need to study it more or come up with a different bill, no. They refuse it because they think it would be bad politically for them to vote on a budget. That's why the President's own budget received zero votes. The President's own budget not only received zero Republican votes, but zero Democrat votes.

There are so many people across this country who are unemployed, who are looking for work. In fact, most of the universities around the country just went back in a couple of weeks ago. Those students are all looking for jobs and expecting jobs to deal with their student loans. I know we've talked about it many times.

Mrs. ROBY. If we could spend some time on our young people, because that really paints the picture better than anything.

The graduating class of 2012, when they were getting ready to face the real world in April of this year, the Associated Press reported that half of those college graduates were unemployed. That's half.

Just to show a little bit of a comparison, since President Obama has taken office, the unemployment rate for 20-year-olds to 24-year-olds has increased more than a point from 12.4 percent to 13.9 percent. The median income for those under the age of 35 dropped by 10.5 percent from 2007 to 2010. That's more than any other age group. More of today's 20-somethings to 30-somethings are living with their parents than any of the generations that have gone before them.

□ 2010

So by comparison—and here's what we really highlight—this President's failure and this Congress' failure to get out of the way of job creation. In 1980, 17 percent of adults, 20- to 34-year-olds, had to live with their parents, and today that number is 24 percent. At a time when these young people coming out of college face mountains of student loan debt, they can't find jobs.

Instead of looking and working to find ways to provide opportunities for these young people, President Obama and his policies are setting the stage for these young people to be more dependent on the government. Anyway, that's just to highlight your point exactly that that is the sector of our population that is the promise of tomorrow, and they are unemployed.

Mr. GARDNER. Then add the fact that this generation that's graduating from college today is going to be left with a \$16 trillion debt; and, by the way, that's just what it is today. It's growing each and every second. In just a few years, that number goes up dramatically to over \$20 trillion if nothing is done to stop the runaway debt crisis that we have right now.

You mentioned the Associated Press article that talks about one out of every two graduates from college today being unemployed or underemployed, but that same Associated Press report talks about this, taking unemployment into consideration, the job prospects for bachelor's degree holders fell last year to the lowest level in more than a decade.

So we've seen this conversation take place about, you know, are we better off today than we were 4 years ago. Well, here's a statement from the Associated Press, when it comes to people who are graduating from college, that says, "Taking underemployment into consideration, the jobs prospects for bachelor's degree holders fell last year to the lowest level in more than a decade."

How are these families going to make ends meet? How are recent college graduates, some who come out of college with a family, going to pay back their student loans? We have seen Federal student loans soar 275 percent over the past decade. Over the past decade student loans have increased over 275 percent; yet job prospects are as bleak as they have been for 10 years or more.

You know, I've got some great universities in my district, the University of Northern Colorado, Colorado State University. We just visited Northeastern Junior College. We have been all over the community college system in our district talking about the challenges that they face trying to make sure that their students have the jobs that they need when they come out of school because what's happening, you see the higher debt load. Then because the economy is so tough, people are taking jobs that are lower paying just to try to make ends meet.

This country has prided itself on always making sure that for generation

after generation we have greater opportunities, that we open more doors for our children. That's the same thing that ought to be, the same kind of idea that ought to be facing the recent graduates today.

This upcoming December, next May, they ought to be looking at job prospects that are even greater than their older brothers or sisters, even greater than their parents' generation. But the fact is those jobs don't exist because the policies of the last 4 years have made it more and more difficult for the country's businesses to grow and expand.

Mrs. ROBY. You mentioned your colleges in your district. Actually, there are some great colleges in or right nearby in Alabama's Second District: Alabama State University, Faulkner University, Troy University, and Huntingdon College. But let me just highlight real quickly Alabama's 2-year college system where we have incredible workforce development programs, honing skills in young people that can immediately go out into the workforce, and they deserve better than these lofty promises.

Did you know that since President Obama was inaugurated in January of 2009, the manufacturing sector has shed 590,000 jobs, 590,000 jobs?

Mr. GARDNER. When was that you said?

Mrs. ROBY. This was since President Obama was inaugurated in January of 2009.

The number of Americans receiving food stamps as of April 2012 was 46.1 million. I heard today one of our colleagues say one in seven, one out of every seven Americans is receiving some sort of nutritional assistance. That is astounding. That is astounding.

We've painted a picture here that is bleak, and we're telling the American people what they already know because so many of them are too aware of this because they're the ones that are suffering from this administration. I just want to say that we have solutions.

We have solutions where we can change things and the private sector can thrive, but that is going to mean getting the government out of the way. We need the leadership in the Senate to have the political courage to stand up and take up our jobs bills, our energy bills that reduce regulation and does just that, gets the government out of the way.

Mr. GARDNER. This past week I had an opportunity to visit a business in Colorado, a manufacturing business in Colorado. It's a multi-generation family business that was started by this gentleman's dad 50 years ago. He's actually retiring from the business, and his son is going to take over the business, third generation, a manufacturing business in Denver. They've got around 300 employees, spread out in the western United States region.

I asked him, I said, you know the past couple of years are you doing better now than you were then? His answer was no on any level. If you ask

him about what his bottom line is, his company's profits? No, they're not better off than they were. If you ask them about the number of employees he has? No, they're not better off. In fact, they've struggled to try to make sure that they are able to keep the employees that they have been able to keep.

This is something else that goes unreported, that work, that employee who is usually working a 40-hour work week or maybe a little bit more is now working a 30-hour work week or a 32-hour work week, because as an employer he feels the opportunity to try to do everything he can to keep these employees working, to keep their families with a job in the household. In order to do that, because their business is down, because their sales are down, they've actually now found themselves in situations where they are reducing hours, which means less take-home pay. In fact, if you look at the past 4 years, we've seen middle class pay, take-home pay, go down by about \$4,000.

If employment is decreasing and, again, if you look at those employment numbers that just came out this past week, for every one person who found a job, four people quit looking. So you can see that this business isn't alone in trying to make ends meet, to try to build a better tomorrow.

We talked about the regulations that they face, and I talked about some of the recent changes that have been made, whether it's financial services legislation. In fact, one of the interesting points that we were talking about regulations, and I am sure you have heard a great deal about businesses in your district that are facing challenges with regulations and the ever-increasing cost of regulations, but this particular business, they were talking about how, because of the tough times that have hit their contracts, the people they contract with, the people who buy the goods from them, they are now actually having to float the cost of that business on their own books a lot longer. Because of the difficulties with some of the financial legislation we've seen, they're finding it even more difficult to do that.

Here you have a company that's trying to make it work with their customers so that they can buy their goods by holding their receivables a little bit longer; but they're finding pressure now from financial legislation that makes it more difficult to do that. So the government is getting them both ways. The government has failed to come up with the policies to get government out of the way so that our businesses can grow. Yet when you have somebody coming up with a solution to try to grow their business, government policies there are affecting that and impeding their ability to do that.

Mrs. ROBY. Absolutely. You know, when you talk to business owners, or at least when I have, you'll hear them say, but there was a time when regu-

lators came into your business to try to make it more effective or a safer environment in which to work, but that time is long gone. Now the regulators are there to find problems and fine you.

I want to give you one example that was astounding to me. A fellow that's in the construction business was explaining to me that he had a friend that's a roofer that had a \$700 job, to make a \$700 profit on a roofing job. His crew was over there at this home all day long, had the ladder, they were going up and down.

After 5 o'clock, a regulator was driving down the road, pulled over and noticed that he was afraid the ladder didn't come over the eave of the roof just far enough to fit within the regulatory requirements.

□ 2020

He stopped and wrote that fellow up to the tune of \$8,000. A \$700 job and an \$8,000 fine. These guys had been going up and down that ladder all day.

We all agree that not every regulation is bad, but this is an environment that has gotten out of hand; people with too much time on their hands and not coming into businesses in the spirit of helping businesses thrive.

Mr. GARDNER. And I think that's why we have to start talking about solutions for this country. We all have examples of regulations that have gone amok.

I was dealing with a business in the district just the other day that talked about a product that they were trying to handle. It was a very environmentally sensitive product that they were trying to remove and actually do some environmental mitigation from a cleanup site that they were working on. And this particular company was required to keep this product both wet and dry at the same time; a regulation that said you had to keep it wet until you moved it or stored it, and then you had to keep it dry. Well, you've got to dry it down in order to move it, but yet they faced the possibility of being fined because of this particular action.

Again, the solutions we need. This Congress has passed solutions, and I'll mention the REINS Act.

The REINS Act was a bill that we passed several months ago with strong support from both sides of the aisle. This is one of the bills that has passed the House and has moved over to the Senate, where it just sits stacking up like cordwood. Once again, here we have an opportunity to do something, a proactive solution.

The REINS Act simply says we're going to take a look at the cost of a regulation. We're going to get an idea of how much some regulation costs, and if it exceeds a certain threshold, then we're going to let that come back to Congress for review before it can go into effect. It's saying, hey, let's take a look at this. Let's create some kind of an opportunity for Congress to review a regulation that has a tremendous impact on the economy, taking over a

hundred million dollars out of our economy to comply with the regulation. Let's take a look at it and make sure that the cost and benefits are in line to make sure that the benefits outweigh the cost, to make sure that doing it is actually worth it and it doesn't cost jobs that we so desperately need. And so the REINS Act passed and it's waiting over in the Senate.

Now, some people may say, well, that's just a partisan idea, that's just a Republican idea. Well, let's take a look at what some of the States do.

In my home State of Colorado, there's a process called the Rule Review Act, the Rule Review bill. This bill comes up every single year in the State legislature, and it's a chance for the State legislature to do exactly that, to review the rules that pass out of the executive branch agencies. Every year, the State legislature gives a thumbs up or a thumbs down to those regulations, because in Colorado we understand how important it is to make sure that government's not getting in the way, how important it is to make sure that we actually have responsible rules that move the ball down the field instead of creating penalties every time you turn around.

And so the Rules Review bill taken to the United States Congress becomes the REINS Act. And the REINS Act is a good way for us to check and provide that balance with the executive branch to make sure that we're not putting too much of a burden on our businesses.

Mrs. ROBY. Right. Let's just go back in time for a minute and talk about some of these other repeals.

We have the Boiler MACT provisions, the Cement MACT, net neutrality, the regulating farm jobs. We can go down the list one by one by one and talk about the efforts that we have taken here in the House. With the strength of the numbers here, some of these have been with bipartisan support that we've passed these measures. And yet again and again and again, it's just time after time after time it's sitting in the Senate without any action.

All you have to do is go look at the budget that the House has passed the past 2 years that Chairman RYAN put forth out of committee and came to the full floor. You mentioned the President's budget where there were zero votes—zero votes. We talk about offering solutions to the American people to look that small business owner in the eye and say, "Yes, I am working for you; yes, I have a solution for you; yes, I have a way to get out of your way," which is what we've done, and our budget outlines very, very specifically what these solutions are.

Our spending is out of control, which in turn, like you already mentioned, just takes it a whole other step that this Congress is not doing their job, and therefore the jobs are not being created by the private sector, period. It all comes down to that.

Mr. GARDNER. And I know you serve on the Agriculture Committee

here in the House of Representatives, and I'm sure that you're hearing from some of your interests in agriculture about uncertainty.

Mrs. ROBY. Absolutely.

Mr. GARDNER. And one of the things that I've heard over the past several months—and, in fact, I held a series of farm bill roundtables earlier this spring, where one of the things we heard about so much, and this is part of the fiscal cliff that we're facing, is the death tax, the death tax that this Nation faces going back into the lower exclusion rates as of January 1.

Let me give you an example. I'm sure you've heard this time and again from the people that you represent.

One of the farm roundtables that we held, a young man from Eaton, Colorado, stood up and said: With the estate tax coming back in at the end of this year, beginning of next year, we'll be forced to pay for our farm for a third time, and we simply can't afford it.

This is a young man who wants to go on into life in agriculture. This is somebody who wants to be the next generation standing up to grow our food and fiber that this Nation depends on. But yet you've got a government policy that's going to say: We know you've invested, we know you've grown your business, you've made investments into the land that you need to make your operation successful, but because somebody died, we're going to tax them. And that's part of the fiscal cliff that this country faces at the end of this year.

There are farmers and ranchers around the State of Colorado, around this country, who are not trying to figure out how they're going to pass on their operation to the next generation, pass on their operation to the next generation because of a government policy that says: You know what? You've been too successful, and we're artificially going to place this barrier so that it's going to hurt you.

It's not just farmers and ranchers that it affects.

Mrs. ROBY. It's all businesses.

Mr. GARDNER. It's all businesses. That's right.

Mrs. ROBY. But the problem with our farming communities is that they are, in a lot of instances, they own a lot of land. So they have wealth when it comes to land ownership, but they may not have the cash. And so when the government comes along to tax the farm upon the death of a parent that wants to pass it down, they've got to sell the farm to pay the tax, and that's where our farmers lose out every time.

And there are numerous other businesses throughout this country where they may be cash poor. They may have some assets but they may be cash poor, and so they end up having to sell it off in order to pay the government for that company's success.

Mr. GARDNER. And you mentioned it, too. It's not just about cash in the bank. It's not just about how much

money you have. It's about the assets that you have. And so your example where you may be cash poor but still hit this line, I think, is compelling to not only the farmers and ranchers, but you're right, to small businesses around the country who may own a restaurant, who may be trying to expand a sand and gravel operation, but they're going to be hit by this estate tax, which means they've got to sell, break it up, and not be able to pass it on.

Mrs. ROBY. You just add our lack of tax reform, which we so desperately need, and I know that we are committed to that here in the House majority. We do have a plan that we've set out as it relates to those reforms. We know that American businesses are faced with an unbelievably complicated and cumbersome Tax Code, combined, over 30 percent on businesses, not to mention the problems with the estate taxes. It makes the U.S. the second highest corporate tax rate among developed nations in the world. So the U.S. Federal rate is 35 percent. It's nearly 10 percentage points higher than our other competitors. That, on top of all of the other issues that we've highlighted.

I mentioned the manufacturing jobs. I don't know about you, but I get this question all the time: Where have all the manufacturing jobs gone? People always highlight that we just chase these jobs offshore. And it's because we have created this environment in which business owners don't have a choice. If they're going to turn a profit, they have to do what is the benefit for their family to make that hard-earned dollar.

I remember hearing a colleague give an example. He was sitting on an airplane next to a guy that made things. He made things, he produced a product, and he wanted to make them in the United States of America. But when it came down to it, the bottom line—he thought he was going to open his plant right here, but when it came down to it, they hadn't taken into account the corporate tax rate and the difference between that and the next country where they could manufacture his product.

□ 2030

That sealed the deal. They are not manufacturing in the United States because of the environment in which we have.

Mr. GARDNER. So you have got a government policy that actually is an impediment to job creation here. A company trying to bring jobs back in, but because of the cost of doing business here is so much higher than elsewhere, they had that unfair choice of how are they going to make things work, how are they going to be successful.

Mrs. ROBY. I was going to say in June for the first time in 44 months, small businesses cited taxes, taxes above poor sales as the single most im-

portant problem that they are facing today. Taxes.

Mr. GARDNER. We talked about solutions when it comes to regulations. We've talked about the REINS Act. But here again with taxes, we have come up with solutions. We have voted to make sure that the estate tax, the death tax, doesn't come back in at those lower exclusion numbers breaking small businesses around the country. We've made sure that we avoid the massive tax increases that loom, once again, at the end of this year on families, middle class families. Thousands of dollars for middle class families around this country increase in taxes if nothing is done, and that's why the House of Representatives has passed a measure to make sure that those taxes don't increase, to make sure that we are making it easier for people to keep more of their own money so they can invest it in their families, so they can invest it into job creation, in their businesses.

If this Congress adopts the President's plan, if this Congress does nothing, hundreds of thousands of small businesses around this country are going to see tax increases like we've never seen before. Tax increases will make it more difficult for them to make ends meet. And that's why the House has acted to make sure that we are dealing with the fiscal cliff to make sure that we are not making it more difficult in this country to succeed.

Mrs. ROBY. Absolutely. Again, by virtue of a comparison, with the President's proposed tax hike, deficits would still total 6.6 trillion over the next 10 years according to his own budget. But by comparison, our budget, the House Republican budget, would reduce deficits compared to his by 3.3 trillion while lowering taxes on small businesses and spurring economic growth. That's the difference.

Mr. GARDNER. Well, and I think that's the key, actually, as you mentioned, spurring economic growth. And we can talk about what happens to our economy with this policy or this legislation. But the bottom line is we've got to address that debt and deficit and only economic growth, long-term economic growth, is going to help us address our debt and deficit situation, but a high debt and deficit make it impossible for long-term economic growth.

So you have kind of got a circular problem here that for whatever reason the United States Senate, the President, hasn't taken seriously.

And just talk a little bit about the summer of recovery that was supposedly going to occur a couple of years ago after a trillion dollars was spent on the stimulus, money that went to companies like Solyndra that went bankrupt and the United States taxpayers are going to be out over half a billion dollars because they'll never get repaid.

You've got the stimulus bill that was supposed to lead to the summer of recovery, and yet here we are with 43 straight months of unemployment at or above 8 percent. Now, the American people know that even that number is not right because they know that maybe they have got a job that is only part time or maybe they are working full time but certainly not at the level that they know is to their full potential. It certainly makes it more difficult for them to meet the needs of their families. So that 8.3 percent number doesn't even count the people who've given up looking for work, doesn't even count the number of people who are underemployed.

So, the fiscal cliff, you've got millions and millions of Americans out there knowing what this Congress refuses to do, and that is if Congress will act to adopt these jobs bills that we've passed over to the Senate, if Congress will adopt the House budget that actually puts this country on a road and path to growing the economy, to preserving and protecting the promises that we have made to future generations, that number is going to come back down. It's not going to be 8.3, 8.1 percent. It's going to be lower. Millions of people will be back at work because of the bills and legislation that this body has passed, most with bipartisan support.

Mrs. ROBY. You know, to use the President's words again, because these are direct quotes, so let's look at a couple of things.

Last April, President Obama said, "We have to live within our means, we have to reduce our deficit, and we have to get back on a path that will allow us to pay down our debt." That was the President just last April.

But also I want to make sure that there is no misunderstanding. This is the President's own words in February of 2009: "I am pledging to cut the deficit by half by the end of my first term in office." And I know we are kind of circling back to how we began this hour tonight, but since the President has taken office, our national debt has increased by \$5.3 trillion.

Mr. GARDNER. And 5.3 trillion, now, I think there's a statistic out there that shows that that's more money than the amounts of money spent by or the deficits between George Washington and Bill Clinton combined—or maybe it's George H.W. Bush. The fact is, we've never seen a period in our Nation's history where unemployment has been matched by a failure to recognize the needs of the American people, where debts are allowed to skyrocket, where you can say on TV one thing, pledge to the American people that you will cut the deficit in half, and then the next thing you know it's up by \$5 trillion.

Maybe the question isn't are you better off today than you were 4 years ago, but maybe the question ought to be are you better off today than you were \$5.3 trillion ago?

Mrs. ROBY. Well, your son can attest to that because he's 10 months old and already owes, his share is, what, \$51,000 at 10 months old. You know, we both have young children and this is why we are here. We're here for them because we want this country to be as great for your children and mine and all America's children and grandchildren and generations to come. And quite frankly, it is horrendous that we would leave this situation on their backs.

We keep hearing about balancing the budget on the backs of the middle class. How about spending massive amounts of taxpayer dollars on the backs of my children and my children's children. This is where the future of this country is dependent, and if we don't get serious about this now, why wait? Why are we waiting until November? Why is the leadership in the Senate waiting until after the election to take on problems that are serious now?

As you said before, the clock keeps ticking up. The debt keeps accumulating between now and November. It's not like the 16 trillion is just some arbitrary number. I mean, it's a huge number, but it doesn't stand still. It's going to continue to increase.

As I explained when I am in town halls about the debt ceiling, the debt ceiling is like calling your credit card company and saying to your credit card company, "I need you to increase my credit limit because I don't have any cash to pay you the interest on what I already owe, on the debt I already owe." That's where we are. And that's on the back of Margaret and George and your children and all of those other children and grandchildren of Americans. As you can tell, as a mom it makes me upset, and that's why we're here.

Republicans in the House majority have taken action on a number of things that have already been mentioned tonight: we've repealed the government takeover of health care. Ride down the road in any district in this country and talk to a small business owner about that, and you will find out very quickly that they're either going to be close to being out of business or they're going to go out of business completely if this law is fully enacted.

□ 2040

We have stopped massive tax increases here in this House that one independent analysis said could destroy more than 700,000 jobs—you highlighted that earlier. We have replaced these indiscriminate spending cuts from sequestration with commonsense solutions by calling on, again, our friends in the Senate whose budget reconciliation—it's hard to do that if you don't have a budget—but through budget reconciliation, through commonsense cuts instead of just across the board, and rein in this wasteful government spending. And with the 30-plus bills that you and I have highlighted some portion thereof in this discussion tonight that are sitting collecting dust

in the Senate, all 30 of these jobs are job-creating, energy-producing bills that are sitting in the Senate collecting dust.

Mr. GARDNER. You talk about those bills, the regulations that we've passed. You talk about the things that we have done to avoid the fiscal cliff, the things that we have done to avoid sequestration. There's a word that's been missing that we haven't used tonight: leadership. It takes leadership to address these issues. That's what we have provided through so many of these bills that we have talked about—leadership to make sure that hundreds of thousands of small businesses don't have their taxes increased; leadership to make sure that farmers and ranchers can continue their operations without worrying about a death tax that will prevent them from passing on their land to the next generation; leadership to make sure that the sequestration is carried forward. Yes, we reduce spending, but we do so in a more responsible fashion, a way to make sure that we don't jeopardize the ability of our men and women in uniform to defend our country and to protect themselves.

I want to talk a little bit about the issue of sequestration because that's something that we haven't met. And the issue of leadership, once again, crops up. It just keeps coming forward where the House has led and we hear crickets from the other side of town.

The American people, I don't know if they were following what happened with the White House just this past Friday. Last week, the White House announced that it will miss the legal deadline for delivering a report to Congress on the spending cuts from sequestration that will take effect in January. Now, we hear a lot of complaints about, well, the Congress hasn't done this and the Congress hasn't done that, but here's a law that says you've got a deadline to present your ideas for leadership to the American people. And I guess it must have been too tough because they're not going to comply with it—they didn't comply with it.

Mrs. ROBY. Well, and you will see, again, further action from leadership here in the House on that, calling on the President to outline exactly what this is going to look like. And like you said, he hasn't. It's just one more on the list of uncertainties for job creators.

I see our colleague and our friend, the gentleman from Kansas, has joined us. Certainly feel free to jump in here.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. I appreciate the opportunity. Just like my colleagues, I've spent a little time in the real world. Some call it a recess; for many of us it was time to go back home. I admit in this job, I'll admit that I would much rather not be here and be at home. But what I heard at home is many of the same things that my colleagues are saying tonight: Washington, can you get your act together? In this Chamber, we passed many, many things that would hopefully improve the economy, but one thing that

seems to be on the mind of my colleagues is pretty clear.

Times have changed. I know some of my colleagues have been here a while, and they think that perhaps in the White House it's the same old, same old. But when we hit the \$16 trillion mark for debt, that raised another red flag about what's going on in Washington.

I am a Republican. My colleagues tonight here are Republicans as well. We're not going to say it's a Democrat problem; we're not going to say it's a Republican problem. At the end of the day it is a Washington problem: it's the fact that we can't get our act together here in Washington. We can vote in here to free up job creators. We can vote in here to roll back regulations. But at the end of the day, we have \$16 trillion of debt.

Like my colleagues, I have young children. I have four young kids. Each one of them, they've done nothing wrong yet—they do a few things wrong, I catch them every day at that—but through no fault of their own, they've got \$15,000 they're going to owe on some spending that's already happened before my freshman colleagues and I arrived at this place—\$15,000, and it is growing every day.

Under this President, trillion-dollar deficits have become the new norm. The last year of the previous administration, \$452 billion of deficits in 1 year, I think the President, then Senator, was bemoaning the fact of what a dastardly amount that was, and here we have doubled and tripled that amount, and each year for the last 4 years added over \$5 trillion of debt. You know, that adds up.

My constituents always keep saying, well, I can't quite understand what's a million, a billion, a trillion. It's pretty hard to explain to them—they don't understand a billion. But for the last 3½ years, this President, this town—Washington—has added \$3.5 billion of borrowing every single day, 3½ years for \$3.5 billion. That's unsustainable, and they want us to solve this problem.

But again, when folks like us gathered here see and hear the concerns of Americans that we have a spending problem—it's not a revenue problem. If it was a revenue problem, we simply would let off the gas pedal a little bit on regulations and we would take care of that. Everybody knows that. Every job creator comes to me and says, Tim, I'd like to invest more. I was visiting with a businessman who owns a packaging company—American Packaging in Hutchinson, Kansas. He said, TIM, I employ 43 employees—and by the way, he did build it—I employ 43 folks. When my father-in-law bought this business in 1987, there were five people employed here. And you know what, TIM, here's what I'd like to do: I'd like to hire two more people. Here in Washington, two more people doesn't add up to anything, but for two families in Hutchinson, Kansas, it would mean the difference between paying college tui-

tion for their kids, whether or not they are able to update their used car, or whether they would be able to make the mortgage or down payment on their house, or whether they might even go on a vacation. That's the difference here.

Today, we have 23 million Americans—just like the two in Hutchinson—that don't have a job or are looking for more work. And Tony at American Packaging says this, he says: Just give me some certainty. Tell me what the rules are going to be, whether it's the tax uncertainty that happens at the end of the year—I'm sure it's been described here. If nothing changes, if Washington doesn't get its act together, if the President doesn't step up to the plate and help us, we're going to have the single largest tax increase in American history—and I dare say in the world's history—happen at the end of the year if we don't get help from the administration, if the Senate Democrats are not willing to provide certainty on taxes.

In addition, we have the regulatory uncertainty that's been discussed. We'll have the health care uncertainty. The provisions of ObamaCare are rolling in. Small businesses like Tony's do not know, what do we have to cover? I don't want to hire two more people because I might be fined if I can't provide for them. It's that type of uncertainty that says, you know what? I can invest, I'd like to make some money—and the businesses are there not just to create jobs; they're actually there to make a profit for the owners and to perform a service for the public. They're not here to work for Washington. But that's actually what does happen if you let the free market and free enterprise system work.

I had a video where Tony spoke. And I must say what shamed me the most was the response from our local newspaper—that was actually, I believe, fronting for this administration. Because Tony talked about the fact that he and his father-in-law built this business, and the newspaper said: No, you didn't build that business; the Government played a key role in making that happen. You know, the government wasn't there with his father-in-law when he hired employee six, employee seven, employee eight. They weren't there. They didn't take the risk. Now we have this whole town wants to take credit, including this President, every time someone hires a new person. But they don't take credit or they don't take fault for the fact that millions of Americans have quit looking for work in the Obama economy.

And it won't be perfect under any President. It never is. Washington can't dictate how an economy ebbs and flows. What I trust in, though, is the American people and American businessmen like Tony that say, hey, I would like to invest, Tim; just give me the certainty to do so and hire two more folks. It doesn't mean anything, again, in Washington, but it means

something in the real world. So I appreciate my colleagues being here.

One of the things that the newspaper did mention—actually, it was a taxpayer-funded college professor—he said, you know, I just want to let you know that the free enterprise system is a charade. Of course, I guess if you work for a public university free enterprise might be a charade. But this is the type of thought that invades many in the White House. It certainly invades where this gentleman teaches. But the fact is free enterprise is not a charade. What it is about is individuals taking a risk, making decisions free from me, free from you, Cory, free from Martha's demands, free to make and take those risks. That's how the economy will continue to grow. That's how we will build the best economy in the world. And that's the economy that's being threatened with \$16 trillion in debt.

Again, this is not our problem, it's not their problem; it's America's problem to solve this. I think we're making progress in the House, and we're going to continue to move forward.

So that's a little bit of what I've heard in my district about their concerns about where we're going to head and where we need to head. I have had town hall after town hall—about 140 town halls. And usually at every town hall somebody comes up to me and says, Tim, I'm doing pretty well—and my district actually is doing fairly well, despite a massive drought which impacts Colorado as well.

□ 2050

And we could talk about water all night, but we probably better not. We're friends right now—just kidding.

But they come up to me and say, TIM, you know, I think I'm going to do fine. I'm ready for retirement. A guy, 62, about, told me this the last time, but I'm worried about what kind of America I hand on to my children and grandchildren. And this current state of affairs, this \$16 trillion, he says, I'm ready to do what it takes. I'm ready to keep working a little bit longer, do a little more, make a little more sacrifices, a little more investments, because I want a better country than I was given, because my parents gave me a better country than they had and my grandparents did the same.

That's the type of promise. That's why I get optimistic. That's why I like to go home, because that's what you guys hear at home as well as I do. They're optimistic. They're hopeful about the future, despite what's going on here in Washington, D.C.

Mr. GARDNER. And the gentleman from Kansas and I share a common, we share the border, eastern Colorado, western Kansas. And so many of the challenges that my farmers are facing your farmers are facing. And you're right, we won't get into water tonight. We'll save that for another day, another time. But the fact is we could both use more of it. And the way we

can use more of it is we store more water. Yet we have policies that are keeping us from storing more water, adding yet to the uncertainty of our farmers and ranchers who desperately need it.

And so whether it's the tax increases that we see at the end of this year, if nothing is done, the estate tax, income tax rates, capital gains rates, and you mentioned that this isn't just a big tax increase. This isn't just a large one for the United States. This is the largest we've ever seen, not only in the United States, but around the globe.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Fifty-five percent death tax. I mean, that's the one that hits the heart of my small businessmen and -women. And they're trying to hand on their business to their children or their grandchildren or someone else they choose, and government's going to come in and grab up to 55 percent of that estate, and that impacts farmers and ranchers in particular, and many other small businesses.

The very heart of economic recoveries in this country have always been driven by small business. It isn't the folks that hire a thousand people at a time. It's the ones that take—add one person, or take a part-time person to full time. And that's what I'm hearing at home, and they're frustrated. But they're ready to roll up their sleeves and go to work, and they expect Congress and Washington to do the same.

Mr. GARDNER. You mentioned optimism for the country, and I carry the same optimism, too, because the people that we work for believe that this continues to be the greatest Nation on the face of this Earth. If we have Congress, if we have Washington that's actually getting its job done, that will pass the regulations to make it easier to do business—excuse me, to repeal the regulations in this country to make it easier to do business, to make sure that we don't increase taxes to hurt their small businesses, better days are still ahead of us.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Oh, tremendous days are ahead of us. They say, hey, just stop doing a little of what you're doing. I'll even admit it. Some of them even say, you know what, what's there right now, as much as I don't like it, if you could just keep it the same. Two years. Give us a breather. Give us a moratorium. We'd like to roll them back, but give us a moratorium, some certainty on taxes, on regulations, on health care, and, TIM, we'll take care of your revenue problems. We'll do it for you.

Mrs. ROBY. The only thing that we all can agree on is that the only thing that is certain is that uncertainty; and to hear the consistency in all of our experiences back home, it's astounding to me why we cannot—why the President and the leadership in the Senate cannot see this, because if they're really listening to the same Americans that you and I are listening to, they would hear the same message that we've brought to the floor tonight.

Mr. Speaker, the choice for the President and the Senate is very, very clear. It's either political paralysis that leads to certain economic catastrophe, or bipartisan leadership that puts us on a path towards prosperity.

And I would just ask that they keep in mind a few people. Remember who this economy has hit the hardest. You've heard stories tonight in this hour of those business owners that have said just that.

Remember the moms at the grocery store that are trying to put food on the table for their family or gas in the car to get to their one or maybe two jobs.

Remember the young people, the recent graduates that we've talked about that can't find a job; and half of them in the class of 2012 are unemployed and they are drowning in debt.

All of these groups, all of these groups, they deserve leadership out of Washington, not lip service.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mrs. NAPOLITANO (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on August 7, 2012, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 4240. To reauthorize the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1402. To authorize the Architect of the Capitol to establish battery recharging stations for privately owned vehicles in parking areas under the jurisdiction of the House of Representatives at no net cost to the Federal Government.

H.R. 3670. To require the Transportation Security Administration to comply with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 54 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, September 11, 2012, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

7439. A letter from the Branch Chief, Planning and Regulatory Affairs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Disqualified Recipient Reporting and Computer Matching Require-

ments received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7440. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — *Bacillus thuringiensis* eCry3.1Ab Protein in Corn; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0109; FRL-9357-4] received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7441. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Flutriafol; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2010-0875; FRL-9348-8] received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7442. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Paraquat Dichloride; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2010-0637; FRL-9357-1] received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7443. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Residues of Didecyl dimethyl ammonium chloride; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0139; FRL-9356-6] received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7444. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Farm Credit Administration Board Meetings; Organization; Standards of Conduct and Referral of Suspected or Known Criminal Violations; Definitions; Disclosure to Shareholders; Accounting and Reporting Requirements; Rules of Practice and Procedure; Practice Before the Farm Credit Administration; and Disclosure to Investors in System-wide and Consolidated Bank Debt Obligations of the Farm Credit System; Unincorporated Business Entities (RIN: 3052-AC65) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7445. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, Air Force Case Number 10-04; to the Committee on Appropriations.

7446. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the activities of the Defense Industrial Base Capabilities Fund during FY 2011, pursuant to Public Law 108-136, section 814(f)(2) (117 Stat. 1545); to the Committee on Armed Services.

7447. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Dirk J. Debbink, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

7448. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Admiral John C. Harvey, Jr., United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

7449. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Frank A. Panter Jr., United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

7450. A letter from the Principal Deputy, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of five officers to wear the authorized

insignia of the grade rear admiral (lower half); to the Committee on Armed Services.

7451. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations (Solano County, California, et al.) [Docket ID: FEMA-2012-0003] received August 7, 2012; to the Committee on Financial Services.

7452. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Ireland pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

7453. A letter from the Member of Board of Directors, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

7454. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to United Arab Emirates pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

7455. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Brazil pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

7456. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's "Major" final rule — Disclosure of Payments by Resource Extraction Issuers [Release No.: 34-67717; File No. S7-42-10] (RIN: 3235-AK85) received August 24, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7457. A letter from the Administrator, U.S. Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting A report on "The Availability and Price of Petroleum and Petrol Products Produced in Countries Other Than Iran", pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 68513(a) Public Law 112-81, section 1245(d)(4); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7458. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the fourteenth report on the progress made in licensing and constructing the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 16523 Public Law 109-58, section 1810; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7459. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting Second Annual Report to Congress on FDA Foreign Offices Provisions of the FDA Food Safety and Modernization Act, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 393 Public Law 111-353, section 201(b); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7460. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Administrative Simplification: Adoption of Operating Rules for Health Care Electronic Funds Transfers (EFT) and Remittance Advice Transactions (RIN: 0938-AR01) received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7461. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Implementation of Device Registration and Listing Requirements Enacted in the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002, the Medical Device User Fee and Modernization Act of 2002, and Title II of the Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act of 2007 [Docket No.: FDA-2009-N-0114] (RIN: 0910-AF88) re-

ceived August 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7462. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's FY 2011 annual performance report to Congress required by the Medical Device User Fee and Modernization Act of 2002; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7463. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — New Source Performance Standards Review for Nitric Acid Plants [EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0750; FRL-9667-3] (RIN: 2060-AQ10) received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7464. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — South Dakota: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions [EPA-R08-RCRA-2010-0933; FRL-9712-3] received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7465. A letter from the Chief, Policy and Rules Division, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Sections 15.35 and 15.253 of the Commission's Rules Regarding Operation of Radar Systems in the 76-77 GHz Band; Amendment of Section 15.235 of the Commission's Rules to Permit Fixed Use of Radar in the 76-77 GHz Band [ET Docket No.: 11-90] [ET Docket No.: 10-28] (RM-11555) received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7466. A letter from the Deputy Division Chief, Pricing Policy Division, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Connect America Fund; A National Broadband Plan for Our Future; Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers; High-Cost Universal Service Support; Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; Lifeline and Link-Up; Universal Service Reform — Mobility Fund [WC Docket No.: 10-90] [GN Docket No.: 09-51] [WC Docket No.: 07-135] [WC Docket No.: 05-337] [CC Docket No.: 01-92] [CC Docket No.: 96-45] [WC Docket No.: 03-109] [WT Docket No.: 10-208] received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7467. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Standards for Business Practices of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines [Docket No.: RM96-1-037; Order No. 587-V] received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7468. A letter from the Environmental Protection Agency, Agency's final rule —, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Determination of Failure to Attain the One-Hour Ozone Standard by 2007, Determination of Current Attainment of the One-Hour Ozone Standard, Determinations of Attainment of the 1997 Eight-Hour Ozone Standards for the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island Nonattainment Area in Connecticut, New Jersey and New York [EPA-R02-OAR-2011-0956; FRL-9696-2] received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7469. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting consistent with the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-243), the Authorization for the Use of Military Force

Against Iraq Resolution (Pub. L. 102-1), and in order to keep the Congress fully informed, a report prepared by the Department of State for the April 26, 2012–June 24, 2012 reporting period including matters relating to post-liberation Iraq, pursuant to Public Law 107-243, section 4(a) (116 Stat. 1501); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7470. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the National Emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism that was declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7471. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a continuation of the national emergency regarding export control regulations, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); (H. Doc. No. 112-136); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

7472. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "U.S. Representation in United Nations Agencies and Efforts Made to Employ U.S. Citizens 2011", pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276c-4; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7473. A letter from the Assistant Legal Advisor for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting report prepared by the Department of State concerning international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7474. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting a notice of a proposed lease with the Government of Germany (Transmittal No. 07-12) pursuant to Section 62(a) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7475. A letter from the Deputy Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 12-34, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7476. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting pursuant to section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, certification regarding the proposed transfer of major defense equipment (Transmittal No. RSAT-12-2991); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7477. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting pursuant to section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, certification regarding the proposed transfer of major defense equipment (Transmittal No. RSAT-12-2993); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7478. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question covering the period April 1 through May 31, 2012 pursuant to Section 620C(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7479. A letter from the Assistant Legal Advisor for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting report prepared by the Department of State concerning international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7480. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting As required by section 401(c) of the National

Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act with respect to Cote d'Ivoire that was declared in Executive Order 13396 of February 7, 2006, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7481. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting an alternative plan for locality pay increase payable to civilian Federal employees covered by the General Schedule (GS) and certain other pay systems for 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5305(a)(3); (H. Doc. No. 112-137); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and ordered to be printed.

7482. A letter from the Auditor, Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting copy of the report entitled "District of Columbia Public Schools Consulting Report Local School and Central Office Budget Process Review (Report #1)", pursuant to D.C. Code section 47-117(d); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7483. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-439, "Compulsory/No Fault Motor Vehicle Insurance Amendment Act of 2012"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7484. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-440, "Automated Traffic Enforcement Amendment Act of 2012"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7485. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-441, "Anacostia River Clean Up and Protection Amendment Act of 2012"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7486. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-442, "Immigration Detainer Compliance Amendment Act of 2012"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7487. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-443, "Access to Selective Service Registration Amendment Act of 2012"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7488. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-444, "DOC Inmate Processing and Release Amendment Act of 2012"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7489. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-445, "Block Party Act of 2012"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7490. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-446, "Pesticide Education and Control Amendment Act of 2012"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7491. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-447, "Anacostia Waterfront Environmental Standards Amendment Act of 2012"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7492. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-448, "Regulation of Body Artists and Body Art Establishments Act of 2012"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7493. A letter from the Executive Analyst, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7494. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, General Law, Ethics, and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting three reports pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7495. A letter from the Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting the Board's annual report for FY 2011 prepared in accordance with Section 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Anti-discrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Public Law 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7496. A letter from the Division Chief, Regulatory Affairs, Department of Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Segregation of Lands — Renewable Energy [WO 300-1430-PQ] (RIN: 1004-AE19) received August 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7497. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary — Land and Minerals Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Oil and Gas and Sulphur Operations on the Outer Continental Shelf — Increased Safety Measures for Energy Development on the Outer Continental Shelf [Docket ID: BSEE-2012-0002] (RIN 1014-AA02) received August 24, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7498. A letter from the Division Chief, Regulatory Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Administration of Mining Claims and Sites [TW-620-1990-00-24 1A] (RIN: 1004-AE27) received August 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7499. A letter from the Director Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Commercial Fishing Operations; Bottlenose Dolphin Take Reduction Plan [Docket No.: 110202088-2252-02] (RIN: 0648-BA34) received August 14, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7500. A letter from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting a report on the authorized amounts expended for FY 2010 and FY 2011, pursuant to Public Law 111-21, section 3(h) (123 Stat. 1620); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

7501. A letter from the Clerk, Court of Appeals, transmitting an opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, *Senne v. Village of Palatine*, Illinois, No. 10-3243, (August 6, 2012); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

7502. A letter from the Senior Counsel to the Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — National Standards To Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape [Docket No.: OAG-131; AG Order No. 3331-2012] (RIN: 1105-AB34) received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

7503. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Bureau of Investigation Anti-Piracy Warning Seal Program [Docket No.: FBI 151] (RIN: 1110-AA32) received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

7504. A letter from the Secretary, Judicial Conference of the United States, transmitting proposed legislation "Criminal Judicial Procedure, Administration, and Technical

Amendments Act of 2012"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

7505. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone, Fireworks display, Lake Superior; Duluth, MN [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0483] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7506. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; F/V Deep Sea, Penn Cove, WA [Docket Number: USCG-2011-1007] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7507. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standards for Living Organisms in Ships' Ballast Water Discharged in U.S. Waters [Docket No.: USCG-2001-10486] (RIN:1625-AA32) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7508. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Local Regulations for Marine Events, Swim Event; Lake Gaston, Littleton, NC [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0197] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7509. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; USMMA Fireworks, Long Island Sound, Kings Point, NY [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0404] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7510. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Hood Canal, WA [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0074] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7511. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Marysville Days Fireworks, St. Clair River, Marysville, MI [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0388] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7512. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; International Special Operations Forces Week Capability Exercise, Seddon Channel, Tampa, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0007] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7513. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Alexandria Bay Chamber of Commerce, St. Lawrence River, Alexandria Bay, NY [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0353] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7514. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Local Regulation and Security Zone: War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration, Port of Boston, MA [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0100]

(RIN: 1625-AA08) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7515. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; City of Tonawanda July 4th Celebration, Niagara River, Tonawanda, NY [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0352] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7516. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Validation of merchant mariners' vital information and issuance of Coast Guard Merchant Mariner's Licenses and Certificates of Registry (MMLs) [Docket No.: USCG-2004-17455] (RIN: 1625-AA85) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7517. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Validation of merchant mariners' vital information and issuance of Coast Guard Merchant Mariner's Documents (MMDs) [Docket No.: USCG-2003-14500] (RIN: 1625-AA81) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7518. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Upper Mississippi River, Mile 183.0 to 183.5 [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0315] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7519. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Eighth Coast Guard District Annual Marine Events and Safety Zones [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0286] (RIN: 1625-AA00; 1625-AA08) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7520. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; America's Cup World Series, East Passage, Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island [Docket No.: USCG-2011-1172] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7521. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; KULLUK, Outer Continental Shelf Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit (MODU), Beaufort Sea, Alaska [Docket No.: USCG-2011-1143] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7522. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zones; Sellwood Bridge Project, Willamette River; Portland, OR [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0131] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7523. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; NOBLE DISCOVERER, Outer Continental Shelf Drillship, Chukchi and/or Beaufort Seas, Alaska [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0024] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7524. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Alternate Tonnage Threshold for Oil Spill Response Vessels [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0966] (RIN: 1625-AA82) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7525. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Village of Sodus Point Fireworks Display, Sodus Bay, Sodus Point, NY [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0355] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7526. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Baltimore Air Show, Patapsco River, Baltimore, MD [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0076] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7527. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Rocketts Red Glare Fireworks, Ancarrow's Landing Park, James River, Richmond, VA [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0114] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7528. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Virginia Beach Oceanfront Air show, Atlantic Ocean, Virginia Beach, VA [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0095] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7529. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Naval Helicopter Association Reunion Helicopter Demonstration, Elizabeth River, Norfolk, VA [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0255] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7530. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone; USS MISSISSIPPI Commissioning; Pascagoula Harbor & Pascagoula River; Pascagoula, MS [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0333] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7531. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Moving Security Zone around escorted vessels on the Lower Mississippi River between mile marker 90.0 above head of passes to mile marker 110.0 above head of passes [Docket No.: USCG-2011-1063] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7532. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zones; Fourth of July Fireworks Displays within the Captain of the Port Charleston Zone, SC [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0384] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7533. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety

Zone; Barrell Recovery, Lake Superior; Duluth, MN [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0491] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7534. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway; North Topsail Beach, NC [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0426] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7535. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Seafair Blue Angels Air Show Performance, Seattle, WA [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0699] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7536. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Fireworks display, Lake Superior; Cornucopia, WI [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0473] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7537. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zones; Multiple Firework Displays in Captain of the Port, Puget Sound Zone [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0488] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7538. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Temporary Change for Recurring Fifth Coast Guard District Fireworks Displays; Northwest Harbor (East Channel) and Tred Avon River, MD [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0251] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7539. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Mentor Harbor Yachting Club Fireworks, Lake Erie, Mentor, OH [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0356] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7540. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Oswego Independence Celebration Fireworks, Oswego Harbor, Oswego, NY [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0481] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7541. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works, Department of Defense, transmitting the final integrated feasibility report and environmental assessment; (H. Doc. No. 112-135); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and ordered to be printed.

7542. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Administrative Simplification: Adoption of a Standard for a Unique Health Plan Identifier; Addition to the National Provider Identifier Requirements; and a change to the Compliance Date for the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Edition (ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS) Medical

Data Code Sets [CMS-0040-F] (RIN: 0938-AQ13) received August 27, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); 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. MILLER of Florida: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 4057. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to develop a comprehensive policy to improve outreach and transparency to veterans and members of the Armed Forces through the provision of information on institutions of higher learning, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112-646). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 6215. A bill to amend the Trademark Act of 1946 to correct an error in the provisions relating to remedies for dilution (Rept. 112-647). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 6189. A bill to eliminate unnecessary reporting requirements for unfunded programs under the Office of Justice Programs (Rept. 112-648). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 4305. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to provide a grant to assist Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies in the rapid recovery of missing individuals; with an amendment (Rept. 112-649). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 1775. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a criminal offense relating to fraudulent claims about military service; with amendments (Rept. 112-650). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 2800. A bill to amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 to reauthorize the Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program; with an amendment (Rept. 112-651). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 6213. A bill to limit further taxpayer exposure from the loan guarantee program established under title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005; with an amendment (Rept. 112-652 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 6131. A bill to extend the Undertaking Spam, Spyware, And Fraud Enforcement With Enforcers beyond Borders Act of 2006, and for other purposes (Rept. 112-653). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. S. 710. An act to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a hazardous waste electronic manifest system; with an amendment (Rept. 112-654). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5544. A bill to au-

thorize and expedite a land exchange involving National Forest System land in the Laurentian District of the Superior National Forest and certain other National Forest System land in the State of Minnesota that has limited recreational and conservation resources and lands owned by the State of Minnesota in trust for the public school system that are largely scattered in checkerboard fashion within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and have important recreational, scenic, and conservation resources, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112-655). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 2706. A bill to prohibit the sale of billfish; with an amendment (Rept. 112-656). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 6007. A bill to exempt from the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 certain water transfers by the North Texas Municipal Water District and the Greater Texoma Utility Authority (Rept. 112-657). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5319. A bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the mainstem of the Nashua River and its tributaries in the commonwealth of Massachusetts for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112-658). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 5865. A bill to promote the growth and competitiveness of American manufacturing; with an amendment (Rept. 112-659 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. NUGENT: House Committee on Rules. House Resolution 773. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5544) to authorize and expedite a land exchange involving National Forest System land in the Laurentian District of the Superior National Forest and certain other National Forest System land in the State of Minnesota that has limited recreational and conservation resources and lands owned by the State of Minnesota in trust for the public school system that are largely scattered in checkerboard fashion within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and have important recreational, scenic, and conservation resources, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5949) to extend the FISA Amendments Act of 2008 for five years (Rept. 112-660). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 6185. A bill to improve security at State and local courthouses (Rept. 112-661 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 6080. A bill to make improvements in the enactment of title 41, United States Code, into a positive law title and to improve the Code (Rept. 112-662). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. ISSA: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 1974. A bill to require the Public Printer to establish and maintain a website accessible to the public that allows the public to obtain electronic copies of all congressionally mandated reports in one place, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112-663 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on the Budget discharged from further consideration. H.R. 5865 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform discharged from further consideration. H.R. 6185 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology discharged from further consideration. H.R. 6213 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED BILL

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII, the following action was taken by the Speaker:

H.R. 1974. Referral to the Committee on House Administration extended for a period ending not later than October 1, 2012.

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. HECK (for himself, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. RENACCI, Mrs. BIGGERT, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio):

H.R. 6361. A bill to exclude from consideration as income under the United States Housing Act of 1937 payments of pension made under section 1521 of title 38, United States Code, to veterans who are in need of regular aid and attendance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FARR, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. SCHRADER, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska):

H.R. 6362. A bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce to issue a fishing capacity reduction loan to refinance the existing loan funding the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Fishing Capacity Reduction Program; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. RENACCI (for himself, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. JONES, and Mr. CAPUANO):

H.R. 6363. A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to clarify Federal law with respect to reporting positive consumer credit information to consumer reporting agencies by public utility companies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. POE of Texas (for himself, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. CLEAVER):

H.R. 6364. A bill to establish a commission to ensure a suitable observance of the centennial of World War I, to designate memorials to the service of members of the United States Armed Forces in World War I, including a National World War I Memorial on the National Mall in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on

Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WEST:

H.R. 6365. A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to replace the sequester established by the Budget Control Act of 2011; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. BACA:

H.R. 6366. A bill to prevent foreclosure of home mortgages and provide for the affordable refinancing of mortgages held by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac through mortgages having 50-year terms to maturity; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 6367. A bill to authorize the placement at the former Navy Dive School at the Washington Navy Yard of a memorial to honor the members of the Armed Forces who have served as divers and whose service in defense of the United States has been carried out beneath the waters of the world; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CANSECO:

H.R. 6368. A bill to require the Department of Justice, in consultation with the Department of Homeland Security, to provide a report to Congress on the Departments' ability to track, investigate and quantify cross-border violence along the Southwest Border and provide recommendations to Congress on how to accurately track, investigate, and quantify cross-border violence; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WOLF (for himself, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, and Mr. MORAN):

H.R. 6369. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to change the membership of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Board of Directors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky:

H.J. Res. 117. A joint resolution making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FATTAH (for himself, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. DICKS, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. COSTA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. RICHARDSON, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. CONYERS):

H. Res. 774. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representative that

the Boys & Girls Clubs of America should be commended for their unique role in improving outcomes for millions of youth and thousands of communities; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. KIND, Ms. MOORE, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. PETRI, and Mr. ROYCE):

H. Res. 775. A resolution condemning the shooting that killed six innocent people at the Sikh Temple of Wisconsin in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, on August 5, 2012; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. TURNER of New York:

H. Res. 776. A resolution recognizing and commemorating the importance of Federal law enforcement officers to United States national security and counter-terrorism efforts; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

279. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Senate of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, relative to Senate Resolution memorializing the Congress to pass and send to the States a Constitutional amendment to restore the First Amendment and Fair Elections to the People; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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. HECK:

H.R. 6361.

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

The power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution, to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing Powers, and all other powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or officer thereof.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 6362.

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

The Congress shall have Power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. RENACCI:

H.R. 6363.

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

Article I Section 8 Clause 3—The Congress shall have power to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mr. POE of Texas:

H.R. 6364.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 1, 12, 16, and 18
By Mr. WEST:

H.R. 6365.

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

Article I, section 9, clause 7 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. BACA:

H.R. 6366.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3; and Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 6367.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution (Clauses 12, 13, 14, 16, and 17) which grants Congress the power to raise and support an Army; to provide and maintain a Navy; to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces; to provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia; and to exercise authority over all places purchased for the erection of forts, magazines, dock-yards, and other needful buildings.

By Mr. CANSECO:

H.R. 6368.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution which states that Congress shall have the power to provide for our nation's common defense. This legislation would increase our nation's security, which falls under the purview of Congress' granted power to provide for the common defense, as stated above.

By Mr. WOLF:

H.R. 6369.

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

Article I, Section 8, clause three; to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky:

H.J. Res. 117.

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

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: "No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law. . . ." In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: "The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States. . . ." Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 12: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 24: Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas.
H.R. 25: Mr. MCCLINTOCK.
H.R. 32: Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 35: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 157: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.
H.R. 186: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 192: Mrs. LOWEY.

- H.R. 266: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 267: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 288: Ms. HANABUSA.
H.R. 289: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.
H.R. 300: Mr. WATT.
H.R. 333: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
H.R. 531: Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 613: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 718: Mr. CLAY and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 719: Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. LATOURETTE.
H.R. 733: Mr. RENACCI, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. SCHILLING, and Mr. LUJÁN.
H.R. 780: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 814: Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 835: Mr. SHUSTER.
H.R. 854: Mr. ROE of Tennessee.
H.R. 860: Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mr. CARNEY, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. ROONEY, and Mr. CHANDLER.
H.R. 890: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 891: Mr. LANGEVIN and Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 905: Ms. CHU, Mr. BLACK, and Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.
H.R. 972: Mr. SMITH of Texas.
H.R. 1063: Mr. FORBES.
H.R. 1085: Ms. TSONGAS and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1167: Mr. SMITH of Texas.
H.R. 1244: Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, and Mr. GUINTA.
H.R. 1327: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 1370: Mr. AKIN, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. MICA, Mr. BONNER, Mr. JONES, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
H.R. 1464: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 1488: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 1509: Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 1519: Mr. BARBER.
H.R. 1546: Mr. CLAY.
H.R. 1653: Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. HARRIS, Ms. BASS of California, and Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee.
H.R. 1733: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 1755: Mr. SMITH of Texas and Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 1842: Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. RUSH, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. BACA, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. BECERRA, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. LORETTA SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Ms. MATSUI, and Ms. WOOLSEY.
H.R. 1876: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 1956: Mr. OWENS.
H.R. 2030: Mr. CARSON of Indiana and Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 2033: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 2069: Mr. COBLE and Mr. ISRAEL.
H.R. 2088: Ms. SCHWARTZ, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. FARR, Mr. REYES, Mr. HONDA, Ms. BASS of California, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MORAN, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. LOEBSSACK, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. DEUTCH, and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.
H.R. 2094: Mr. KUCINICH.
H.R. 2106: Mr. MEEHAN.
H.R. 2123: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 2135: Ms. NORTON and Mr. MCINTYRE.
H.R. 2139: Ms. MCCOLLUM and Ms. GRIFFITH of Virginia.
H.R. 2161: Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 2194: Mr. FILNER and Mrs. LOWEY.
H.R. 2224: Mr. BISHOP of New York.
H.R. 2238: Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 2316: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 2479: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.
H.R. 2499: Mr. WATT and Mr. HANNA.
H.R. 2514: Mr. MILLER of Florida.
H.R. 2524: Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 2557: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 2563: Mr. MCGOVERN and Ms. SCHWARTZ.
H.R. 2600: Mr. KEATING, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. BARTLETT, and Mr. HANNA.
H.R. 2655: Mr. REHBERG and Mr. CARNEY.
H.R. 2672: Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 2695: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 2696: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 2741: Mr. TERRY.
H.R. 2794: Ms. SCHWARTZ and Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 2866: Mr. CONYERS, Mr. TIERNEY, and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 2885: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H.R. 2888: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 2960: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 2978: Mr. SMITH of Texas.
H.R. 3027: Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 3053: Mr. MORAN.
H.R. 3059: Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 3098: Mr. PAUL.
H.R. 3150: Mr. CASSIDY.
H.R. 3199: Mr. KINGSTON.
H.R. 3264: Mr. HUELSKAMP.
H.R. 3269: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 3287: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 3307: Mr. CARSON of Indiana and Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 3308: Mr. MILLER of Florida.
H.R. 3324: Mr. MILLER of North Carolina.
H.R. 3364: Mr. RIBBLE.
H.R. 3395: Mr. WHITFIELD.
H.R. 3415: Mr. STARK.
H.R. 3497: Ms. SCHWARTZ.
H.R. 3506: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 3510: Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 3511: Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 3600: Mr. TOWNS.
H.R. 3624: Mr. KUCINICH.
H.R. 3625: Mr. BACA and Mr. ROSS of Arkansas.
H.R. 3627: Mr. BENISHEK.
H.R. 3634: Mrs. MILLER of Michigan.
H.R. 3798: Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. RUNYAN, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 3831: Ms. BASS of California and Mr. BARLETTA.
H.R. 3855: Mr. STARK.
H.R. 4002: Mr. FINCHER.
H.R. 4010: Mr. BARBER.
H.R. 4017: Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.
H.R. 4037: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 4057: Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 4103: Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. STARK, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. PASCARELL.
H.R. 4137: Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. GERLACH, and Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 4165: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 4215: Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. WESTMORELAND, and Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 4228: Mr. WALSH of Illinois and Mr. BROOKS.
H.R. 4229: Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia.
H.R. 4235: Mrs. ELLMERS and Mr. GONZALEZ.
H.R. 4249: Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 4269: Mr. HASTINGS of Washington.
H.R. 4271: Ms. SCHWARTZ.
H.R. 4290: Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.
H.R. 4342: Mr. BACHUS and Mr. CUMMINGS.
H.R. 4345: Mr. ADERHOLT.
H.R. 4373: Mr. CLAY, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, Mr. BARROW, and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 4385: Mr. HERGER, Mr. CRAWFORD, and Mr. WALDEN.
H.R. 4965: Mrs. HARTZLER, Mrs. BACHMANN, and Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana.
H.R. 5129: Mr. HANNA.
H.R. 5186: Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 5684: Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. FILNER, and Mr. STARK.
H.R. 5796: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. MARINO, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. TERRY, and Mr. COLE.
H.R. 5865: Ms. SUTTON and Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut.
H.R. 5891: Mr. TIERNEY and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 5907: Mr. HONDA and Mr. STARK.
H.R. 5914: Mr. WHITFIELD and Mr. BACA.
H.R. 5937: Mr. HARRIS and Mr. TIBERI.
H.R. 5943: Mr. KISSELL.
H.R. 5959: Mr. SCHIFF and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 5978: Mr. KUCINICH.
H.R. 5987: Mr. GRIMM.
H.R. 6007: Mr. FARENTHOLD.
H.R. 6046: Mrs. CAPPS.
H.R. 6097: Mr. ROSS of Florida.
H.R. 6113: Mr. MCKINLEY, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. SHUSTER.
H.R. 6118: Mr. PAUL and Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.
H.R. 6120: Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 6138: Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, and Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 6140: Mr. STUTZMAN and Mr. GERLACH.
H.R. 6155: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.
H.R. 6176: Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 6185: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
H.R. 6194: Mrs. HARTZLER and Mr. KINGSTON.
H.R. 6200: Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. CHU, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. FARR, and Mr. MORAN.
H.R. 6216: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 6226: Mr. GIBBS.
H.R. 6229: Mr. RUNYAN and Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 6241: Mr. SIREs and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 6245: Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 6250: Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas and Mr. AKIN.
H.R. 6260: Mr. BACA, Ms. BASS of California, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BILBRAY, Mrs. BONO Mack, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CARDOZA, Ms. CHU, Mr. COSTA, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. DREIER, Mr. FARR, Mr. FILNER, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. HAHN, Mr. HERGER, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. ISSA, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEWIS of California, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NUNES, Ms. PELOSI, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. ROYCE, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. LORETTA SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. STARK, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. WATERS, Mr. WAXMAN, and Ms. WOOLSEY.
H.R. 6261: Mr. ROSS of Florida, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. WESTMORELAND, and Mr. LANKFORD.
H.R. 6267: Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. BILBRAY, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. HONDA, and Mr. PLATTS.
H.R. 6275: Mr. ISRAEL and Mr. STARK.
H.R. 6289: Mr. DOLD.
H.R. 6293: Mr. STARK and Ms. BORDALLO.
H.R. 6306: Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.
H.R. 6308: Mr. KUCINICH.
H.R. 6310: Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 6311: Mr. FILNER, Mr. KUCINICH, and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 6313: Mr. BERMAN.
H.R. 6330: Ms. RICHARDSON and Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 6334: Mr. LANKFORD and Mr. GRAVES of Georgia.
H.R. 6335: Mr. MCCLINTOCK.
H.R. 6345: Mr. LATTA.
H.R. 6358: Mr. CUMMINGS.
H.J. Res. 78: Mr. SARBANES.
H.J. Res. 110: Mr. MARINO and Mr. SCHILLING.
H.J. Res. 115: Mr. ISRAEL.
H. Con. Res. 107: Mr. KUCINICH.

H. Con. Res. 122: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.
 H. Con. Res. 129: Mr. RANGEL and Mr. BACA.
 H. Res. 134: Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. CLAY.
 H. Res. 238: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
 H. Res. 289: Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas.
 H. Res. 298: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
 H. Res. 374: Mr. SCHOCK.
 H. Res. 609: Mr. MORAN and Mr. WELCH.
 H. Res. 630: Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mrs. ADAMS, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia, and Mr. GRAVES of Georgia.
 H. Res. 671: Mr. COOPER.
 H. Res. 687: Mr. OLVER.
 H. Res. 745: Mr. COSTA and Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California.

H. Res. 756: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
 H. Res. 757: Mr. MICHAUD.
 H. Res. 763: Ms. RICHARDSON.

congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

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. ROGERS OF KENTUCKY
 H.J. Res. 117, the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013, does not contain any

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,
 58. The SPEAKER presented a petition of Alger County Board of Commissioners, Munising, MI, relative to Resolution No. 2012-11 asking the Michigan Delegation to show their support for past and present Michigan service members and their families; to the Committee on Armed Services.