Previous agreements regarding the import of trash from Canada have had no legal standing and were not enforceable. This legislation will finally allow the U.S. and the State of Michigan to set for themselves legal, enforceable boundaries for the importation of municipal solid waste.

I urge all of my colleagues to support the passage of H.R. 2491.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2491, the International Solid Waste Importation and Management Act of 2005. Riverview and other downriver communities in my district have had to cope with hundreds of trucks full of Canadian trash rumbling down their streets on a daily basis for years. These trucks pass through our communities en route from the Ambassador Bridge to traffic dumps to the west. You can imagine the traffic congestion, environmental, and quality-of-life problems these truckloads of trash have created.

Local activists like Mr. George Read of Trenton and State Representative Kathleen Law have been working tirelessly alongside our congressional delegation to put an end to this never-ending flow of trash, and I am very pleased that the House today is taking a step toward that goal. If adopted, H.R. 2491 would give States the power to restrict the importation of foreign waste. Under current law, only the Federal Government is able to make such restrictions.

Mr. Speaker, let us not overlook the fact that H.R. 2491 has been awaiting floor consideration since it passed the Energy and Commerce committee 14 months ago. Our delegation has had to send two letters to get Speaker HASTERT to finally bring this important legislation to the floor. We now have only about 15 days left in session before we break for the elections, and it will be a tall order for this bill to make it through committee and the full Senate during that time. Indeed, the Republican chairman of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works has already announced that he does not foresee consideration of this legislation any time soon.

I want to commend Senators LEVIN and STABENOW and Congressman DINGELL for the deal they have worked out with Ontario's Minister of the Environment to halt the importation of Canadian municipal waste over the next 4 years. The Bush administration and the Republican Congress have wasted many years and numerous opportunities to address this issue both through legislation and by implementing a bilateral agreement between the U.S. and Canada already on the books since 1992. Our constituents were fed up with this inaction, so our Michigan Democratic legislators took the initiative to negotiate an agreement that will reduce the importation of Canadian municipal trash immediately, and end it completely in 4 years. Republicans can complain about our legislators taking matters into their own hands, but the fact is that the Republicans have failed to do a thing to address this serious problem. The negotiated agreement is a step in the right direction, as is passage of this bill.

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, as a strong supporter and cosponsor of the International Solid Waste Importation and Management Act, I am pleased that the House of Representatives will soon vote on this important bill.

My home State of Michigan continues to be on the receiving end of millions of tons of imports of Canadian trash. According to data from the Congressional Research Service, in 2004 nearly two-thirds of Michigan's total waste imports, about 2.8 million tons, came from the Canadian province of Ontario. In response to this growing problem, H.R. 2491 provides States the authority to enact laws or regulations to limit the transportation and disposal of foreign municipal solid waste. Residents in Michigan have long sought a legally binding and enforceable solution that stops the flow of Canadian trash into the State.

For too many years Michigan has been a dumping ground for waste coming in from Canada. When the city of Toronto closed its landfill in 2002, the city sent its trash to Michigan instead of building a new landfill or transporting it to another Canadian location. Toronto's actions compounded the trash flow problem in Michigan and further incensed the State's residents who consider this issue an environmental concern, a transportation problem, and a public health worry. The State of Michigan and other States should have the authority to protect its citizens. Governments at all levels, Federal, State, and local should have the tools to safeguard residents from potential public health and safety risks. Foreign municipal trash is flooding Michigan's borders with virtually no inspection. Hospital waste and other hazardous waste can, and does, make its way to Michigan. I am a fervent supporter of policies that ensure a free-flow of commerce at the U.S. and Canada border. But, States should have the ability to protect residents from shipments that may pose risks to public health and the environment.

The International Solid Waste Importation and Management Act is the right answer to stopping foreign shipments of municipal waste. While negotiating contracts with landfill operators may sound like a good solution, it does not go far enough. Congressional approval of H.R. 2491 will ensure that States have the authority to prevent foreign waste from crossing our borders. Governors should have control over what enters their state. Such decisions should not be left to private business interests. Importantly too, passage of H.R. 2491 will carry the force of U.S. law.

Instead of clogging Michigan bridges and roads with dump trucks destined for Michigan landfills, it is high time Canada keep its own trash. I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 2491 and allow States to reject foreign shipments of municipal waste.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my support for H.R. 2491, the International Solid Waste Importation and Management Act. I am a cosponsor of this important bill.

Mr. Speaker, the importation of all foreign trash is an issue that is of great concern to the people of Michigan. Time and again the people of my state have made it clear they do not want foreign trash coming into Michigan. Congress has had numerous opportunities to address this problem, either through legislation or the implementation of a bilateral agreement between the U.S. and Canada from 1992, which would allow Michigan to manage foreign waste being disposed of within its borders.

The growing amount of foreign trash coming into Michigan is clogging our roadways, increasing the health and safety risks in our state. In the last 3 years, the number of trucks coming from Canada has roughly doubled, from 180 per day to over 350 per day. Since that time, multiple incidents have occurred where Canadian trash trucks have spilled waste onto Michigan roadways. Owners of two major Michigan landfills are near capacity and state officials claim that in 20 years, there won't be any more landfill space available. It is no overstatement to say the Great Lakes heritage we take so much pride in is at risk if something is not done. We need to protect our environment.

The escalating importation of Canadian trash also constitutes a security threat. In January, the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General issued a report, later released to the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, which found that U.S. Customs does not have an effective method to screen and inspect the hundreds of truckloads of municipal solid waste that enter the U.S. daily through the Detroit and Port Huron ports of entry. In this day and age, Mr. Speaker, such lack of inspection is unacceptable.

H.R. 2491 has broad, bipartisan support, reinforced by its clear passage through the House Energy and Commerce Committee in 2005 by a voice vote without objection.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I add my support for H.R. 2491 and call for its passage.

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

Mr. GILLMOR. 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 Ohio (Mr. GILLMOR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2491, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

YOUTHBUILD TRANSFER ACT

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 3534) to amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to provide for a YouthBuild program.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 3534

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 ''YouthBuild Transfer Act''.

SEC. 2. YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.—Subtitle D of title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 is amended by inserting before section 174 (29 U.S.C. 2919) the following new section:

''SEC. 173A. YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM.

''(a) STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.—The purposes of this section are—

''(1) to enable disadvantaged youth to obtain the education and employment skills necessary to achieve economic self-sufficiency in occupations in demand and post-secondary education and training opportunities;

''(2) to provide disadvantaged youth with opportunities for meaningful work and service to their communities;

''(3) to foster the development of employment and leadership skills and commitment to community development among youth in low-income communities; and

''(4) to expand the supply of permanent affordable housing for homeless individuals and low-income families by utilizing the energies and talents of disadvantaged youth.

''(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ADJUSTED INCOME.—The term 'adjusted income' has the meaning given the term in section 3(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)).

''(2) APPLICANT.—The term 'applicant' means an eligible entity that has submitted an application under subsection (c).

''(3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligible entity' means a public or private nonprofit agency or organization (including a consortium of such agencies or organizations), including—

''(A) a community-based organization;

''(B) a faith-based organization;

''(C) an entity carrying out activities under this title, such as a local board;

''(D) a community action agency;

''(E) a State or local housing development agency;

''(F) an Indian tribe or other agency primarily serving Indians;

''(G) a community development corporation;

''(H) a State or local youth service or conservation corps; and

''(I) any other entity eligible to provide education or employment training under a Federal program (other than the program carried out under this section).

''(4) HOMELESS INDIVIDUAL.—The term 'homeless individual' has the meaning given the term in section 103 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302).

''(5) HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.—The term 'housing development agency' means any agency of a State or local government, or any private nonprofit organization, that is engaged in providing housing for homeless individuals or low-income families.

''(6) INCOME.—The term 'income' has the meaning given the term in section 3(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)).

''(7) INDIAN; INDIAN TRIBE.—The terms 'Indian' and 'Indian tribe' have the meanings given such terms in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

''(8) INDIVIDUAL OF LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY.—The term 'individual of limited English proficiency' means an eligible participant under this section who meets the criteria set forth in section 203(10) of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9202(10)).

''(9) LOW-INCOME FAMILY.—The term 'low-income family' means a family described in section 3(b)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(2)).

''(10) QUALIFIED NATIONAL NONPROFIT AGENCY.—The term 'qualified national nonprofit agency' means a nonprofit agency that—

''(A) has significant national experience providing services consisting of training, information, technical assistance, and data management to YouthBuild programs or similar projects; and

''(B) has the capacity to provide those services.

''(11) REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.—The term 'registered apprenticeship program' means an apprenticeship program—

''(A) registered under the Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly known as the 'National Apprenticeship Act'; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 20 U.S.C. 50 et seq.); and

''(B) that meets such other criteria as may be established by the Secretary under this section.

''(12) TRANSITIONAL HOUSING.—The term 'transitional housing' means housing provided for the purpose of facilitating the movement of homeless individuals to independent living within a reasonable amount of time. The term includes housing primarily designed to serve deinstitutionalized homeless individuals and other homeless individuals who are individuals with disabilities or members of families with children.

''(13) YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM.—The term 'YouthBuild program' means any program that receives assistance under this section and provides disadvantaged youth with opportunities for employment, education, leadership development, and training through the rehabilitation or construction of housing for homeless individuals and low-income families, and of public facilities.

''(c) YOUTHBUILD GRANTS.—

''(1) AMOUNTS OF GRANTS.—The Secretary is authorized to make grants to applicants for the purpose of carrying out YouthBuild programs approved under this section.

''(2) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—An entity that receives a grant under this subsection shall use the funds made available through the grant to carry out a YouthBuild program, which may include the following activities:

''(A) Education and workforce investment activities including—

''(i) work experience and skills training (coordinated, to the maximum extent feasible, with preapprenticeship and registered apprenticeship programs) in the rehabilitation and construction activities described in subparagraphs (B) and (C);

''(ii) occupational skills training;

''(iii) other paid and unpaid work experiences, including internships and job shadowing;

''(iv) services and activities designed to meet the educational needs of participants, including—

''(I) basic skills instruction and remedial education;

''(II) language instruction educational programs for individuals with limited English proficiency;

''(III) secondary education services and activities, including tutoring, study skills training, and dropout prevention activities, designed to lead to the attainment of a secondary school diploma, General Education Development (GED) credential, or other State-recognized equivalent (including recognized alternative standards for individuals with disabilities);

''(IV) counseling and assistance in obtaining postsecondary education and required financial aid; and

''(V) alternative secondary school services;

''(v) counseling services and related activities, such as comprehensive guidance and counseling on drug and alcohol abuse and referral;

''(vi) activities designed to develop employment and leadership skills, which may include community service and peer-centered activities encouraging responsibility and other positive social behaviors, and activities related to youth policy committees that participate in decision-making related to the program;

''(vii) supportive services and provision of need-based stipends necessary to enable individuals to participate in the program and supportive services to assist individuals, for a period not to exceed 12 months after the completion of training, in obtaining or retaining employment, or applying for and transitioning to postsecondary education; and

''(viii) job search and assistance.

''(B) Supervision and training for participants in the rehabilitation or construction of housing, including residential housing for homeless individuals or low-income families, or transitional housing for homeless individuals.

''(C) Supervision and training for participants in the rehabilitation or construction of community and other public facilities, except that not more than 10 percent of funds appropriated to carry out this section may be used for such supervision and training.

''(D) Payment of administrative costs of the applicant, except that not more than 15 percent of the amount of assistance provided under this subsection to the grant recipient may be used for such costs.

''(E) Adult mentoring.

''(F) Provision of wages, stipends, or benefits to participants in the program.

''(G) Ongoing training and technical assistance that are related to developing and carrying out the program.

''(H) Follow-up services.

''(3) APPLICATION.—

''(A) FORM AND PROCEDURE.—To be qualified to receive a grant under this subsection, an eligible entity shall submit an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

''(B) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall require that the application contain, at a minimum—

''(i) labor market information for the labor market area where the proposed program will be implemented, including both current data (as of the date of submission of the application) and projections on career opportunities in growing industries;

''(ii) a request for the grant, specifying the amount of the grant requested and its proposed uses;

''(iii) a description of the applicant and a statement of its qualifications, including a description of the applicant's relationship with local boards, one-stop operators, local unions, entities carrying out registered apprenticeship programs, other community groups, and employers, and the applicant's past experience, if any, with rehabilitation or construction of housing or public facilities, and with youth education and employment training programs;

''(iv) a description of the proposed site for the proposed program;

''(v) a description of the educational and job training activities, work opportunities, postsecondary education and training opportunities, and other services that will be provided to participants, and how those activities, opportunities, and services will prepare youth for employment in occupations in demand in the labor market area described in clause (i);

''(vi) a description of the proposed rehabilitation or construction activities to be undertaken under the grant and the anticipated schedule for carrying out such activities;

''(vii) a description of the manner in which eligible youth will be recruited and selected as participants, including a description of arrangements that will be made with local boards, one-stop operators, community- and faith-based organizations, State educational agencies or local educational agencies (including agencies of Indian tribes), public assistance agencies, the courts of jurisdiction, agencies operating shelters for homeless individuals and other agencies that serve youth who are homeless individuals, foster care agencies, and other appropriate public and private agencies;

''(viii) a description of the special outreach efforts that will be undertaken to recruit eligible young women (including young women with dependent children) as participants;

''(ix) a description of the specific role of employers in the proposed program, such as their role in developing the proposed program and assisting in service provision and in placement activities;

''(x) a description of how the proposed program will be coordinated with other Federal, State, and local activities and activities conducted by Indian tribes, such as local workforce investment activities, vocational education programs, adult and language instruction educational programs, activities conducted by public schools, activities, conducted by community colleges, national service programs, and other job training provided with funds available under this title;

''(xi) assurances that there will be a sufficient number of adequately trained supervisory personnel in the proposed program;

''(xii) a description of results to be achieved with respect to common indicators of performance for youth and lifelong learning, as identified by the Secretary;

''(xiii) a description of the applicant's relationship with local building trade unions regarding their involvement in training to be provided through the proposed program, the relationship of the proposed program to established registered apprenticeship programs and employers, and the ability of the applicant to grant industry-recognized skill certification through the program;

''(xiv) a description of activities that will be undertaken to develop the leadership skills of participants;

''(xv) a detailed budget and a description of the system of fiscal controls, and auditing and accountability procedures, that will be used to ensure fiscal soundness for the proposed program;

''(xvi) a description of the commitments for any additional resources (in addition to the funds made available through the grant) to be made available to the proposed program from—

''(I) the applicant;

''(II) recipients of other Federal, State or local housing and community development assistance who will sponsor any part of the rehabilitation, construction, operation and maintenance, or other housing and community development activities undertaken as part of the proposed program; or

''(III) entities carrying out other Federal, State, or local activities or activities conducted by Indian tribes, including vocational education programs, adult and language instruction educational programs, and job training provided with funds available under this title;

''(xvii) information identifying, and a description of, the financing proposed for any—

''(I) rehabilitation of the property involved;

''(II) acquisition of the property; or

''(III) construction of the property;

''(xviii) information identifying, and a description of, the entity that will operate and manage the property;

''(xix) information identifying, and a description of, the data collection systems to be used;

''(xx) a certification, by a public official responsible for the housing strategy for the State or unit of general local government within which the proposed program is located, that the proposed program is consistent with the housing strategy; and

''(xxi) a certification that the applicant will comply with the requirements of the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.) and will affirmatively further fair housing.

''(4) SELECTION CRITERIA.—For an applicant to be eligible to receive a grant under this subsection, the applicant and the applicant's proposed program shall meet such selection criteria as the Secretary shall establish under this section, which shall include criteria relating to—

''(A) the qualifications or potential capabilities of an applicant;

''(B) an applicant's potential for developing a successful YouthBuild program;

''(C) the need for an applicant's proposed program, as determined by the degree of economic distress of the community from which participants would be recruited (measured by indicators such as poverty, youth unemployment, and the number of individuals who have dropped out of secondary school) and of the community in which the housing and public facilities proposed to be rehabilitated or constructed is located (measured by indicators such as incidence of homelessness, shortage of affordable housing, and poverty);

''(D) the commitment of an applicant to providing skills training, leadership development, and education to participants;

''(E) the focus of a proposed program on preparing youth for occupations in demand or postsecondary education and training opportunities;

''(F) the extent of an applicant's coordination of activities to be carried out through the proposed program with local boards, one-stop operators, and one-stop partners participating in the operation of the one-stop delivery system involved, or the extent of the applicant's good faith efforts in achieving such coordination;

''(G) the extent of the applicant's coordination of activities with public education, criminal justice, housing and community development, national service, or postsecondary education or other systems that relate to the goals of the proposed program;

''(H) the extent of an applicant's coordination of activities with employers in the local area involved;

''(I) the extent to which a proposed program provides for inclusion of tenants who were previously homeless individuals in the rental housing provided through the program;

''(J) the commitment of additional resources (in addition to the funds made available through the grant) to a proposed program by—

''(i) an applicant;

''(ii) recipients of other Federal, State, or local housing and community development assistance who will sponsor any part of the rehabilitation, construction, operation and maintenance, or other housing and community development activities undertaken as part of the proposed program; or

''(iii) entities carrying out other Federal, State, or local activities or activities conducted by Indian tribes, including vocational education programs, adult and language instruction educational programs, and job training provided with funds available under this title;

''(K) the applicant's potential to serve different regions, including rural areas and States that have not previously received grants for YouthBuild programs; and

''(L) such other factors as the Secretary determines to be appropriate for purposes of carrying out the proposed program in an effective and efficient manner.

''(5) APPROVAL.—To the extent practicable, the Secretary shall notify each applicant, not later than 5 months after the date of receipt of the application by the Secretary, whether the application is approved or not approved.

''(d) USE OF HOUSING UNITS.—Residential housing units rehabilitated or constructed using funds made available under subsection (c) shall be available solely—

''(1) for rental by, or sale to, homeless individuals or low-income families; or

''(2) for use as transitional or permanent housing, for the purpose of assisting in the movement of homeless individuals to independent living.

''(e) ADDITIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), an individual may participate in a YouthBuild program only if such individual is—

''(i) not less than age 16 and not more than age 24, on the date of enrollment;

''(ii) a member of a low-income family, a youth in foster care (including youth aging out of foster care), a youth offender, a youth who is an individual with a disability, a child of incarcerated parents, or a migrant youth; and

''(iii) a school dropout.

''(B) EXCEPTION FOR INDIVIDUALS NOT MEETING INCOME OR EDUCATIONAL NEED REQUIREMENTS.—Not more than 25 percent of the participants in such program may be individuals who do not meet the requirements of clause (ii) or (iii) of subparagraph (A), but who—

''(i) are basic skills deficient, despite attainment of a secondary school diploma, General Education Development (GED) credential, or other State-recognized equivalent (including recognized alternative standards for individuals with disabilities); or

''(ii) have been referred by a local secondary school for participation in a YouthBuild program leading to the attainment of a secondary school diploma.

''(2) PARTICIPATION LIMITATION.—An eligible individual selected for participation in a YouthBuild program shall be offered full-time participation in the program for a period of not less than 6 months and not more than 24 months.

''(3) MINIMUM TIME DEVOTED TO EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES.—A YouthBuild program receiving assistance under subsection (c) shall be structured so that participants in the program are offered—

''(A) education and related services and activities designed to meet educational needs, such as those specified in clauses (iv) through (vii) of subsection (c)(2)(A), during at least 50 percent of the time during which the participants participate in the program; and

''(B) work and skill development activities such as those specified in clauses (i), (ii), (iii), and (viii) of subsection (c)(2)(A), during at least 40 percent of the time during which the participants participate in the program.

''(4) AUTHORITY RESTRICTION.—No provision of this section may be construed to authorize any agency, officer, or employee of the United States to exercise any direction, supervision, or control over the curriculum, program of instruction, administration, or personnel of any educational institution (including a school) or school system, or over the selection of library resources, textbooks, or other printed or published instructional materials by any educational institution or school system.

''(5) STATE AND LOCAL STANDARDS.—All educational programs and activities supported with funds provided under subsection (c) shall be consistent with applicable State and local educational standards. Standards and procedures for the programs and activities that relate to awarding academic credit for and certifying educational attainment in such programs and activities shall be consistent with applicable State and local educational standards.

''(f) MANAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

''(1) SECRETARY ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may enter into contracts with 1 or more entities to provide assistance to the Secretary in the management, supervision,

and coordination of the program carried out under this section.

''(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

''(A) CONTRACTS AND GRANTS.—The Secretary shall enter into contracts with or make grants to 1 or more qualified national nonprofit agencies, in order to provide training, information, technical assistance, and data management to recipients of grants under subsection (c).

''(B) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amounts available under subsection (h) to carry out this section for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall reserve 5 percent to carry out subparagraph (A).

''(3) CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In each fiscal year, the Secretary may use not more than 3 percent of the amounts available under subsection (h) to award grants to 1 or more qualified national nonprofit agencies to pay for the Federal share of the cost of capacity building activities.

''(B) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost described in subparagraph (A) shall be 25 percent. The non-Federal share shall be provided from private sources.

''(g) SUBGRANTS AND CONTRACTS.—Each recipient of a grant under subsection (c) to carry out a YouthBuild program shall provide the services and activities described in this section directly or through subgrants, contracts, or other arrangements with local educational agencies, postsecondary educational institutions, State or local housing development agencies, other public agencies, including agencies of Indian tribes, or private organizations.

''(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2012 such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

''(2) FISCAL YEAR.—Notwithstanding section 189(g), appropriations for any fiscal year for programs and activities carried out under this section shall be available for obligation only on the basis of a fiscal year.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 1(b) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (relating to the table of contents) is amended by inserting before the item relating to section 174 the following:

''Sec. 173A. YouthBuild program''.

(c) EXCEPTION TO PROGRAM YEAR APPROPRIATION CYCLE REQUIREMENT.—Section 189(g)(1)(A) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2939(g)(1)(A)) is amended by inserting ''and section 173A'' after ''Except as provided in subparagraph (B)''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) is amended in paragraphs (1)(B)(iii) and (2)(B) of subsection (c), and paragraphs (1)(B)(iii) and (2)(B) of subsection (d), by striking ''Youthbuild'' and all that follows and inserting ''YouthBuild programs receiving assistance under section 173A of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.''.

(2) Section 507(b) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4183(b)) is amended by striking ''subtitle D of title IV of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act,''.

(3) Section 402 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12870) is amended by striking the second sentence of subsections (a) and (b).

(e) REPEAL OF PROVISIONS.—Subtitle D of title IV of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12899 et seq.) is repealed.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amendments made by this section take effect on the earlier of—

(1) the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) September 30, 2006.

SEC. 3. TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS AND SAVINGS PROVISIONS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, unless otherwise provided or indicated by the context—

(1) the term ''Federal agency'' has the meaning given to the term ''agency'' by section 551(1) of title 5, United States Code;

(2) the term ''function'' means any duty, obligation, power, authority, responsibility, right, privilege, activity, or program; and

(3) the term ''office'' includes any office, administration, agency, institute, unit, organizational entity, or component thereof.

(b) TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS.—There are transferred to the Department of Labor all functions which the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development exercised before the effective date of this section (including all related functions of any officer or employee of the Department of Housing and Urban Development) relating to subtitle D of title IV of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12899 et seq.).

(c) DETERMINATIONS OF CERTAIN FUNCTIONS BY THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.—If necessary, the Office of Management and Budget shall make any determination of the functions that are transferred under subsection (b).

(d) PERSONNEL PROVISIONS.—

(1) APPOINTMENTS.—The Secretary of Labor may appoint and fix the compensation of such officers and employees, including investigators, attorneys, and administrative law judges, as may be necessary to carry out the respective functions transferred under this section. Except as otherwise provided by law, such officers and employees shall be appointed in accordance with the civil service laws and their compensation fixed in accordance with title 5, United States Code.

(2) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Secretary of Labor may obtain the services of experts and consultants in accordance with section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, and compensate such experts and consultants for each day (including traveltime) at rates not in excess of the rate of pay for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of such title. The Secretary of Labor may pay experts and consultants who are serving away from their homes or regular place of business travel expenses and per diem in lieu of subsistence at rates authorized by sections 5702 and 5703 of such title for persons in Government service employed intermittently.

(e) DELEGATION AND ASSIGNMENT.—Except where otherwise expressly prohibited by law or otherwise provided by this section, the Secretary of Labor may delegate any of the functions transferred to the Secretary of Labor by this section and any function transferred or granted to the Secretary of Labor after the effective date of this section to such officers and employees of the Department of Labor as the Secretary of Labor may designate, and may authorize successive redelegations of such functions as may be necessary or appropriate. No delegation of functions by the Secretary of Labor under this subsection or under any other provision of this section shall relieve the Secretary of Labor of responsibility for the administration of such functions.

(f) REORGANIZATION.—The Secretary of Labor is authorized to allocate or reallocate any function transferred under subsection (b) among the officers of the Department of Labor, and to establish, consolidate, alter, or discontinue such organizational entities in the Department of Labor as may be necessary or appropriate.

(g) RULES.—The Secretary of Labor is authorized to prescribe, in accordance with the provisions of chapters 5 and 6 of title 5, United States Code, such rules and regulations as the Secretary of Labor determines necessary or appropriate to administer and manage the functions of the Department of Labor.

(h) TRANSFER AND ALLOCATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, the assets, liabilities, grants, contracts, property, records, and unexpended balances of appropriations, authorizations, allocations, and other funds used, held, arising from, available to, or to be made available in connection with the functions transferred by this section, subject to section 1531 of title 31, United States Code, shall be transferred to the Department of Labor. Unexpended funds transferred pursuant to this subsection shall be used only for the purposes for which the funds were originally authorized and appropriated.

(i) TRANSFERS.—The Director of the Office of Management and Budget, at such time or times as the Director shall provide, is authorized to make such determinations as may be necessary with regard to the functions transferred by this section, and to make such dispositions of assets, liabilities, grants, contracts, property, records, and unexpended balances of appropriations, authorizations, allocations, and other funds used, held, arising from, available to, or to be made available in connection with such functions, subject to section 1531 of title 31, United States Code, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall provide for the termination of the affairs of all entities terminated by this section and for such further measures and dispositions as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this section.

(j) SAVINGS PROVISIONS.—

(1) CONTINUING EFFECT OF LEGAL DOCUMENTS.—All orders, determinations, rules, regulations, permits, agreements, grants, contracts, certificates, licenses, registrations, privileges, and other administrative actions—

(A) which have been issued, made, granted, or allowed to become effective by the President, any Federal agency or official thereof, or by a court of competent jurisdiction, in the performance of functions which are transferred under this section; and

(B) which are in effect at the time this section takes effect, or were final before the effective date of this section and are to become effective on or after the effective date of this section,

shall continue in effect according to their terms until modified, terminated, superseded, set aside, or revoked in accordance with law by the President, the Secretary of Labor or other authorized official, a court of competent jurisdiction, or by operation of law.

(2) PROCEEDINGS NOT AFFECTED.—The provisions of this section shall not affect any proceedings, including notices of proposed rulemaking, or any application for any license, permit, certificate, or financial assistance pending before the Department of Housing and Urban Development at the time this section takes effect, with respect to functions transferred by this section but such proceedings and applications shall be continued. Orders shall be issued in such proceedings, appeals shall be taken therefrom, and payments shall be made pursuant to such orders, as if this section had not been enacted, and orders issued in any such proceedings shall continue in effect until modified, terminated, superseded, or revoked by a duly authorized official, by a court of competent jurisdiction, or by operation of law. Nothing in this paragraph shall be deemed to prohibit the discontinuance or modification of any

such proceeding under the same terms and conditions and to the same extent that such proceeding could have been discontinued or modified if this section had not been enacted.

(3) SUITS NOT AFFECTED.—The provisions of this section shall not affect suits commenced before the effective date of this section, and in all such suits, proceedings shall be had, appeals taken, and judgments rendered in the same manner and with the same effect as if this section had not been enacted.

(4) NONABATEMENT OF ACTIONS.—No suit, action, or other proceeding commenced by or against the Department of Housing and Urban Development, or by or against any individual in the official capacity of such individual as an officer of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, shall abate by reason of the enactment of this section.

(5) ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS RELATING TO PROMULGATION OF REGULATIONS.—Any administrative action relating to the preparation or promulgation of a regulation by the Department of Housing and Urban Development relating to a function transferred under this section may be continued by the Department of Labor with the same effect as if this section had not been enacted.

(k) SEPARABILITY.—If a provision of this section or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, neither the remainder of this section nor the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances shall be affected.

(l) TRANSITION.—The Secretary of Labor is authorized to utilize—

(1) the services of such officers, employees, and other personnel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development with respect to functions transferred to the Department of Labor by this section; and

(2) funds appropriated to such functions for such period of time,

as may reasonably be needed to facilitate the orderly implementation of this section.

(m) ACCOMPLISHING ORDERLY TRANSFER.—Consistent with the requirements of this section, the Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall take such actions as the Secretaries determine are appropriate to accomplish the orderly transfer of functions as described in subsection (b).

(n) ADMINISTRATION OF PRIOR GRANTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, grants awarded under subtitle D of title IV of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12899 et seq.) with funds appropriated for fiscal year 2006 or a preceding fiscal year shall be subject to the continuing authority of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under the provisions of such subtitle, as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, until the authority to expend applicable funds for the grants, as specified by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, has expired and the Secretary has completed the administrative responsibilities associated with the grants.

(o) REFERENCES.—A reference in any other Federal law, Executive order, rule, regulation, or delegation of authority, or any document of or relating to—

(1) the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development with regard to functions transferred under subsection (b), shall be deemed to refer to the Secretary of Labor; and

(2) the Department of Housing and Urban Development with regard to functions transferred under subsection (b), shall be deemed to refer to the Department of Labor.

(p) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section takes effect on the earlier of—

(1) the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) September 30, 2006.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on S. 3534.

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

There was no objection.

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

It gives me great pleasure to rise today in support of S. 3534, the YouthBuild Transfer Act. I have been working with my Senate colleagues, the administration, the YouthBuild community, and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) for over a year, and I am pleased that we are here today to finish our work and send the transfer to the President.

YouthBuild began as a community-based organization in 1978, was later replicated in other cities, and ultimately authorized by Congress in 1992. The program provides grants for job training and educational opportunities for at-risk youth who help construct or rehabilitate housing for low-income or homeless families and individuals in their respective communities. Each year, youth who participate in YouthBuild receive a combination of classroom and job skills development and on-site training in a construction trade.

Today there is a national network of more than 225 local YouthBuild programs which have served more than 54,000 young people and built more than 14,000 units of affordable housing in 44 States since 1994. In my work on the Committee on Education and the Workforce, it is clear that our high schools still have room for reform and that graduation rates are a significant problem. This program fulfills a small niche and is making a difference not only in degree attainment but also skills.

Since 1992, the program has been operated out of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Given the fact that the program is at its core an employment and training program for disadvantaged youth, today's bill will delete the program from HUD's jurisdiction and transfer administrative responsibilities to the U.S. Department of Labor.

The ultimate goal of the transfer is to improve services to youth. This is accomplished through the transfer but also in a number of ways, including establishing a stronger linkage to the Workforce Investment Act, WIA, One-Stop System's specialized resources, expertise and market knowledge, particularly in connecting the individuals to supportive services and placing individuals in education, training, or occupations in demand. In addition, the bill authorizes additional education and workforce investment activities including occupational skills training, internships and job shadowing, alternative secondary school services, community service and peer-centered activities, and comprehensive guidance and counseling.

□ 1545

While enhancing these services, the YouthBuild program will maintain its mission to provide affordable housing for low-income and homeless individuals and families. Eligibility is targeted to a more specific youth population by including, in addition to meeting the current-law requirements of being between the ages of 16 and 24, and not having finished school, being in one or more of the following categories: a member of a low-income family, foster care youth, youth offenders, disabled youth, children of incarcerated parents, and migrant youth.

To ensure that other at-risk youth have access to the program, an exemption to the eligibility requirements will be expanded to allow secondary schools to refer students to a YouthBuild program that leads to the attainment of a secondary school diploma.

This is an easy program to support. Not only does it address housing needs in our communities, but also addresses important educational workforce needs by providing meaningful opportunities for at-risk youth to acquire the basic education and job skills needed to advance to productive employment and higher education.

It is not often the case that a program meets two important needs. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to continue their support of the program by passing this.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the YouthBuild Transfer Act, which would move this valuable community development program from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Department of Labor.

The YouthBuild is a program designed to offer construction job opportunities and leadership training to low-income youth while building affordable housing for low-income communities.

While the program has been located in the Department of Housing and Urban Development since its inception in 1993, this bill reflects a new understanding about how we should approach youth issues. Ultimately, the YouthBuild is a youth development program where the participants, largely at-risk young men, nearly half of whom are African Americans, have the opportunity to complete their education and prepare for future careers while developing leadership skills and

learning the value of civic engagement and community service.

YouthBuild participants benefit from the strong counseling and support component of the program. Counseling through the YouthBuild helps participants navigate work and education barriers such as substance abuse, child care, and transportation.

After graduating, YouthBuild participants continue to have access to the resources that will help them explore post-secondary options, have successful careers, and become role models for other at-risk youth.

Since 1993, nearly 60,000 young people have built over 15,000 units of affordable housing. Yet this program has value that far surpasses only the development of affordable housing. This bill provides for the transition of this program from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Department of Labor and specifically as a national program under the Workforce Investment Act.

By integrating the YouthBuild into WIA programs, the program will have access to a wider range of youth employment resources. As a national program it will have the attention of the Secretary of Labor.

We welcome the program to the jurisdiction of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. With continued appropriations, I am confident that this program will continue to thrive in the Department of Labor.

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

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK), the ranking member of Financial Services.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate very much the yielding by the ranking member from the Education and Workforce Committee. I hope we are going to set some good examples for the body today.

First, my friend from Illinois correctly noted that I am the ranking member of the Committee on Financial Services, which under this bill will lose jurisdiction over the program. And I cheerfully get up here to thank my colleagues for doing this.

We are too consumed by turf in this body. I must say, having served on a number of committees, there is not a committee in the Congress that does not have more to do than any rational human being can handle. I wish people would be less concerned about turf.

I agree here: this is a program that makes more sense in the Workforce Committee. It will also resolve a problem we have had in which the appropriation for this program was bounced back and forth between the appropriations subcommittee that deals with HUD and the appropriations committee that deals with the Department of Labor.

I do note parenthetically, I guess, I am surprised that my Republican colleagues have not yet changed the name of the Secretary of Labor to the Secretary of Workforce. They let that nasty word ''labor'' survive longer than I think they meant to.

The point is that there was a tension that was there. I want to express my appreciation to all of my colleagues, including those on the appropriations committee, for dealing with it. And my understanding is that once this bill, which goes from here to the President's desk for what I know is a sure signature, it will free up a contingent appropriation that we have, that is, an appropriation was in, I think, the Labor-H bill contingent on this being done.

So this is a good example, I hope, of cooperation between committees about how to do things. It is also a very good example of bipartisanship. I want to particularly express my appreciation and admiration to the gentleman from Delaware. This was a subject that should not have been hard, but for a variety of reasons it became hard. It involved two appropriations subcommittees, two standing committees, and then it involved that wondrous place, the United States Senate, where very little is simple.

And I want to express my admiration for the extent to which the gentleman from Delaware navigated between shoals in the Senate. I do notice that the Washingtonian magazine listed him as a ''bridge builder.'' And I have to say that in getting all of the various pieces together, and he was able to take the lead in this, he built a bridge that rivals the Delaware Water Gap Bridge in terms of what he was able to do. I am very appreciative.

Because what we have here, as both of my colleagues have said, is a wonderful program. It does what a lot of people talk about doing, but we are rarely able to do. It goes to young people, including many young people who have had troubled pasts who have been not only troubled, but let's be honest, troubling to others. And it takes some of those who are willing to make an effort to straighten out their lives and gives them a framework in which to do it. I have experienced this program in the city of New Bedford, Massachusetts, which has had some problems.

I see my colleague from Georgia here, who did us the great honor of coming to New Bedford and was very well received. We have a situation there with young people who were in those circumstances, and this program has been a wonderful program.

It is actually kind of a two-in-one program, because it provides great help to the young people, and we also get some affordable housing out of it. It is not primarily a housing program, that is why it belongs in this Committee on Workforce, but it does have a housing benefit. And so what we have is a very good program tangled up in jurisdictional issues.

Thanks to the leadership of the gentleman from Delaware, and it was a fortuitous circumstance that he serves on both of the committees, Financial Services and Education and Workforce, and the great enthusiasm of the gentleman from Illinois who has been a strong advocate of this and has helped when we tried to save it a couple of times.

Because of this ambiguity, it was in nobody's appropriation bill. Given the limited allocations that appropriators have, they have the reverse turf issue, because the more you have to cover a program, the less you have got for your other programs. So for a couple of years now, we have had this problem where this program became orphaned in the appropriations process. It was the subject of an unusual custody: both parents were insisting that the other one take responsibility.

We finally resolved that. And so what has happened is that the legislative situation has caught up with an excellent substance. And I now am very pleased that we are going to pass this bill. It is going to be signed by the President. The appropriation will go forward. I have to say the appropriation is not what I would like it to be. Like a lot of other good programs, it has suffered from being squeezed by the, I think, the distorted priorities of this Congress. I do not want to be wholly bipartisan about all of this.

But at least we have saved the program to fight again for a better day. For that I thank the gentleman from Delaware for his leadership, the gentleman from Illinois who has been a strong supporter, and let me say, as a member of the Financial Services Committee, and we had jurisdiction over this program, I say good-bye to it cheerfully, because I understand that in its new home it will be very well taken care of.

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

Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentleman from Massachusetts for his kind words. I hadn't thought about the jurisdictional aspects of this bill until he raised it for it. I cannot really take much credit for it since I am both the receiving and the giving end of this.

But I do agree with his kind words about the legislation. He has been a behind-the-scenes pusher for this legislation for all of this time. In fact, frankly, without his support we would not be where we are today. He is absolutely right: nobody is ever willing to yield jurisdiction on anything around here. So it is a sign of the times, perhaps, that we can move something forward.

I have no further speakers and I am prepared to yield.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I would like to thank the gentleman from Delaware. I want to thank the gentleman from Massachusetts for recognizing that enough is enough and that there is enough work to go around, and for being willing to give up jurisdiction of this work.

I am sure that Education and the Workforce would gladly take it.

Mr. MCKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 3534, the YouthBuild Transfer Act. I commend the gentleman from Delaware for his leadership on this issue and for sponsoring the corresponding House legislation.

Through community organizations nationwide, YouthBuild provides education and job training services, leadership training, counseling, and other support activities to at-risk youth, who—as part of their training—help construct or rehabilitate housing for low-income or homeless families in their communities.

The bill before us today simply would transfer operation and oversight of the program from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Department of Labor. President Bush proposed this change in his two most recent budgets, based on the recommendation of the White House Task Force for Disadvantaged Youth.

The YouthBuild program is, at its core, an employment and training program for disadvantaged youth. The Department of Labor is the Federal agency with primary responsibility for providing youth development and employment services, including the youth development program of the Workforce Investment Act and the Job Corps program. Therefore, moving this program to the Department of Labor will allow better coordination of services for at-risk youth, strengthen connections to the workforce investment system, and streamline program operations.

Mr. Speaker, by moving the program under the Workforce Investment Act, YouthBuild will make more efficient and effective use of Federal funds. The program will be able to maximize collaboration with partners in the One-Stop Career Centers and reduce duplication of efforts across funding streams. In addition, the program will emphasize training that leads to industry-recognized certifications, which will increase participants' access to high demand jobs. At the same time, the program will retain the dual purpose of providing affordable housing.

In short, this transfer will enhance the YouthBuild program and provide meaningful opportunities for at-risk youth to acquire the basic education and job skills they need to advance to higher education and productive employment, while at the same time helping rebuild communities. This is a sound, straightforward, and common sense proposal that I urge my colleagues to support.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support S. 3534, a bill to amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to provide for a YouthBuild program.

The YouthBuild Program enables disadvantaged youth to obtain the education and employment skills necessary to achieve economic self-sufficiency in occupations in demand and postsecondary education and training opportunities.

The program provides disadvantaged youth with opportunities for meaningful work and service to their communities. The goals of the program include fostering the development of employment and leadership skills and commitment to community development among youth in low-income communities, and expanding the supply of permanent affordable housing for homeless individuals and low-income families by utilizing the energies and talents of disadvantaged youth.

The program provides a crucial package of work experience and skills training, occupational skills training, internships and job shadowing, remedial education, language instruction educational programs for individuals with limited English proficiency, secondary education, counseling and assistance in obtaining postsecondary education and required financial aid, and job search assistance.

If you are between the ages of 16 and 24, and have dropped out of school, this is a way to pick up the pieces and learn a craft that can literally rebuild your life and rebuild your neighborhood.

The program is intended for individuals who are serious and committed, interested in learning construction, interested in helping to rehabilitate affordable housing, a low income School drop out, and member of a low-income family, a youth in foster care including youth aging out of foster care, a youth offender, a youth who is an individual with a disability, a child of incarcerated parents, or a migrant youth.

This is an excellent program; we are pleased to have it in my district in Houston. However, it is underfunded, and because of this, it struggles to find the direction it needs to achieve, its maximum benefit. Worthwhile programs like this must be fully funded and supported.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I urge support of what I think is a very good piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 3534.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATING SPELMAN COLLEGE ON ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 875) congratulating Spelman College on the occasion of its 125th anniversary, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 875

Whereas Spelman College was established by Sophia B. Packard and Harriet E. Giles, school teachers and Baptist missionaries, in 1881 in Atlanta, Georgia, for the purpose of educating African American women and girls;

Whereas as a result of the benevolence of John D. Rockefeller, Sr. and Laura Spelman Rockefeller, the name of the institution was changed from ''Atlanta Baptist Female Seminary'' to ''Spelman Seminary'' in honor of the Spelman family;

Whereas the curriculum expanded to include high school and college classes, and Spelman Seminary conferred its first high school diplomas in 1887, and its first college degrees in 1901;

Whereas in 1924, Spelman Seminary officially became Spelman College and grew to become a leading undergraduate institution for African American women;

Whereas Spelman College was ranked among the top 75 Best Liberal Arts Colleges according to U.S. News & World Report, 2007 edition;

Whereas Spelman College is one of six institutions designated by the National Science Foundation and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration as a Model Institution for Excellence in undergraduate science and math education;

Whereas the administration of Spelman College has initiated a strategic plan for Spelman (''Spelman ALIVE'') that includes five goals: Academic excellence, Leadership development, Improving the infrastructure, Visibility of accomplishments of the campus community, and Exemplary customer service, all designed to create a vision for Spelman of ''Nothing Less than the Best''; and

Whereas Spelman College has prepared more than six generations of African American women to reach the highest levels of academic, community, and professional achievement: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates Spelman College on the occasion of its 125th anniversary; and

(2) commends the administration, faculty, staff, students, and alumnae of Spelman College for their outstanding achievements, and contributions to African American education, history, and culture.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 875.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 875, which is a resolution to recognize the contributions of Spelman College on the occasion of its 125th anniversary. I sincerely want to thank the gentleman from Georgia, my good friend, Mr. LEWIS, for introducing this resolution and for his continuing recognition of the important role Spelman College plays in educating young women from all over the world.

Spelman College, located in Atlanta, Georgia, was originally founded in 1881 by two women with the intent of serving as an all-female seminary school. The school has since expanded its mission and ranks now as one of the leading liberal arts institutions offering a full range of degrees.

Today, Spelman educates over 2,000 young women and brings students from across the United States and around the globe to our community of Atlanta. As a Historically Black College and University, Spelman is one of a diverse community of institutions. Historically, black colleges and universities