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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous matter on the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 749, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act. This bill will allow Federal election candidates to designate someone to disburse their campaign funds in the event of their death. The candidate would simply file an appropriate form with the FEC and could also revoke or change the designee at any time.

H.R. 749 will assure candidates for Federal office that the funds raised by their campaign committees will be distributed in accordance with their expressed wishes after they are deceased.

H.R. 749 is a commonsense fix to the Federal Election Campaign Act. It would provide clear direction to campaign treasurers, who face a wide range of conflicting and confusing State laws. I urge all Members to support this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I am pleased to support H.R. 749, which will permit each Federal candidate to designate an individual who, in the event of the candidate's death, will be authorized to make arrangements for the disbursement of campaign funds.

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 campaign for their ideals.

This bill will ensure that every Federal candidate will have the opportunity to appoint a trusted individual to distribute campaign funds after they have passed. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 749.

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

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

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the author, the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES).

Mr. JONES. I want to thank the chairman and the ranking member for reintroducing this bill and moving it to the floor. Last year we passed this bill at the end of the session, and it went over to the Senate, and the Senate did not have enough time to move the bill.

It has been explained by Chairman BRADY and Mr. MCCARTHY the importance of this bill. There are times in a person's public life that they don't think about the time that they might be called by God. And this happened to my father, as a matter of fact.

I am going to explain the story with my father, just bring it to an end from my standpoint of why I introduced this bill, to help other candidates who are running for office, to help incumbents, as both have said before me.

My father finished his 26 years in the United States House of Representatives in 1993, and he actually died that year, in the fall of that year. And as we found out, he was one of the last Members of Congress that could actually take the campaign account and use it for personal reasons.

As explained by the chairman, Mr. MCCARTHY, that has changed. Now those funds can be disbursed, given to a charity, can be given to a political party or whatever the individual decides to do.

Well, in my father's situation, the treasurer, a wonderful man, Tom Parrish, a lawyer who was handling my father's campaign account when my father passed, then the attorney in Farmville, North Carolina, where I am from, where my father was from, the attorney who was handling the estate called the treasurer and said we need to transfer those funds to Congressman Walter Jones, Sr.'s account. And the treasurer said, no, this cannot happen. By law, I am responsible for the disbursement and I, by law, cannot transfer the moneys. Anyway, it was resolved.

Now, as we know has been stated, that the campaign account, should a Member of Congress, the United States House or Senate pass on, then the Treasury would be responsible for disbursing those moneys. What this bill would do is allow that candidate or incumbent, sitting Member of the Congress, should that person be called by God, that then the family member that they designate will be able—or a friend, it could be a friend, but the family member would be able to be disburse those moneys knowing the wishes of that individual.

And I want to thank the chairman again, I want to thank Mr. MCCARTHY on the floor today. I think this is a bill that really will make it easy for a family should that Member die while he or she is serving in the United States House or Senate or be a candidate.

So, Mr. Chairman, I want to thank you very much for moving this bill again. I am going to work the Senate if this should pass the House.

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. I have no other speakers. I would just like to

thank the gentleman for his work. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I would also like to thank WALTER JONES for this make-sense resolution. I am in favor of this resolution and urge an "aye" vote.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 749.

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.

HOUSE RESERVISTS PAY
ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2009

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1679) to provide for the replacement of lost income for employees of the House of Representatives who are members of a reserve component of the armed forces who are on active duty for a period of more than 30 days, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1679

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 "House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. REPLACEMENT OF LOST INCOME FOR HOUSE EMPLOYEES ON ACTIVE DUTY UNDER INVOLUNTARY MOBILIZATION ORDER.

(a) PAYMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For each active duty month of an eligible employee of the House of Representatives who is also a member of a reserve component of the armed forces, the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives shall pay to the employee the amount by which—

(A) the amount of regular compensation the employee would have received from the House of Representatives if the month had not been an active duty month, exceeds (if at all)

(B) the total monthly military compensation paid to the employee for the month by the Secretary of Defense.

(2) ELIGIBILITY.—An employee of the House of Representatives is eligible for purposes of paragraph (1) with respect to an active duty month if the employee was an employee of the House of Representatives during each day of the 90-day period which ends on the day on which the employee reports for active duty under an involuntary mobilization order.

(b) DETERMINATION OF COMPENSATION EMPLOYEE WOULD HAVE RECEIVED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (a)(1), the amount of regular compensation an employee would have received from the House of Representatives for a month shall be equal to the amount of compensation the employee received from the House of Representatives for the base month (excluding any bonus or incentive payment made during the month), increased (in a compound manner) by any cost-of-living adjustments applicable to the compensation of employees of

the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer for months occurring after the base month.

(2) **BASE MONTH DEFINED.**—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term “base month” means, with respect to an employee, the most recent month for which the employee received compensation from the House of Representatives which precedes the active duty month.

(c) **SPECIAL RULES REGARDING AMOUNT OF PAYMENT.**—

(1) **REDUCTION FOR AMOUNTS PAID FROM OTHER SOURCES AS REPLACEMENT OF LOST INCOME.**—The Chief Administrative Officer shall reduce the amount of any payment made to any individual under subsection (a) with respect to an active duty month by the amount of any payment received by the individual under section 910 of title 37, United States Code, or any other source that is provided to replace income lost by the individual during the month.

(2) **MINIMUM AMOUNT REQUIRED FOR PAYMENT.**—The Chief Administrative Officer shall not make a payment otherwise required under this section if the amount of the payment (as determined under subsection (a), taking into account the reduction made under paragraph (1)) is not greater than \$50.

(d) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section—

(1) the term “active duty month” means, with respect to an employee of the House of Representatives who is also a member of a reserve component of the armed forces, any month during which the employee is not able to perform duties for the office of the employee’s employing authority because the employee is on active duty under an involuntary mobilization order for a period of more than 30 days;

(2) the terms “armed forces”, “active duty for a period of more than 30 days”, and “reserve component” have the meaning given such terms in section 101 of title 37, United States Code; and

(3) the term “total monthly military compensation” has the meaning given such term in section 910(e)(2) of title 37, United States Code.

(e) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated from the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives such sums as may be necessary for payments under this section.

(f) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—This section shall apply with respect to active duty months beginning on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. ENSURING CONSISTENCY WITH CODE OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT.

Clause 8 of rule XXIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(d) Nothing in this clause may be construed to prohibit the disbursement or receipt of any payment authorized under section 2 of the House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009.”

SEC. 4. CLARIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY OF SURVIVORS FOR HOUSE GRATUITY.

The last undesignated paragraph under the center heading “House of Representatives” and the center subheading “Contingent Expenses of the House” in the first section of the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1955 (2 U.S.C. 125), is amended by adding at the end the following: “Nothing in this paragraph may be construed to prohibit the Chief Administrative Officer from paying a gratuity to the widow, widower, or heirs-at-law of an employee of the House who dies during an active duty month (as defined in section 2(d) of the House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009).”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) and the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous matter on this bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1679 will replace lost income for military reservists working for the House of Representatives when they are activated for more than 30 days. I introduced this bill after discussion with several House employees who also serve as members of armed services. When they are called up, these men and women must leave their homes, families and jobs, often for an undetermined and unpredictable amount of time.

While on active duty, men and women earn the wages of full-time servicemen and forfeit their regular salary. Many leading companies have helped families survive during this troubling time by paying the difference between their usual salary and their active-duty pay.

This bill would do the same thing for House employees. It requires the CAO to provide that supplement for House employees when they are activated involuntarily. This is a good bill that honors the devoted public service of House employees who not only serve as stewards of the democracy at home but as her defender abroad.

I thank the ranking member, Mr. LUNGREN, Mr. MCCARTHY and now Mr. HARPER for working with us on this legislation. I urge all Members to support it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT,

Washington, DC, April 21, 2009.

Hon. ROBERT A. BRADY,
Chairman, Committee on House Administration,
House of Representatives, Longworth House
Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BRADY: We write to you regarding H.R. 1679, the “House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009.”

H.R. 1679 contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct. Specifically, Clause 8 of House Rule XXIII (the Code of Official Conduct), is amended to provide a new paragraph “(d)”, providing that “[n]othing in this clause may be construed to prohibit the disbursement or receipt of any payment authorized under section 2 of the House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009.” We write to confirm the mutual understanding of the Committee on House Administration and the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct that this provision does not waive,

reduce, or otherwise affect the jurisdiction of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct to exercise its jurisdiction in this area in the future.

We recognize and appreciate your desire to bring this legislation before the House in an expeditious manner and, accordingly, we do not plan to act on this bill prior to its consideration on the Floor. However, we agree to waive consideration of this bill with the mutual understanding that our decision to forgo action on the bill does not waive, reduce, or otherwise affect the jurisdiction of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct over certain provisions in H.R. 1679.

Please place a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct’s jurisdictional interest in the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House Floor.

We look forward to working with you as we prepare to pass this important legislation.

Sincerely,

ZOE LOFGREN,
Chair.
JO BONNER,
Ranking Republican
Member.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION,
Washington, DC, April 21, 2009.

Hon. ZOE LOFGREN,
Chair, Committee on Standards of Official Conduct,
House of Representatives, The Capitol,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JO BONNER,
Ranking Republican Member, Committee on
Standards of Official Conduct, House of
Representatives, The Capitol, Washington,
DC.

DEAR CHAIR LOFGREN AND RANKING REPUBLICAN MEMBER BONNER: Thank you for your April 21, 2009, letter regarding H.R. 1679, the “House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009”.

I agree that certain provisions in H.R. 1679 are within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct. I appreciate your willingness to waive rights to further consideration of H.R. 1679, and I acknowledge that through this waiver your Committee is not relinquishing its jurisdiction over the relevant provisions of H.R. 1679. Specifically, I confirm our mutual understanding that Floor consideration of H.R. 1679 does not waive, reduce, or otherwise affect the jurisdiction of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct to exercise its jurisdiction in this area in the future.

This exchange of letters will be placed in the Congressional Record as part of the consideration of H.R. 1679 in the House. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have interacted with the Committee regarding this matter. I look forward to working with you as we prepare to pass this important legislation.

Sincerely,

ROBERT A. BRADY,
Chairman.

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

As a member of the House Administration Committee, I am pleased to support H.R. 1679, the House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009.

I congratulate Chairman BRADY for his leadership in introducing this bill, and I am pleased to support any measure that will alleviate some of the financial burden placed upon our military families.

The men and women of the United States Armed Forces, both Active Duty

and Reservists, make many sacrifices to protect our freedom. When called to active duty, Reservists are asked to spend time away from home, to selfishly put themselves in harm's way and, in many cases, to accept a salary that is less than what they would normally earn in civilian life.

The gap in pay experienced by these servicemen and -women often causes undue hardship to them and their families and increases the already heavy burden placed upon them as they leave for battle. I am pleased that this legislation will empower the House of Representatives to do its part to eliminate the financial hardship for those brave employees and their families.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1679.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1679, the "House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009". I would like to thank my colleague ROBERT BRADY for introducing this legislation. H.R. 1679 moves to require that the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives to pay an eligible House employee, who is also a member of a Reserve component of the Armed Forces, for each active duty month, the amount by which the employee's regular compensation from the House would have exceeded the total monthly military compensation paid to the employee for the active duty month by the Secretary of Defense.

The men and women in our Nation's reserve program are vital in our country's greatest time of need. They serve as military personnel, taking the time to stay trained and ready to serve this country at anytime when we as Congress vote to send them into combat. Their entire lives are put on hold, and families left behind to pick up the workload when a member is selected for active duty. They also hold civilian jobs like the employees covered under H.R. 1679, those employed by the House of Representatives. This commitment that they make to our country is much greater than the commitment we make today. In passing this legislation we can guarantee that the payment made to these soldiers by the House is the same when these employees are working as civilians or when they are called to active duty. As they watch a family member leave for service and questions of who will do the household duties that they usually perform. The worst thing we as Congress could do is ask them to take a pay cut.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1679, the "House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009". To require that the Chief Administrative Officer of the House pay House employees, who are also Reservists of the Armed Forces, for each active duty month the amount by which the employee's regular compensation from the House would have exceeded the total monthly military compensation.

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I urge an "aye" vote, and I yield back the balance of time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1679.

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. BRADY of Pennsylvania. 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 and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CIVIL RIGHTS HISTORY PROJECT ACT OF 2009

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 586) to direct the Librarian of Congress and the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution to carry out a joint project at the Library of Congress and the National Museum of African American History and Culture to collect video and audio recordings of personal histories and testimonials of individuals who participated in the Civil Rights movement, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 586

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 "Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds as follows:

(1) A fundamental principle of American democracy is that individuals should stand up for their rights and beliefs and fight for justice.

(2) The actions of those who participated in the Civil Rights movement from the 1950s through the 1960s are a shining example of this principle in action, demonstrated in events as varied as the Montgomery Bus Boycott, the sit-ins, the Freedom Rides, the March on Washington, the drive for voting rights in Mississippi, and the March to Selma.

(3) While the Civil Rights movement had many visible leaders, including Thurgood Marshall, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Rosa Parks, there were many others whose impact and experience were just as important to the cause but who are not as well known.

(4) The participants in the Civil Rights movement possess an invaluable resource in their first-hand memories of the movement, and the recording of the retelling of their stories and memories will provide a rich, detailed history of our Nation during an important and tumultuous period.

(5) It is in the Nation's interest to undertake a project to collect oral histories of individuals from the Civil Rights movement so future generations will be able to learn of their struggle and sacrifice through primary-source, eyewitness material. A coordinated Federal project would also focus attention on the efforts undertaken by various public and private entities to collect and interpret articles in all formats relating to the Civil Rights movement, and serve as a model for future projects undertaken in museums, libraries, and universities throughout the Nation.

(6) The Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution are appropriate repositories to collect, preserve, and make available to the public a collection of these oral histories. The Library and Smithsonian have expertise in the management of documentation projects, and experience in the development of cultural and educational programs for the public.

(b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to create a new federally sponsored, authorized, and funded project that will coordinate at a national level the collection of video and audio recordings of personal histories and testimonials of individuals who participated in the American Civil Rights movement that will build upon and complement previous and ongoing documentary work on this subject, and to assist and encourage local efforts to preserve the memories of such individuals so that Americans of all current and future generations may hear from them directly and better appreciate the sacrifices they made.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT PROJECT AT LIBRARY OF CONGRESS AND NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE TO COLLECT VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDINGS OF HISTORIES OF PARTICIPANTS IN AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROJECT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Within the limits of available funds, the Librarian of Congress (hereafter referred to as the "Librarian") and the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution (hereafter referred to as the "Secretary"), acting jointly, shall establish an oral history project—

(A) to survey, during the initial phase of the project, collections of audio and video recordings of the reminiscences of participants in the Civil Rights movement that are housed in archives, libraries, museums, and other educational institutions, as well as ongoing documentary work, in order to augment and complement these endeavors and avoid duplication of effort;

(B) to solicit, reproduce, and collect—

(i) video and audio recordings of personal histories and testimonials of individuals who participated in the Civil Rights movement, and

(ii) visual and written materials (such as letters, diaries, photographs, and ephemera) relevant to the personal histories of individuals;

(C) to create a collection of the recordings and other materials obtained, and to catalog and index the collection in a manner the Librarian and the Secretary consider appropriate; and

(D) to make the collection available for public use through the Library of Congress and the National Museum of African American History and Culture, as well as through such other methods as the Librarian and the Secretary consider appropriate.

(2) ROLE OF DIRECTOR OF MUSEUM.—The Secretary shall carry out the Secretary's duties under this Act through the Director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

(b) USE OF AND CONSULTATION WITH OTHER ENTITIES.—The Librarian and the Secretary may carry out the activities described in subsection (a)(1) through agreements and partnerships entered into with other government and private entities, and may otherwise consult with interested persons (within the limits of available resources) and develop appropriate guidelines and arrangements for soliciting, acquiring, and making available recordings under the project under this Act.

(c) SERVICES OF EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS; ACCEPTANCE OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES;