

bipartisan bills that this committee has brought to the floor and acted upon expeditiously.

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

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's remarks. I have always enjoyed working with him, and we are able to achieve a great deal of bipartisan work because of our respect for one another. I think more of that would be helpful to the whole House.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act. This measure will authorize \$100 million in fiscal year 1997 for child abuse prevention and treatment programs.

The bulk of this money will support the State grant program which provides child protective services where they are most effective—at the State level. This grant program helps States screen and investigate reports of child abuse or neglect; provide case management and deliver service to children and their families; improve risk and safety assessment tools and expand training for service providers and those required to report suspected cases of child abuse.

Our children are our most precious resource and we must take steps to root out and eliminate abuse and maltreatment. This bill is a move in that direction. I urge all my colleagues to support these amendments and pass this bill.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in supporting the passage of S. 919, the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act Amendments. Child protection is our collective responsibility and the Congressional approval today reinforces our commitment to help our Nation's most vulnerable children and families.

The number of children reported abused and neglected has tripled since 1981. As more and more families encounter pressures, the caseloads at the child protection agencies increase. The steps we take today, in reauthorizing this program for another 5 years, will expand services to strengthen and support families in need.

Guam is currently receiving about \$177,000 in consolidated grants from the Department of Health and Human Services to assist our efforts to combat this problem. Our local child protective agencies have flexibility in designing child protective services, investigations of child abuse and neglect, improvements in risk and safety assessments, and the training of service providers.

The bill will allow Guam the opportunity to apply for family resource grants and adoption opportunities grants authorized in this legislation. We can be more effective if we consolidate a number of broad-based networks of child abuse and prevention programs, family support programs, foster care and adoption initiatives. This bill expands the current program and facilitates the collaboration necessary to maximize resources.

Our children are our most important resources. We need to guarantee them a safe haven when threatened or harmed. We need to reassure children at risk that their safety net is strong and viable. And we need to reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect. The bill passed by the Congress today moves us in the right direction.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 919, the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act Amendments, better known as CAPTA.

BICAMERAL, BIPARTISAN SUPPORT FOR REFORMS

This Congress has already adopted CAPTA reforms several times, as part of welfare reform legislation. However, for technical reasons, CAPTA reforms were deleted from the welfare reform package enacted by Congress and signed into law by the President. Thus, the Senate adopted S. 919. We take it up today, having negotiated additional improvements with both parties and both Houses of Congress.

THE NEED FOR BETTER CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Since 1974, CAPTA has provided States a framework to follow with respect to child protective services. Unfortunately, child abuse continues to increase. The latest studies show reports of child abuse and neglect have doubled in the United States, from 1.4 million cases in 1986 to 2.8 million in 1993.

This is nothing less than a national tragedy. We can and must take action. We do, through this bill. Let me identify just a few improvements we are making in CAPTA to fight the epidemic of child abuse and neglect.

We are providing expanded adoption opportunities for babies who have been abandoned. This follows our previous work in this Congress to expand the adoption tax credit.

We are providing greater protection so that children will not be put back into homes where parents have been convicted of terrible acts against their own children.

We are providing new and expanded roles for private citizens in the area of child abuse and neglect.

In an area we heard a great deal about in my subcommittee hearings, this bill ensures that persons who maliciously file reports of abuse will no longer be protected by CAPTA's immunity for reporting. Under our bill, only goodfaith reports will be protected.

And we are simplifying the administration of the CAPTA program at the State and local levels.

There is much, much more in this bill that is in the best interests of America's children. Every American must take a stand that child abuse is wrong. We must stop this plague of child abuse on our land. Our bipartisan CAPTA reforms cannot stop child abuse; they give help to those people who can.

I thank Chairman GOODLING for his outstanding leadership on this issue. I urge my colleagues to support S. 919 as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DICKEY). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. GOODLING] that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 919, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on S. 919, the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act Amendments of 1996.

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

There was no objection.

PROFESSIONAL BOXING SAFETY ACT OF 1996

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4167) to provide for the safety of journeymen boxers, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4167

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 "Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act:

(1) **BOXER.**—The term "boxer" means an individual who fights in a professional boxing match.

(2) **BOXING COMMISSION.**—(A) The term "boxing commission" means an entity authorized under State law to regulate professional boxing matches.

(3) **BOXER REGISTRY.**—The term "boxer registry" means any entity certified by the Association of Boxing Commissions for the purposes of maintaining records and identification of boxers.

(4) **LICENSEE.**—The term "licensee" means an individual who serves as a trainer, second, or cut man for a boxer.

(5) **MANAGER.**—The term "manager" means a person who receives compensation for service as an agent or representative of a boxer.

(6) **MATCHMAKER.**—The term "matchmaker" means a person that proposes, selects, and arranges the boxers to participate in a professional boxing match.

(7) **PHYSICIAN.**—The term "physician" means a doctor of medicine legally authorized to practice medicine by the State in which the physician performs such function or action.

(8) **PROFESSIONAL BOXING MATCH.**—The term "professional boxing match" means a boxing contest held in the United States between individuals for financial compensation. Such term does not include a boxing contest that is regulated by an amateur sports organization.

(9) **PROMOTER.**—The term "promoter" means the person primarily responsible for organizing, promoting, and producing a professional boxing match.

(10) **STATE.**—The term "State" means each of the 50 States, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, and any territory or possession of the United States.

SEC. 3. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to improve and expand the system of safety precautions that protects the welfare of professional boxers; and

(2) to assist State boxing commissions to provide proper oversight for the professional boxing industry in the United States.

SEC. 4. BOXING MATCHES IN STATES WITHOUT BOXING COMMISSIONS.

No person may arrange, promote, organize, produce, or fight in a professional boxing