

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 325 is a good, common-sense bill which is not just timely but long overdue. I urge my colleagues to give it their support.

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 325, legislation to make optional the Employee Commute Option [ECO] trip reduction program.

The dilemma facing Zierick Manufacturing Corp. is possibly the best reason why we should pass H.R. 325.

Zierick Manufacturing Corp. is a small manufacturer of electronic connectors and assembly equipment located in Mount Kisco in northern Westchester County, NY. With over 120 employees, they are faced with the impossible task of complying with the Employee Commute Options program.

Part of the problem is the limited availability of public transportation. In addition, the train station and the nearest bus stop are over a mile from the factory. If the employee took a cab from the station to the factory, under the regulations developed by New York State to comply with this Federal mandate, the 1-mile cab ride would be counted as if the employee drove the entire distance from home. In other words, the employee could ride a train for 50 miles, but the cab ride from the train station would be the mode of travel counted under the formula used to calculate employee trips.

Ridesharing opportunities are limited in Mount Kisco, and since Zierick employees are spread out over 12 counties in 3 States, carpools are difficult to form. Zierick is a manufacturing facility, so telecommuting is not an option.

Zierick Manufacturing is clearly faced with a set of circumstances which prevent it from complying with the law, and yet the regulations allow for no flexibility in these situations. As a result, the company presently faces fines of \$43,800 per year.

Ms. Gretchen Zierick, the company's corporate secretary, has indicated that their plans for future growth will be directly affected by this legislation.

Mr. Harold Vogt, the chairman and CEO of the Westchester County Chamber of Commerce, wrote to me recently and put this issue into perspective:

In the last five years, Westchester County has suffered enough as we've seen 40,000 jobs leave our county. The Employee Trip Reduction/Employee Commute Option Mandate gives businesses just one more reason to look elsewhere when making plans to grow. Similarly, businesses looking to relocate to our county may well think twice about moving here. We cannot afford any more disincentives to reviving Westchester's economy. We need relief from this costly and inefficient mandate.

Mr. Chairman, our support for H.R. 325 will send Zierick Manufacturing in Westchester County and the approximately 28,000 other employers around the country affected by the ECO mandate a clear message that we care about their future, and we care about creating jobs. I urge my colleagues to pass this bill.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EWING). Pursuant to the rule, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute.

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and (three-fifths having voted in favor thereof) the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 325.

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

There was no objection.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EWING) laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable VIC FAZIO, chairman of the Democratic Caucus.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,  
*Speaker of the House, U.S. Capitol.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This letter is to inform you that Jimmy Hayes is no longer a Member of the House Democratic Caucus.

Sincerely,

VIC FAZIO,  
*Chairman.*

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable NEWT GINGRICH, Speaker of the House of Representatives:

DECEMBER 12, 1995.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is to advise you that Representative James A. Hayes' election to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has been automatically vacated pursuant to clause 6(b) of rule X, effective today.

Sincerely,

NEWT GINGRICH.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable NEWT GINGRICH, Speaker of the House of Representatives:

DECEMBER 12, 1995.

Hon. ROBERT S. WALKER,  
*Chairman, Committee on Science, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is to advise you that Representative James A. Hayes' ap-

pointment to the Committee on Science has been automatically vacated pursuant to clause 6(b) of rule X, effective today.

Sincerely,

NEWT GINGRICH.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE HENRY A. WAXMAN, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable HENRY A. WAXMAN, Member of Congress:

DECEMBER 7, 1995.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,  
*The Speaker of the House, Capitol, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you pursuant to Rule L (50) of the Rules of the House that my office has been served with a subpoena issued by the Los Angeles County Superior Court.

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

Sincerely,

HENRY A. WAXMAN,  
*Member of Congress.*

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 5 p.m. today.

#### FEDERALLY SUPPORTED HEALTH CENTERS ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1995

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1747) to amend the Public Health Service Act to permanently extend and clarify malpractice coverage for health centers, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1747

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Federally Supported Health Centers Assistance Act of 1995".

(b) REFERENCES.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Public Health Service Act.

#### SEC. 2. PERMANENT EXTENSION OF PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 224(g)(3) (42 U.S.C. 233(g)(3)) is amended by striking the last sentence.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 224(k) (42 U.S.C. 233(k)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(A)—