

H.R. 307 includes dozens of changes to these underlying authorities. Let me highlight just three provisions that deserve special attention:

First, the bill will ensure that the Food and Drug Administration focuses on medical countermeasures of the highest importance. Medical countermeasures are products designed to combat chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear agents. H.R. 307 will facilitate communication between the FDA and product sponsors—particularly on high priority countermeasures for which sponsors have developed regulatory management plans—to resolve scientific and regulatory questions and help make these products available more quickly. Just last month, FDA approved the first drug developed and procured under Project BioShield.

The FDA provisions in H.R. 307 will also facilitate the rapid provision of existing medicines to people in need during an emergency. Taken together, these FDA provisions—along with the renewed emphasis in our countermeasure enterprise through other parts of the legislation—will make it possible for a greater number of drugs and devices to move from early development to procurement.

Second, the legislation makes improvements to the nation's blueprint for public health preparedness and response activities that will enhance the ability of our diverse health care system to respond to mass casualty emergencies. Among such improvements are clarifying the role of the Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response as the lead office within the Department of Health and Human Services for emergency preparedness and response. H.R. 307 also establishes a new authority to permit the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to approve a request of a state, territory, or an Indian tribe to redeploy certain federally-supported employees during the time of a national emergency to geographic areas where these employees are needed most.

Finally, H.R. 307 continues support for investments in state and local public health departments. Such investments are necessary to make certain that we have the requisite public health infrastructure in place to respond immediately and appropriately to any public health threat that may arise.

This legislation reflects the effort of a number of members—Democrats and Republicans alike. On our side of the aisle, Congressman GREEN, Congresswoman ESHOO, Congressman MARKEY, and our Health Subcommittee Ranking Member, Congressman PALLONE, have been deeply involved. I want to thank them and their staff for all the long and incredibly hard work they have put into this legislation and to the process of getting us here today.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 307.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 307.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further pro-

ceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 49 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas) at 2 p.m.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 22, 2013.

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

SPEAKER BOEHNER: I write to inform you that I have notified Missouri Governor Jeremiah Nixon of my resignation from the U.S. House of Representatives, effective 11:59 p.m., January 22, 2013.

Serving the Eighth Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives has been the greatest honor of my professional career. I am humbled and grateful for the opportunity to represent Southern Missouri, to bring the ideas of the people to our Capitol, and to be part of our democracy. I have always emphasized the same virtues of the people who sent me here: civility, hard work, integrity and love for our neighbors. I deeply appreciate the way our House of Representatives reflects these important parts of life in our great Nation.

I'm grateful beyond words for the members of my staff, our committees and my fellow colleagues in Congress for their service, guidance and friendship. So many talented individuals work to ensure the House of Representatives reflects the voice and will of the People, and most Americans never see the men and women working long hours to advance policy, to support debate and to conduct meaningful oversight.

Finally, I have to thank the constituents of the Eighth Congressional District. In times of tragedy, they have inspired me with their courage. In times of disaster, they have inspired me with their resilience. In times of uncertainty, they have inspired with me their unwavering optimism. I have been honored to fight by their side. I am very proud of what we have accomplished.

Very sincerely,

JO ANN EMERSON.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 22, 2013.

Hon. JEREMIAH W. NIXON,
Governor of Missouri,
Jefferson City, MO.

GOVERNOR NIXON: I write to inform you that I will resign my seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, effective 11:59 p.m., January 22, 2013.

Serving Missouri's Eighth Congressional District for 17 years has been an incredible

honor, a welcome challenge, and a deeply rewarding endeavor. I count myself as incredibly fortunate to have represented Americans who are so passionate about the principles of service and community. Our democracy is in good hands thanks to the talent, dedication and civic pride of the proud Americans working every day to improve our Nation and its prospects.

I commend the citizens of my District to you, and I assure you that my trust in the People remains well-placed with those I have had the honor of representing.

Very sincerely,

JO ANN EMERSON.

HOOR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

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

There was no objection.

PANDEMIC AND ALL-HAZARDS PREPAREDNESS REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2013

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 307) to reauthorize certain programs under the Public Health Service Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to public health security and all-hazards preparedness and response, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 395, nays 29, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 24]

YEAS—395

Alexander	Brownley (CA)	Collins (NY)
Amodei	Bucshon	Conaway
Andrews	Burgess	Connolly
Bachmann	Bustos	Conyers
Bachus	Butterfield	Cook
Barber	Calvert	Cooper
Barletta	Camp	Costa
Barr	Cantor	Courtney
Barrow	Capito	Cramer
Barton	Capps	Crawford
Bass	Capuano	Crenshaw
Beatty	Cardenas	Crowley
Becerra	Carney	Cuellar
Benishek	Carson (IN)	Culberson
Bentivolio	Cartwright	Cummings
Bera	Cassidy	Daines
Bilirakis	Castor (FL)	Davis (CA)
Bishop (GA)	Castro (TX)	Davis, Danny
Bishop (NY)	Chabot	Davis, Rodney
Bishop (UT)	Chaffetz	DeFazio
Black	Chu	DeGette
Blackburn	Cicilline	Delaney
Blumenauer	Clarke	DeLauro
Bonamici	Clay	DelBene
Bonner	Cleaver	Denham
Boustany	Clyburn	Dent
Brady (PA)	Coble	DeSantis
Brady (TX)	Coffman	DesJarlais
Bralley (IA)	Cohen	Deutch
Brooks (IN)	Cole	Diaz-Balart
Brown (FL)	Collins (GA)	Dingell