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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MOOLENAAR).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 20, 2015.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN R. MOOLENAAR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 6, 2015, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

THE GRAVEYARD OF EMPIRES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, this weekend, I learned that there would be no cost-of-living adjustment this year for those living on Social Security. Not only will Social Security recipients not see a cost-of-living increase this year but, also, disabled veterans.

There are over 131,000 veterans on disability in North Carolina who will be suffering this year. Our senior citizens and disabled veterans are having a difficult time making ends meet, and it is not fair that the Federal Government continues to waste money with failed policies like Afghanistan. It is disgraceful.

Mr. Speaker, we will be raising the debt ceiling of this Nation for years to come because of wasteful spending. This means we will be borrowing more money to continue spending more than we take in. Our annual Federal deficit is still over $400 billion a year.

The American people are sick and tired of our wasteful spending, and I know they are frustrated. Once again, our failed policy in Afghanistan is a prime example of the waste, fraud, and abuse of the American taxpayer dollar, but it continues on and on for years to come.

In the recent House-Senate conference bill, Congress included $38 billion for the Overseas Contingency Operation, which is a slush fund used to get around sequestration spending caps for the Department of Defense.

We have already spent over $685 billion in Afghanistan since 2001, and according to the Congressional Budget Office, we will be spending at least $30 billion a year in Afghanistan for the next 8 years, and Congress has never debated the policy of Afghanistan.

This slush fund goes to fund our never-ending wars in Iraq, Syria, and Afghanistan. We continue to spend money on a fool's errand in the Middle East. Meanwhile, our disabled veterans at home cannot keep up with the rising costs of daily living. President Obama will be keeping 10,000 troops in Afghanistan through all of next year and at least 5,000 there after 2016.

Mr. Speaker, years ago, I reached out to a former commandant of the Marine Corps whom I knew, and I asked him to give me his advice on Afghanistan. Many times he has given me his best advice, but one that has stuck with me for years is this—and I quote the commandant:

''What do we say to the mother and father . . . the wife . . . of the last marine or soldier killed to support a corrupt government and corrupt leader in a war that cannot be won?''

Mr. Speaker, that is Afghanistan. It is a waste.

How ridiculous it is that Congress and the administration think we can change history. The history of Afghanistan has shown that no outside military force has ever changed it, from Alexander the Great, to the British, to the Russians. It is truly the graveyard of empires, and I hope we won't have a headstone there, waiting, that will read, ''Welcome, America, to the graveyard of empires.''

Mr. Speaker, this poster beside me is a reminder of the cost of war in Afghanistan. There is a little girl holding her mother's hand as they are waiting to follow a caisson down to bury the little girl's father and the wife's husband.

Congress, wake up. We are heading for collapse in this country. Let's not continue to spend and waste money, blood, and limbs in Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask God to please bless our men and women in uniform, to please bless the families of our men and women in uniform, and, God, please bless America and please wake up the Congress before it is too late.

NURSING HOME ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, we have a problem in making sure that all of our senior adult population is treated with the utmost respect and proper care.

HUD's Section 232 Program was intended to provide Federal loan insurance for loans covering the needs of

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nursing homes and other elder-care facilities. However, while HUD requires these applicants to submit their latest quality ratings, which is a one-star to five-star rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, or CMS, the quality rating is not a deciding factor.

This has allowed nursing homes that provide routinely poor care to receive repeated taxpayer insurance loans. Among others, this is seen in the rise in the number and volume of one-star facilities that received HUD insurance each year from 2009 to 2012 but, also, in reports over two decades from GAO's and HUD's inspectors general.

Clearly, HUD's steps haven't gone far enough to provide real reform to ensure that taxpayer dollars do not go to nursing homes that consistently provide poor care to our seniors and to our needy. We must ensure that taxpayer support is going to nursing homes that provide quality care for their residents, not to facilities that provide continually deficient care.

By linking CMS' quality ratings to loan eligibility, the Nursing Home Accountability Act ensures that new federally backed loans go to nursing homes with a demonstrated commitment to quality care for their residents.

Bottom line, what my bill states is this:

Under CMS' Five-Star Quality Rating System, if a nursing home receives a rating of two stars or less for 30 consecutive months, the nursing home will then be ineligible for any future section 232 loans.

After a nursing home becomes ineligible for future section 232 loans under this Act, it can become eligible once more for future loans if the facility maintains a rating of three stars or more for 30 months.

Regarding ratings, all nursing homes receive a blank slate when this law is enacted, and HUD is allowed to continue to service previously issued loans under this law.

I would also like to say thanks to our local FOX affiliate for researching the gross mismanagement of Federal funds and bringing a greater awareness of this important matter.

Overall, I look forward to opening the national conversation of how we can better focus this program on the quality of care provided to our seniors and to the needy.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 8 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. WOMACK) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

As the Members return, we ask Your blessing on all those who are discerning significant options about leadership here in the people's House. May a spirit of freedom and public responsibility prevail among the other voices competing for ascendancy in the conversations and debates that ensue.

Bless all Members with wisdom in good measure—pressed down, shaken together, and running over—that the legacy of great legislators of our history might be carried on with integrity for the benefit of all.

May all that is done in the people's House be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

SOUTH CAROLINIANS ARE AN INSPIRATION

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the past 2 weeks in South Carolina have been inspiring as I learned and saw spontaneous acts of thoughtfulness and compassion for flood victims.

The thousand-year rain event was a disastrous collision of a weather front from the west meeting a moisture-laden trough from the east caused by Hurricane Joaquin bypassing the State, dumping 11 trillion gallons of water, inundating communities with rainfalls up to 26 inches overnight. The volume was equal to filling the Rose Bowl over 130,000 times.

Governor Nikki Haley and National Guard Adjutant General Bob Livingston, backed up by the State Guard, have continued to lead dedicated personnel for safety and recovery. Colonel Kevin Shwedo will be the recovery coordinator.

Individual acts of heroism arise daily, such as the courage of Frank Roddey, Ryan Truluck, Drew Bozard, and Zack Hudson, who were cited by The State for rescuing, by boat, neighbors from their submerged Lake Katherine homes. Every church and school has energized volunteers and relief efforts for families.

The Salvation Army thanked Mary and J.T. Gandolfo with Rich O'Dell for raising over $141,000 in a WLTX telethon, with Columbia Rotary Club members receiving the calls.

Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson deserves praise for his dedicated FEMA personnel and SBA representatives implementing Federal assistance.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and the President by his actions should never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

NATIONAL FOREST PRODUCTS WEEK

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of National Forest Products Week.

The forestry and wood product manufacturing industry support over 44,000 jobs in the State of Georgia.

Over the past several years, many architects around the world have demonstrated the successful application of next-generation lumber and mass-timber technologies. These new technologies are providing a new, sustainable solution for building safe, cost effective, and high-performing buildings, most of the time in densely populated cities around the world.

By making forests sustainable and promoting wood product innovation, we can ensure that the wood product industry will continue to be a significant employer throughout the United States. I encourage continued support of forest lands and support for strong wood product markets so we can keep this industry healthy for future generations.

I thank those in the forest product industry for your continued contributions to our local economy, the State of Georgia, and the entire Nation.

CONGRATULATING STUDENTS AT MARVIN WARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the students and faculty at Marvin Ward Elementary School in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

With news of the destructive flooding in South Carolina on their minds, this title I school conducted an informal collection of supplies for those impacted by the devastation. In just 24 hours, the school community had come together for the people of South Carolina and collected clothing, blankets,

towels, pillows, baby supplies, toiletries, pet food, and over 60 cases of water.

In addition to reading, writing, and arithmetic, it is clear that the administration and faculty have also been teaching important lessons in compassion and generosity, which I am sure went along very well with the lessons being learned by these students from their families.

Ward Elementary met the call for assistance with extraordinary result. Its students should be commended for their giving spirit and commitment to helping others.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER,

Washington, DC, October 16, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with two grand jury subpoenas for documents issued by the United States District Court for the Central District of Illinois.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with one of the subpoenas is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House. After further consultation with counsel, I will make the determinations required by Rule VIII with respect to the second subpoena.

Sincerely,

ED CASSIDY.

COMMUNICATION FROM DIRECTOR OF APPROPRIATIONS, THE HONORABLE CHAKA FATTAH, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Michelle Anderson-Lee, Director of Appropriations, the Honorable CHAKA FATTAH, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

October 16, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a subpoena, issued by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, for testimony in a criminal case.

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

Sincerely,

MICHELLE ANDERSON-LEE,
Director of Appropriations, Office of Congressman Chaka Fattah.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HULTGREN) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

JUDICIAL REDRESS ACT OF 2015

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1428) to extend Privacy Act remedies to citizens of certified states, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1428

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 ''Judicial Redress Act of 2015''.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF PRIVACY ACT REMEDIES TO CITIZENS OF DESIGNATED COUNTRIES.

(a) CIVIL ACTION; CIVIL REMEDIES.—With respect to covered records, a covered person may bring a civil action against an agency and obtain civil remedies, in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same limitations, including exemptions and exceptions, as an individual may bring and obtain with respect to records under—

(1) section 552a(g)(1)(D) of title 5, United States Code, but only with respect to disclosures intentionally or willfully made in violation of section 552a(b) of such title; and

(2) subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 552a(g)(1) of title 5, United States Code, but such an action may only be brought against a designated Federal agency or component.

(b) EXCLUSIVE REMEDIES.—The remedies set forth in subsection (a) are the exclusive remedies available to a covered person under this section.

(c) APPLICATION OF THE PRIVACY ACT WITH RESPECT TO A COVERED PERSON.—For purposes of a civil action described in subsection (a), a covered person shall have the same rights, and be subject to the same limitations, including exemptions and exceptions, as an individual has and is subject to under section 552a of title 5, United States Code, when pursuing the civil remedies described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a).

(d) DESIGNATION OF COVERED COUNTRY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Secretary of Homeland Security, designate a foreign country or regional economic integration organization, or member country of such organization, as a ''covered country'' for purposes of this section if—

(A) the country or regional economic integration organization, or member country of such organization, has entered into an agreement with the United States that provides for appropriate privacy protections for information shared for the purpose of preventing, investigating, detecting, or prosecuting criminal offenses; or

(B) the Attorney General has determined that the country or regional economic integration organization, or member country of such organization, has effectively shared information with the United States for the purpose of preventing, investigating, detecting, or prosecuting criminal offenses and has appropriate privacy protections for such shared information.

(2) REMOVAL OF DESIGNATION.—The Attorney General may, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Secretary of Homeland Security, revoke the designation of a foreign country or regional economic integration organization, or member country of such organization, as a ''covered country'' if the Attorney General determines that such designated ''covered country''—

(A) is not complying with the agreement described under paragraph (1)(A);

(B) no longer meets the requirements for designation under paragraph (1)(B); or

(C) impedes the transfer of information (for purposes of reporting or preventing unlawful activity) to the United States by a private entity or person.

(e) DESIGNATION OF DESIGNATED FEDERAL AGENCY OR COMPONENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall determine whether an agency or component thereof is a ''designated Federal agency or component'' for purposes of this section. The Attorney General shall not designate any agency or component thereof other than the Department of Justice or a component of the Department of Justice without the concurrence of the head of the relevant agency, or of the agency to which the component belongs.

(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR DESIGNATION.—The Attorney General may determine that an agency or component of an agency is a ''designated Federal agency or component'' for purposes of this section, if—

(A) the Attorney General determines that information exchanged by such agency with a covered country is within the scope of an agreement referred to in subsection (d)(1)(A); or

(B) with respect to a country or regional economic integration organization, or member country of such organization, that has been designated as a ''covered country'' under subsection (d)(1)(B), the Attorney General determines that designating such agency or component thereof is in the law enforcement interests of the United States.

(f) FEDERAL REGISTER REQUIREMENT; NONREVIEWABLE DETERMINATION.—The Attorney General shall publish each determination made under subsections (d) and (e). Such determination shall not be subject to judicial or administrative review.

(g) JURISDICTION.—The United States District Court for the District of Columbia shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any claim arising under this section.

(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

(1) AGENCY.—The term ''agency'' has the meaning given that term in section 552(f) of title 5, United States Code.

(2) COVERED COUNTRY.—The term ''covered country'' means a country or regional economic integration organization, or member country of such organization, designated in accordance with subsection (d).

(3) COVERED PERSON.—The term ''covered person'' means a natural person (other than an individual) who is a citizen of a covered country.

(4) COVERED RECORD.—The term ''covered record'' has the same meaning for a covered person as a record has for an individual under section 552a of title 5, United States Code, once the covered record is transferred—

(A) by a public authority of, or private entity within, a country or regional economic organization, or member country of such organization, which at the time the record is transferred is a covered country; and

(B) to a designated Federal agency or component for purposes of preventing, investigating, detecting, or prosecuting criminal offenses.

(5) DESIGNATED FEDERAL AGENCY OR COMPONENT.—The term ''designated Federal agency or component'' means a Federal agency or component of an agency designated in accordance with subsection (e).

(6) INDIVIDUAL.—The term ''individual'' has the meaning given that term in section 552a(a)(2) of title 5, United States Code.

(i) PRESERVATION OF PRIVILEGES.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to waive any applicable privilege or require the disclosure of classified information. Upon an agency's request, the district court shall review in camera and ex parte any submission by the agency in connection with this subsection.

(j) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act shall take effect 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on H.R. 1428 currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

I would like to begin by thanking Mr. SENSENBRENNER and Ranking Member CONYERS for introducing this important bipartisan legislation to extend privacy protections and help ensure that the flow of law enforcement information between the European Union and the United States continues unimpeded.

In recent years, several broad and highly publicized leaks of classified U.S. intelligence information have eroded the global public's trust in the United States Government and our technology sector. As a result, both the Federal Government and U.S. businesses that operate overseas are facing growing challenges from proposals to limit the international flow of data.

Our allies in Europe, in particular, are concerned that the European public will no longer support law enforcement cooperation with U.S. authorities if we do not enact legislation to restore their public's trust in U.S. privacy protections.

Moreover, American businesses across all sectors face negative commercial consequences abroad as a result of the climate that has been created by the unauthorized disclosure of classified data.

H.R. 1428, the Judicial Redress Act, can go a long way toward restoring our allies' faith in U.S. data privacy protections and helping facilitate agreements such as the Data Privacy and Protection Agreement that enhance international cooperation.

According to the Department of Justice, the Judicial Redress Act is critical to reestablishing a trusting relationship between the European Union and the United States, to ensuring continued strong law enforcement cooperation between the United States and Europe, and to preserving the ability of American companies to do business internationally.

The Judicial Redress Act accomplishes this by granting citizens of designated foreign countries a limited number of civil remedies against the Federal Government, similar to those already provided U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents under the Privacy Act.

This legislation is narrowly tailored in that it only applies with respect to information obtained through international law enforcement channels. Any lawsuit brought pursuant to this bill is subject to the same terms and restrictions that apply to U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents under the Privacy Act.

If this legislation is enacted, citizens of designated foreign governments will be able to sue the United States in Federal District Court with respect to intentional and willful public disclosures of law enforcement information by the Federal Government that injure those citizens.

Additionally, for information that is not subject to an exemption under the Privacy Act, covered foreign citizens will be able to seek redress for failures by the Federal Government to grant access to records or to amend incorrect records. American citizens are already afforded these types of judicial redress rights in many foreign countries.

Although these may be limited civil remedies against the United States Government, they will provide European citizens with the core benefits of the Privacy Act and, in doing so, will greatly help to restore the public trust necessary for the continued success of our law enforcement cooperation with Europe.

The bill will also facilitate adoption of the Data Privacy and Protection Agreement and promote a healthy environment for U.S. companies that do business overseas.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM,
Washington, DC, October 6, 2015.

Hon. BOB GOODLATTE,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I write concerning H.R. 1428, the Judicial Redress Act of 2015. As you know, the Committee on the Judiciary received an original referral and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform a secondary referral when the bill was introduced on March 18, 2015. I recognize and appreciate your desire to bring this legislation before the House of Representatives in an expeditious manner, and accordingly, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform will forego action on the bill.

The Committee takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 1428 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation. Further, I request your support for the appointment of conferees from the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform during any House-Senate conference convened on this or related legislation.

Finally, I would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the bill report filed by the Committee on the Judiciary, as well as in the Congressional Record during floor consideration, to memorialize our understanding.

Sincerely,

JASON CHAFFETZ,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, October 6, 2015.

Hon. JASON CHAFFETZ,
Chairman, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CHAFFETZ: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 1428, the ''Judicial Redress Act of 2015.'' As you noted, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform was granted an additional referral on the bill.

I am most appreciative of your decision to forego formal action on H.R. 1428 so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor. I acknowledge that although you waived formal consideration of the bill, the Committee on the Oversight and Government Reform is in no way waiving its jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in those provisions of the bill that fall within your Rule X jurisdiction. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees on any House-Senate conference involving this legislation.

I will include a copy of our letters in the Committee's report on H.R. 1428 and in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of H.R. 1428.

Sincerely,

BOB GOODLATTE,
Chairman.

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

Mr. Speaker, this legislation before us today is good for national security, good for privacy, and good for business. It is unquestionably the right thing to do for our Nation's closest allies.

Under current law, United States citizens are entitled to access and request a correction to personal records

held by a Federal agency. If the agency denies access or fails to make a requested change or otherwise violates their privacy rights, then we may seek redress in Federal court.

Under current law, these rights are conveyed only to United States citizens and not to the citizens of our closest allies, even though many European countries offer our citizens similar rights overseas, probably somewhat like the Europeans give our folks moneys when they record a song and play it over there, but we don't. We should have that same reciprocity and fairness.

H.R. 1428, the Judicial Redress Act, will extend these core privacy protections to the citizens of certain foreign countries, those designated by the Attorney General as trusted allies. This small change to our laws will afford immediate benefits both at home and abroad.

This act will facilitate information-sharing partnerships with law enforcement agencies across the globe. We know from experience that open lines of communication with our allies yield intelligence and save lives.

The act will enable the U.S. and the European Union to complete an umbrella agreement to govern information sharing across the Atlantic for law enforcement and counterterrorism purposes. This agreement, which would include significant protections for individual privacy, would not go into effect until we have made these changes.

Earlier this year a coalition of companies, trade associations, and civil rights organizations wrote to the leadership of both parties to outline the economic cost of ''a significant erosion of global public trust in both the U.S. Government and the U.S. technology sector.'' Their fears appear to have been well founded.

Earlier this month, citing concerns about insufficient privacy safeguards in the United States, the European Court of Justice effectively suspended the safe harbor agreement that allows companies to move digital information across the Atlantic.

Although there is far more work to be done to restore the agreement, I hope that our allies will take this legislation as a sign of good faith and recognize that a basic right to privacy extends beyond our borders and we will work to restore the public trust necessary for the continued success of U.S. industry overseas.

The Judicial Redress Act is supported by the White House, the Department of Justice, and other Federal law enforcement agencies. It has been endorsed by the Chamber of Commerce, Information Technology Industry Council, Facebook, Google, Microsoft, and IBM, among others.

At base, this bill is a measure of basic fairness. Our friends abroad should have some course of redress with respect to information that they provided to the U.S. Government in the first place.

We all benefit when the information we share is accurate. Our partners in trade and security should have the ability to seek recourse when it is not.

I thank Representative SENSENBRENNER for his leadership on this issue, for his leadership on many issues, including sentencing reform, for his extreme knowledge of the world, and for sharing it with me on occasion. I thank Mr. GOODLATTE for those same talents and achievements.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations of the Committee on the Judiciary, and the chief sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, strong international relationships abroad are critical to the safety and advancement of the United States. That is why I was pleased to introduce the Judicial Redress Act of 2015 with Ranking Member JOHN CONYERS and to speak in favor of it today.

For many years, the United States and the European Union have worked together to secure data protection for their citizens under agreements known as safe harbor. Earlier this month, however, the European Court of Justice issued a landmark ruling invalidating the agreement because of privacy concerns.

The European court's ruling illustrates how fragile trust between nations can be. It is easily lost and hard to rebuild. Moreover, this lack of trust has had huge economic and security consequences for the United States. Our businesses have struggled against public backlash and protectionist policies, and our government has faced increasingly difficult negotiations to share law enforcement and intelligence data.

The Judicial Redress Act of 2015 is central to our efforts to rebuild strained relationships with our allies and to ensure privacy and security for both American and European Union citizens. The sudden termination of the safe harbor framework strikes a blow to U.S. businesses by complicating commercial data flows. If we fail to pass the Judicial Redress Act, we risk similar disruption to the sharing of law enforcement information.

In many ways, the Judicial Redress Act is a privacy bill. It is backed and supported by many of our country's top privacy advocates. But make no mistake. The bill is crucial to U.S. law enforcement. At the heart of the Judicial Redress Act is the pressing need for the continued sharing of law enforcement data across the Atlantic.

In our complex digital world, privacy and security are not competing values. They are weaved together inseparably, and today's policymakers must craft legal frameworks that support both.

This bill provides our allies with limited remedies relative to the data they share with the United States, similar to those American citizens enjoy under the Privacy Act. It is a way to support our foreign allies and to ensure the continued sharing of law enforcement data.

Specifically, the bill will give citizens of covered countries the ability to correct flawed information in their record and access U.S. courts if the U.S. Government unlawfully discloses their personal information.

As United States citizens, we already enjoy similar protections in Europe. Granting these rights to our closest allies and their citizens will be a positive step forward in restoring our international reputation and rebuilding trust.

In fact, our European colleagues have noted that the passage of the Judicial Redress Act is critical to negotiating a new agreement, central to their willingness to continue sharing law enforcement data with the United States and necessary to improving relations between nations.

If we fail to pass this bill, we will undermine several important international agreements, further harm our businesses operating in Europe, and severely limit sharing of law enforcement information.

The Judicial Redress Act currently enjoys broad support and has been endorsed by the Department of Justice as well as the Chamber of Commerce and numerous U.S. businesses.

I would like to thank my colleagues, Representatives JOHN CONYERS, RANDY FORBES, and GLENN THOMPSON, for cosponsoring this legislation, as well as Senators ORRIN HATCH and CHRISTOPHER MURPHY for their work on companion legislation in the Senate.

The Judicial Redress Act amounts to a small courtesy that will pay huge diplomatic and economic dividends. I urge my colleagues to pass this important bill and my colleagues in the Senate to take it up without delay.

Let's put the President's infamous pen to good use by signing this legislation.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I will perfunctorily reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS), a member of the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is important, I think, to come over here and discuss H.R. 1428, the Judicial Redress Act. Echoing a lot that has been said already, this is a great starting point for, really, a broader conversation about privacy rights and a conversation that is sorely needed.

I supported this bill when it passed the Committee on the Judiciary unanimously, and I am proud to support it today. The bill extends the same rights afforded to Americans under the 1974 Privacy Act to citizens of certain allied nations. Importantly, only citizens

of countries who extend similar rights to Americans for redress for privacy violations are eligible.

As everyone here is aware, revelations about U.S. surveillance operations created serious trust issues, and both the government and tech sectors experienced a decline in that global trust. Advances in technology and innovation have made it possible and necessary for law enforcement to exchange information, but it should not be done at the expense of privacy rights.

In order to restore global trust and ensure continued competitiveness for our thriving tech industry, we must work to restore consumers' faith that their data is secure in U.S. tech companies and their privacy rights are protected.

□ 1615

The United States tech industry employed an estimated 6.5 million people in 2014 and made up a large 7.1 percent of the U.S. GDP, which is going to do nothing but grow.

The free flow of transnational data is critical for the continued success of this industry that contributes in such a major way to our economy. We have to show our allies that they can be confident sharing data across the oceans and the various barriers.

The Judicial Redress Act is a step toward regaining trust and rebuilding cooperation with our allies, ensuring that U.S. businesses can continue to grow and thrive internationally. H.R. 1428 is particularly important because the U.S. and the EU have negotiated the Data Protection and Privacy Agreement for the last 2 years.

During the negotiations over the agreement, the EU Parliament and EU Commission made clear that the Safe Harbor Agreement would not be finalized absent U.S. enactment of a law to enable EU citizens to sue the U.S. Government for major privacy violations. With the European Court of Justice Ruling on the Safe Harbor Agreement, it is more important than ever that we create solutions that work for today's ever-changing tech industry, from the small companies to the household names. It is also critical that we work with our allies to create a clear standard for governing the privacy of personal information to ensure strong and cooperative exchanges between law enforcement.

Laws and agreements written before many of today's innovations even existed are due for an update, and this bill is an important first step that I am proud to support. I am thankful that the chairman has brought it forward for this body to put its stamp on and send to the Senate so that it will be taken up and then sent to the President so that we will continue to move forward in the protection of privacy rights for all Americans and our companies.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate being part of this bill, and thank you for your efforts.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I again reiterate, this bill is a good bill. It is a very important bill that will help promote law enforcement cooperation around the globe and will help U.S. companies that do business overseas to be able to better obtain the respect and trust of foreign governments and foreign citizens, so I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1428.

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.

SECURING THE CITIES ACT OF 2015

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3493) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Securing the Cities program to enhance the ability of the United States to detect and prevent terrorist attacks and other high consequence events utilizing nuclear or other radiological materials that pose a high risk to homeland security in high-risk urban areas, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3493

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 ''Securing the Cities Act of 2015''.

SEC. 2. SECURING THE CITIES PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title XIX of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 591 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 1908. SECURING THE CITIES PROGRAM.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director for Domestic Nuclear Detection shall establish the 'Securing the Cities' ('STC') program to enhance the ability of the United States to detect and prevent terrorist attacks and other high consequence events utilizing nuclear or other radiological materials that pose a high risk to homeland security in high-risk urban areas. Through such program the Director shall—

''(1) assist State, local, tribal, and territorial governments in designing and implementing, or enhancing existing, architectures for coordinated and integrated detection and interdiction of nuclear or other radiological materials that are out of regulatory control;

''(2) support the development of a region-wide operating capability to detect and report on nuclear and other radioactive materials out of operational control;

''(3) provide resources to enhance detection, analysis, communication, and coordination to better integrate State, local, tribal, and territorial assets into Federal operations;

''(4) facilitate alarm adjudication and provide subject matter expertise and technical assistance on concepts of operations, training, exercises, and alarm response protocols;

''(5) communicate with, and promote sharing of information about the presence or detection of nuclear or other radiological materials among appropriate Federal, State, local, tribal, and territorial governments, in a manner that ensures transparency with the jurisdictions served by such program; and

''(6) provide any other assistance the Director determines appropriate.

''(b) DESIGNATION OF JURISDICTIONS.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), the Director shall designate jurisdictions from among high-risk urban areas under section 2003, and other cities and regions, as appropriate.

''(c) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—The Director shall notify the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate not later than three days before the designation of new jurisdictions under subsection (b) or other changes to participating jurisdictions.

''(d) GAO REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the congressional committees specified in subsection (c) an assessment, including an evaluation of the effectiveness, of the STC program under this section.

''(e) PROHIBITION ON ADDITIONAL FUNDING.—No funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section. This section shall be carried out using amounts otherwise appropriated or made available for such purpose.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1907 the following new item:

''Sec. 1908. Securing the Cities program.''.

SEC. 3. MODEL EXERCISES.

Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director for Domestic Nuclear Detection of the Department of Homeland Security shall report to the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate on the feasibility of the Director developing model exercises to test the preparedness of jurisdictions participating in the Securing the Cities program under section 1908 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (as added by section 2 of this Act) in meeting the challenges that may be posed by a range of nuclear and radiological threats.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 3493, the Securing the Cities Act of 2015.

In April 2010, the President stated: ''The single biggest threat to U.S. security, both short-term, mid-term and long-term, would be the possibility of a terrorist organization obtaining a nuclear weapon.''

Since that time, the threat to our cities from nuclear terrorism has not abated. The rise of ISIS and the resurgence of al Qaeda have only increased the likelihood that radiological material will fall into the hands of those who wish to harm America.

Just last week, the Associated Press reported that the FBI foiled an attempt by smugglers in Eastern Europe to sell nuclear material to Middle Eastern extremist groups. That report stated that, in the past 5 years, the FBI has disrupted four other attempts by smugglers from the former Soviet Union to sell nuclear materials to criminal organizations.

These events only reinforce the testimony delivered before the House Committee on Homeland Security last month by Commissioner William Bratton of the New York City Police Department. In that testimony, the commissioner described the current terrorist threat to Manhattan as the highest it has ever been, and he specifically referenced the danger of illicit nuclear material entering the city.

Thankfully, since the attacks of September 11, 2001, this Congress, successive administrations, and local law enforcement have partnered to build the capability to guard against this risk.

In particular, the Department of Homeland Security initiated the Securing the Cities program within the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office. The Securing the Cities program provided training, equipment, and other resources to State and local law enforcement in high-risk urban areas to prevent a terrorist group from carrying out an attack using a radiological or nuclear device.

The Securing the Cities program began in 2006 as a pilot program in the New York City region, which included Jersey City and Newark. Since 2007, the New York City region has purchased nearly 14,000 radiation detectors and has trained nearly 20,000 personnel.

The pilot program has been so successful, it was expanded to the Los Angeles-Long Beach region in fiscal year 2012, the national capital region in fiscal year 2014, and just last week the cities of Houston and Chicago were announced as the fiscal year 2015 and 2016 recipients.

H.R. 3493 would authorize the Securing the Cities program, which has proven its utility as a pilot program. With continued authorization, we can assure that the extraordinary capability built by local law enforcement in conjunction with DHS does not become a hollow capability, unable to be effectively used at the critical moment.

I would like to thank my colleagues who have helped bring this authorization to the floor, especially Chairman MCCAUL of the Homeland Security Committee, and my good friend PETE KING, and also my friend from Texas Representative JACKSON LEE.

I urge all Members to join me in supporting this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and rise in support of H.R. 3493, Securing the Cities Act of 2015.

Mr. Speaker, the Securing the Cities program is a grant and technical assistance program administered by the Department of Homeland Security's Domestic Nuclear Detection Office. Since its inception nearly a decade ago, the Securing the Cities program has provided thousands of first responders with the tools they need to detect radiological and nuclear threats.

Started as a pilot project in 2006 in the New York City, Newark, and New Jersey metropolitan areas, the program has grown to include Los Angeles and Long Beach in 2012, and the Washington, D.C., Federal district in 2014. This year, the program has identified Houston and Chicago as high-priority areas for expanding the program.

Under the program, the initial grant award is generally used for planning and analysis at a regional level, with subsequent grants going towards equipment, training, and exercises. Importantly, through the Securing the Cities program, the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office is able to channel subject-matter expertise, training coordination, and technical support to all the identified high-risk metropolitan areas.

H.R. 3493, like the bill I introduced that will be next to be considered, is targeted at bolstering the security of our communities from the threat of a nuclear attack. As such, Mr. Speaker, I urge support of H.R. 3493.

We have an opportunity today to take action to bolster our defense against rogue actors and terrorists who would seek to detonate a nuclear device on U.S. soil. The disclosure in recent weeks of a thwarted plot by Moldovan operatives to provide smuggled nuclear materials to terrorist organizations with ambition to attack the United States has crystallized the need for action. Today, we can take such action. By approving H.R. 3493 and authorizing the Securing the Cities program, we will be enhancing the Nation's ability to detect and prevent a radiological and nuclear attack in cities facing the highest risk.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I once again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3493, the Securing the Cities Act of 2015.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3493, as amended.

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. DONOVAN. 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 proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

KNOW THE CBRN TERRORISM THREATS TO TRANSPORTATION ACT

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3350) to require a terrorism threat assessment regarding the transportation of chemical, biological, nuclear, and radiological materials through United States land borders and within the United States, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3350

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 ''Know the CBRN Terrorism Threats to Transportation Act''.

SEC. 2. TERRORISM THREAT ASSESSMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Under Secretary of Intelligence and Analysis, shall conduct a terrorism threat assessment of the transportation of chemical, biological, nuclear, and radiological materials through United States land borders and within the United States.

(b) CONSULTATION.—In preparing the terrorism threat assessment required under subsection (a), the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis shall consult with the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and the heads of other Federal departments and agencies, as appropriate, to ensure that such terrorism threat assessment is informed by current information about homeland security threats.

(c) DISTRIBUTION.—Upon completion of the terrorism threat assessment required under subsection (a), the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis shall disseminate such terrorism threat assessment to Federal partners, including the Department of Transportation and the Department of Energy, and State and local partners, including the National Network of Fusion Centers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3350, the Know the CBRN Terrorism Threats to Transportation Act, introduced by the gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS).

This bill requires the Department of Homeland Security, through the Office of Intelligence and Analysis, to conduct a terrorism threat assessment of the transportation of chemical, biological, nuclear, and radiological materials across our land borders and within the United States.

As a fellow New Yorker, I share Congressman HIGGINS' security concerns related to the transportation of spent nuclear fuel across the Canadian-New York border. It is an appropriate response to have the Department of Homeland Security conduct a risk assessment related to this initiative.

DHS is responsible for assessing potential terror threats against the homeland. Threats related to CBRN materials are one of the most serious.

Terrorist groups have long had an interest in using CBRN materials. In addition to concerns that terror groups may try to create or purchase CBRN materials, there are concerns that terrorists could exploit such materials with legitimate commercial uses, including when such materials are transported from one location to another. It is this concern that the bill seeks to address.

The bill also directs that the results of the assessment be shared with relevant Federal, State, and local agencies, including the Department of Energy and the National Network of Fusion Centers. Coordination and information-sharing within the Department, as well as between the Department and other agencies, is critical for securing the homeland efficiently.

This is a commonsense bill, and I encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1630

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

I rise in support of H.R. 3350, the Know the CBRN Terrorism Threats to Transportation Act.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman of the subcommittee, Mr. KING of New York; Chairman MCCAUL; and my ranking member, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, for their support of my bill.

H.R. 3350, the Know the CBRN Terrorism Threats to Transportation Act, would direct the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Intelligence and Analysis to conduct a terrorism threat assessment of the risks associated with transportation of chemical, biological, nuclear, and radiological materials.

Terrorists and militant groups have expressed an interest in using weapons of mass destruction, especially those utilizing chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear, known as CBRN, agents or materials.

In fact, according to a recent Associated Press investigation, the FBI uncovered a plot by rogue Moldavian operatives to sell nuclear material to foreign terrorist organizations that have an interest in targeting the United States.

Next year the Department of Energy plans to allow the transporting by truck of highly enriched uranium from Canada to South Carolina. As a cost-saving measure, the planned shipment would be in liquid form.

These trucks are scheduled to enter the United States via the Peace Bridge in Buffalo, New York. An attack or an accident involving one of these trucks crossing the Peace Bridge could have devastating consequences.

The Peace Bridge is the busiest passenger crossing on the northern border and the second busiest cargo port of entry. Closing the bridge for an extended period of time would cause great economic harm to the region and national economies. Further, an attack could contaminate the Great Lakes, which contain 84 percent of North America's surface freshwater, with highly radioactive material.

Despite these risks, the Department of Energy approved this route, relying on an analysis of this route that is 20 years old, and did not anticipate carrying such high-level waste. In other words, the Federal Government is about to begin importing highly radioactive material, which has never been shipped in this manner, using outdated, pre-9/11 information that does not reflect the threats we face today.

To ensure that all relevant Federal agencies, including the Department of Energy, have the information they need to make decisions and develop policies that are informed by the terrorism threat picture, my bill would direct the Department of Homeland Security to share its assessment with Federal partners.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support H.R. 3350, a measure that will not only help ensure the Department of Energy has the information it needs with respect to transporting dangerous material through high-risk areas throughout the United States, but that other Federal agencies who are faced with similar questions are able to make better informed decisions.

Many of the routes used for the transport of CBRN materials were approved nearly 20 years ago and, as such, reflect a pre-9/11 mindset with respect to the threat and consequences of terrorism.

My bill will ensure that the Department of Homeland Security assesses and shares threat information with the Department of Energy and other Federal agencies to ensure that they have the information needed to reach complicated decisions about transporting dangerous nuclear material throughout our communities.

Enactment of my legislation will send a message to citizens at risk in Buffalo and beyond that we care about keeping them secure and ensuring that Federal policy is informed by the best information we have on terrorism threats.

With that, I ask for my colleagues' support.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, it is common sense to require DHS to conduct terrorism threat assessments for the legitimate storage, sale, or transportation of CBRN materials.

This bill complements the bill the House just considered, H.R. 3493, the Securing the Cities Act of 2015. We need to take all appropriate measures to safeguard our citizens from nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction.

The Securing the Cities program creates a warning and detection system around New York City and other high-risk locations. H.R. 3350 supplements this concept by requiring a proactive approach in reviewing security concerns related to the transportation of CBRN materials.

In closing, I wanted to express appreciation to Congressman HIGGINS, the ranking member of the Counterterrorism and Intelligence Subcommittee, and to the subcommittee chairman, PETER KING, for moving H.R. 3350.

I urge support for the underlying measure.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3350, the Know the CBRN Terrorism Threats to Transportation Act. The Department of Homeland Security and the Under Secretary of Intelligence and Analysis play a critical role in the safety of American families. Their work assessing the transportation of chemical, biological, nuclear, and radiological (CBRN) materials is essential for maintaining a high level of security for the country. This is why the Know the CBRN Terrorism Threats to Transportation Act must be passed.

The fact that my home state shares an international border gives me insight and understanding of the issues that border communities face. Extremist groups have an array of potential agents and delivery methods to choose from for chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear attacks. Castor beans, cyanide, sarin and other chemical agents are examples of the spectrum of terrorist CBRN threats. These materials need to be assessed in order to ensure the safety of not only our border communities, but our nation.

The Know the CBRN Terrorism Threats to Transportation Act requires a three step process for improving the safety of our borders. First, to prepare for the execution of a terrorism threat assessment regarding CBNR materials, the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis will consult with the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration and the heads of other federal departments and agencies. This is critical in ensuring that the assessment is conducted with the highest level of expertise. Next, the terrorism threat

assessment of the transportation of CBNR materials can be conducted. Finally, the assessment must be distributed to federal, state, and local partners so that everyone protecting our borders is informed and updated. At a time when this information should be readily available, we are still waiting to find the best process to address this critical issue.

I would like to close by saying that I am proud of our chamber for taking this important step to ensure that the data on the transportation of hazardous materials is readily available and accessible. I also want to thank my colleagues for understanding the importance of information regarding CBRN threats and the role of this information in strengthening our security.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3350.

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. DONOVAN. 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 proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

DHS HEADQUARTERS REFORM AND IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2015

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3572) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to reform, streamline, and make improvements to the Department of Homeland Security and support the Department's efforts to implement better policy, planning, management, and performance, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3572

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''DHS Headquarters Reform and Improvement Act of 2015''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is the following:

Sec. 1. Short title; Table of contents.
Sec. 2. Prohibition on additional authorization of appropriations.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY HEADQUARTERS REAUTHORIZATION

Sec. 101. Definitions.
Sec. 102. Headquarters components.
Sec. 103. Chief Privacy Officer.
Sec. 104. Office of Policy.
Sec. 105. Quadrennial homeland security review.
Sec. 106. Future years homeland security program.
Sec. 107. Management and execution.
Sec. 108. Chief Financial Officer.
Sec. 109. Chief Procurement Officer.
Sec. 110. Chief Information Officer.
Sec. 111. Chief Human Capital Officer.
Sec. 112. Chief Security Officer.
Sec. 113. Cost savings and efficiency reviews.
Sec. 114. Field efficiencies plan.
Sec. 115. Resources to respond to operational surges.
Sec. 116. Department of Homeland Security rotation program.

TITLE II—DHS ACQUISITION ACCOUNTABILITY AND EFFICIENCY

Sec. 201. Definitions.

Subtitle A—Acquisition Authorities

Sec. 211. Acquisition authorities for Under Secretary for Management.
Sec. 212. Acquisition authorities for Chief Financial Officer.
Sec. 213. Acquisition authorities for Chief Information Officer.
Sec. 214. Requirements to ensure greater accountability for acquisition programs.

Subtitle B—Acquisition Program Management Discipline

Sec. 221. Acquisition Review Board.
Sec. 222. Requirements to reduce duplication in acquisition programs.
Sec. 223. Government Accountability Office review of Board and of requirements to reduce duplication in acquisition programs.
Sec. 224. Excluded Party List System waivers.
Sec. 225. Inspector General oversight of suspension and debarment.

Subtitle C—Acquisition Program Management Accountability and Transparency

Sec. 231. Congressional notification and other requirements for major acquisition program breach.
Sec. 232. Multiyear acquisition strategy.
Sec. 233. Acquisition reports.
Sec. 234. Government Accountability Office review of multiyear acquisition strategy.
Sec. 235. Office of Inspector General report.

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act and the amendments made by this Act. This Act and such amendments shall be carried out using amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY HEADQUARTERS REAUTHORIZATION

SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS.

Section 2 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (13) through (18) as paragraphs (15) through (20);

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (9) through (12) as paragraphs (10) through (13);

(3) by inserting after paragraph (8) the following:

''(9) The term 'homeland security enterprise' means relevant governmental and nongovernmental entities involved in homeland security, including Federal, State, local, and tribal government officials, private sector representatives, academics, and other policy experts.''; and

(4) by inserting after paragraph (13), as so redesignated, the following:

''(14) The term 'management integration and transformation'—

''(A) means the development of consistent and consolidated functions for information technology, financial management, acquisition management, and human capital management; and

''(B) includes governing processes and procedures, management systems, personnel activities, budget and resource planning, training, real estate management, and provision of security, as they relate to functions cited in subparagraph (A).''.

SEC. 102. HEADQUARTERS COMPONENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 102 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 112) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''through the Office of State and Local Coordination (established under section 801)'' and inserting ''through the Office of Partnership and Engagement'';

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon at the end;

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking the period and inserting ''; and''; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) entering into agreements with governments of other countries, in consultation with the Secretary of State, and international nongovernmental organizations in order to achieve the missions of the Department.''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(h) HEADQUARTERS.—

''(1) COMPONENTS.—The Department Headquarters shall include the following:

''(A) The Office of the Secretary.

''(B) The Office of the Deputy Secretary.

''(C) The Executive Secretariat.

''(D) The Management Directorate, including the Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

''(E) The Office of Policy.

''(F) The Office of General Counsel.

''(G) The Office of the Chief Privacy Officer.

''(H) The Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties.

''(I) The Office of Operations and Coordination and Planning.

''(J) The Office of Intelligence and Analysis.

''(K) The Office of Legislative Affairs.

''(L) The Office of Public Affairs.

''(2) FUNCTIONS.—The Secretary, through the Headquarters, shall—

''(A) establish the Department's overall strategy for successfully completing its mission;

''(B) establish initiatives that improve performance Department-wide;

''(C) establish mechanisms to ensure that components of the Department comply with Headquarters policies and fully implement the Secretary's strategies and initiatives and require the head of each component of the Department and component chief officers to comply with such policies and implement such strategies and initiatives;

''(D) establish annual operational and management objectives to determine the Department's performance;

''(E) ensure that the Department successfully meets operational and management performance objectives through conducting oversight of component agencies;

''(F) ensure that the strategies, priorities, investments, and workforce of Department agencies align with Department objectives;

''(G) establish and implement policies related to Department ethics and compliance standards;

''(H) manage and encourage shared services across Department components;

''(I) lead and coordinate interaction with Congress and other external organizations; and

''(J) carry out other such functions as the Secretary determines are appropriate.''.

(b) ABOLISHMENT OF DIRECTOR OF SHARED SERVICES.—

(1) ABOLISHMENT.—The position of Director of Shared Services is abolished.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 475 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 295), and the item relating to such section in the table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act, are repealed.

(c) ABOLISHMENT OF THE OFFICE OF COUNTERNARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT.—

(1) ABOLISHMENT.—The Office of Counternarcotics Enforcement is abolished.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended—

(A) by repealing section 878 (6 U.S.C. 112), and the item relating to that section in the table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act; and

(B) in subparagraph (B) of section 843(b)(1) (6 U.S.C. 413(b)(1)), by striking ''by—'' and all that follows through the end of that subparagraph and inserting ''by the Secretary; and''.

SEC. 103. CHIEF PRIVACY OFFICER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 222 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 142) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting ''to be the Chief Privacy Officer of the Department,'' after ''in the Department,''; and

(ii) by striking '', to assume'' and inserting ''and who shall have'';

(B) by amending paragraph (6) to read as follows:

''(6) preparing a report to Congress on an annual basis on—

''(A) activities of the Department that affect privacy, including complaints of privacy violations, implementation of section 554 of title 5, United States Code (popularly known as the Privacy Act of 1974), internal controls, and other matters; and

''(B) the number of new technology programs implemented in the Department each fiscal year, the number of those programs that the Chief Privacy Officer has evaluated to ensure that privacy protections are considered and implemented, the number of those programs that effectively implemented privacy protections into new technology programs, and an explanation of why any new programs did not effectively implement privacy protections.'';

(3) by redesignating subsections (b) through (e) as subsections (c) through (f); and

(4) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

''(b) ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES.—In addition to the responsibilities under subsection (a), the Chief Privacy Officer shall—

''(1) develop guidance to assist components of the Department in developing privacy policies and practices;

''(2) establish a mechanism to ensure such components are in compliance with Federal, regulatory, statutory, and the Department's privacy requirements, mandates, directives, and policy;

''(3) work with the Chief Information Officer of the Department to identify methods for managing and overseeing the Department's records, management policies, and procedures;

''(4) work with components and offices of the Department to ensure that information sharing activities incorporate privacy protections;

''(5) serve as the Department's central office for managing and processing requests related to section 552 of title 5, United States Code, popularly known as the Freedom of Information Act;

''(6) develop public guidance on procedures to be followed when making requests for information under section 552 of title 5, United States Code;

''(7) oversee the management and processing of requests for information under section 552 of title 5, United States Code, within Department Headquarters and relevant Department component offices;

''(8) identify and eliminate unnecessary and duplicative actions taken by the Department in the course of processing requests for information under section 552 of title 5, United States Code; and

''(9) carry out such other responsibilities as the Secretary determines are appropriate, consistent with this section.''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(g) REASSIGNMENT OF FUNCTIONS.—The Secretary may reassign the functions related to managing and processing requests for information under section 552 of title 5, United States Code, to another officer within the Department, consistent with requirements of that section.''.

SEC. 104. OFFICE OF POLICY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is amended by—

(1) redesignating section 601 as section 890B, and transferring that section to appear immediately after section 890A; and

(2) striking the heading for title VI and inserting the following:

''TITLE VI—POLICY AND PLANNING

''SEC. 601. OFFICE OF POLICY.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE.—There shall be in the Department an Office of Policy. The Office of Policy shall be headed by an Under Secretary for Policy, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

''(b) MISSION.—The mission of the Office of Policy is to lead, conduct, and coordinate Department-wide policy, strategic planning, and relationships with organizations or persons that are not part of the Department.

''(c) COMPONENTS OF OFFICE.—The Office of Policy shall include the following components:

''(1) The Office of Partnership and Engagement under section 602.

''(2) The Office of International Affairs under section 603.

''(3) The Office of Policy Implementation under section 604.

''(4) The Office of Strategy and Planning under section 605.

''(d) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE UNDER SECRETARY.—Subject to the direction and control of the Secretary, the Under Secretary for Policy shall—

''(1) serve as the principal policy advisor to the Secretary;

''(2) coordinate with the Under Secretary for Management and the General Counsel of the Department to ensure that development of the Department's budget is compatible with the priorities, strategic plans, and policies established by the Secretary, including those priorities identified through the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review required under section 707;

''(3) incorporate relevant feedback from, and oversee and coordinate relationships with, organizations and other persons that are not part of the Department to ensure effective communication of outside stakeholders' perspectives to components of the Department;

''(4) establish a process to ensure that organizations and other persons that are not part of the Department can communicate with Department components without compromising adherence by the officials of such components to the Department's ethics and policies;

''(5) manage and coordinate the Department's international engagement activities;

''(6) advise, inform, and assist the Secretary on the impact of the Department's policy, processes, and actions on State, local, tribal, and territorial governments;

''(7) oversee the Department's engagement and development of partnerships with nonprofit organizations and academic institutions;

''(8) administer the Homeland Security Advisory Council and make studies available to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate on an annual basis; and

''(9) carry out such other responsibilities as the Secretary determines are appropriate, consistent with this section.

''(e) COORDINATION BY DEPARTMENT COMPONENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To ensure consistency with the Secretary's policy priorities, the head of each component of the Department shall coordinate with the Office of Policy, as appropriate, in establishing new policies or strategic planning guidance.

''(2) INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES.—

''(A) FOREIGN NEGOTIATIONS.—Each component of the Department shall coordinate with the Under Secretary for Policy plans and efforts of the component before pursuing negotiations with foreign governments, to ensure consistency with the Department's policy priorities.

''(B) NOTICE OF INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL BY SENIOR OFFICERS.—Each component of the Department shall notify the Under Secretary for Policy of the international travel of senior officers of the Department.

''(f) ASSIGNMENT OF PERSONNEL.—The Secretary shall assign to the Office of Policy permanent staff and, as appropriate and consistent with sections 506(c)(2), 821, and 888(d), other appropriate personnel detailed from other components of the Department to carry out the responsibilities under this section.

''(g) DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY FOR POLICY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may—

''(A) establish within the Department of Homeland Security a position, to be called the Deputy Under Secretary for Policy, to support the Under Secretary for Policy in carrying out the Under Secretary's responsibilities; and

''(B) appoint a career employee to such position.

''(2) LIMITATION ON ESTABLISHMENT OF DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY POSITIONS.—A Deputy Under Secretary position (or any substantially similar position) within the Department of Homeland Security may not be established except for the position provided for by paragraph (1) unless the Secretary of Homeland Security receives prior authorization from Congress.

''(3) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of paragraph (1)—

''(A) the term 'career employee' means any employee (as that term is defined in section 2105 of title 5, United States Code), but does not include a political appointee; and

''(B) the term 'political appointee' means any employee who occupies a position which has been excepted from the competitive service by reason of its confidential, policy-determining, policy-making, or policy-advocating character.

''SEC. 602. OFFICE OF PARTNERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be in the Office of Policy an Office of Partnership and Engagement.

''(b) HEAD OF OFFICE.—The Secretary shall appoint an Assistant Secretary for Partnership and Engagement to serve as the head of the Office.

''(c) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Assistant Secretary for Partnership and Engagement shall—

''(1) lead the coordination of Department-wide policies relating to the role of State and local law enforcement in preventing, preparing for, protecting against, and responding to natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters within the United States;

''(2) serve as a liaison between State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies and the Department, including through consultation

with such agencies regarding Department programs that may impact such agencies;

''(3) coordinate with the Office of Intelligence and Analysis to certify the intelligence and information sharing requirements of State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies are being addressed;

''(4) work with the Administrator to ensure that law enforcement and terrorism-focused grants to State, local, and tribal government agencies, including grants under sections 2003 and 2004, the Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program, and other grants administered by the Department to support fusion centers and law enforcement-oriented programs, are appropriately focused on terrorism prevention activities;

''(5) coordinate with the Science and Technology Directorate, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Justice, the National Institute of Justice, law enforcement organizations, and other appropriate entities to support the development, promulgation, and updating, as necessary, of national voluntary consensus standards for training and personal protective equipment to be used in a tactical environment by law enforcement officers;

''(6) create and foster strategic communications with the private sector to enhance the primary mission of the Department to protect the American homeland;

''(7) advise the Secretary on the impact of the Department's policies, regulations, processes, and actions on the private sector;

''(8) interface with other relevant Federal agencies with homeland security missions to assess the impact of these agencies' actions on the private sector;

''(9) create and manage private sector advisory councils composed of representatives of industries and associations designated by the Secretary to—

''(A) advise the Secretary on private sector products, applications, and solutions as they relate to homeland security challenges;

''(B) advise the Secretary on homeland security policies, regulations, processes, and actions that affect the participating industries and associations; and

''(C) advise the Secretary on private sector preparedness issues, including effective methods for—

''(i) promoting voluntary preparedness standards to the private sector; and

''(ii) assisting the private sector in adopting voluntary preparedness standards;

''(10) promote existing public-private partnerships and developing new public-private partnerships to provide for collaboration and mutual support to address homeland security challenges;

''(11) assist in the development and promotion of private sector best practices to secure critical infrastructure;

''(12) provide information to the private sector regarding voluntary preparedness standards and the business justification for preparedness and promoting to the private sector the adoption of voluntary preparedness standards;

''(13) coordinate industry efforts, with respect to functions of the Department of Homeland Security, to identify private sector resources and capabilities that could be effective in supplementing Federal, State, and local government agency efforts to prevent or respond to a terrorist attack;

''(14) coordinate with the Commissioner of Customs and Border Protection and the appropriate senior official of the Department of Commerce on issues related to the travel and tourism industries;

''(15) coordinate the activities of the Department relating to State and local government;

''(16) assess, and advocate for, the resources needed by State and local governments to implement the national strategy for combating terrorism;

''(17) provide State and local governments with regular information, research, and technical support to assist local efforts at securing the homeland;

''(18) develop a process for receiving meaningful input from State and local governments to assist the development of the national strategy for combating terrorism and other homeland security activities; and

''(19) perform such other functions as are established by law or delegated to such Assistant Secretary by the Under Secretary for Policy.

''SEC. 603. OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be in the Office of Policy an Office of International Affairs.

''(b) HEAD OF OFFICE.—The Secretary shall appoint an Assistant Secretary for International Affairs to serve as the head of the Office and as the chief diplomatic officer of the Department.

''(c) FUNCTIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary for International Affairs shall—

''(A) coordinate international activities within the Department, including activities carried out by the components of the Department, in consultation with other Federal officials with responsibility for counterterrorism and homeland security matters;

''(B) advise, inform, and assist the Secretary with respect to the development and implementation of Departmental policy priorities, including strategic priorities for the deployment of assets, including personnel, outside the United States;

''(C) develop, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Management, guidance for selecting, assigning, training, and monitoring overseas deployments of Department personnel, including minimum standards for predeployment training;

''(D) develop and update, in coordination with all components of the Department engaged in international activities, a strategic plan for the international activities of the Department, establish a process for managing its implementation, and establish mechanisms to monitor the alignment between assets, including personnel, deployed by the Department outside the United States and the plan required by this subparagraph;

''(E) develop and distribute guidance on Department policy priorities for overseas activities to personnel deployed overseas, that, at a minimum, sets forth the regional and national priorities being advanced by their deployment, and establish mechanisms to foster better coordination of Department personnel, programs, and activities deployed outside the United States;

''(F) maintain awareness regarding the international travel of senior officers of the Department and their intent to pursue negotiations with foreign government officials, and review resulting draft agreements;

''(G) develop, in consultation with the components of the Department, including, as appropriate, with the Under Secretary for the Science and Technology Directorate, programs to support the overseas programs conducted by the Department, including training, technical assistance, and equipment to ensure that Department personnel deployed abroad have proper resources and receive adequate and timely support;

''(H) conduct the exchange of homeland security information, in consultation with the Under Secretary of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis, and best practices relating to homeland security with foreign nations that, in the determination of the Secretary, reciprocate the sharing of such information in a substantially similar manner;

''(I) submit information to the Under Secretary for Policy for oversight purposes, including preparation of the quadrennial homeland security review and on the status of overseas activities, including training and technical assistance and information exchange activities and the Department's resources dedicated to these activities;

''(J) promote, when appropriate, and oversee the exchange of education, training, and information with nations friendly to the United States in order to share best practices relating to homeland security; and

''(K) perform such other functions as are established by law or delegated by the Under Secretary for Policy.

''(2) INVENTORY OF ASSETS DEPLOYED ABROAD.—For each fiscal year, the Assistant Secretary for International Affairs, in coordination with the Under Secretary for Management, shall provide to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate with the annual budget request for the Department, an annual accounting of all assets of the Department, including personnel, deployed outside the United States on behalf of the Department.

''(3) STANDARDIZED FRAMEWORK FOR COST DATA.—The Assistant Secretary for International Affairs shall utilize a standardized framework to collect and maintain comparable cost data for all assets of the Department, including personnel, deployed outside the United States to prepare the annual accounting required by paragraph (2).

''(4) EXCLUSIONS.—This subsection does not apply to international activities related to the protective mission of the United States Secret Service, or to the Coast Guard when operating under the direct authority of the Secretary of Defense or the Secretary of the Navy.

''SEC. 604. OFFICE OF POLICY IMPLEMENTATION.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be in the Office of Policy an Office of Policy Implementation.

''(b) HEAD OF OFFICE.—The Secretary shall appoint a Director of the Office of Policy Implementation to serve as the head of the Office.

''(c) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Director of the Office of Policy Implementation shall lead, conduct, coordinate, and provide overall direction and supervision of Department-wide policy development for the programs, offices, and activities of the Department, in consultation with relevant officials of the Department, to ensure quality, consistency, and integration across the Department, as appropriate.

''SEC. 605. OFFICE OF STRATEGY AND PLANNING.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be in the Office of Policy of the Department an Office of Strategy and Planning.

''(b) HEAD OF OFFICE.—The Secretary shall appoint a Director of the Office of Strategy and Planning who shall serve as the head of the Office.

''(c) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Director of the Office of Strategy and Planning shall—

''(1) lead and conduct long-term Department-wide strategic planning, including the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review and planning guidance for the Department, and translate the Department's statutory responsibilities, strategic plans, and long-term goals into risk-based policies and procedures that improve operational effectiveness; and

''(2) develop strategies to address unconventional threats to the homeland.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended—

(1) by striking the items relating to title VI and inserting the following:

''TITLE VI—POLICY AND PLANNING

''Sec. 601. Office of Policy.
''Sec. 602. Office of Partnership and Engagement.
''Sec. 603. Office of International Affairs.
''Sec. 604. Office of Policy Implementation.
''Sec. 605. Office of Strategy and Planning.''.

(2) by inserting after the item relating to section 890A the following:

''Sec. 890B. Treatment of charitable trusts for members of the Armed Forces of the United States and other governmental organizations.''.

(c) APPOINTMENT OF UNDER SECRETARY FOR POLICY; CONTINUATION OF SERVICE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—

(1) TIME OF APPOINTMENT.—The President may appoint an Under Secretary for Policy under section 601 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended by this Act, only on or after January 20, 2017.

(2) HEAD OF OFFICE PENDING APPOINTMENT.—The individual serving as the Assistant Secretary for Policy of the Department of Homeland Security on the date of the enactment of this Act, or their successor, may continue to serve as an Assistant Secretary and as the head of the Office of Policy established by such section, until the date on which the Under Secretary for Policy is appointed under such section in accordance with paragraph (1).

(d) APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS; ABOLISHMENT OF EXISTING OFFICE.—

(1) TIME OF APPOINTMENT.—The Secretary of Homeland Security may appoint an Assistant Secretary for International Affairs under section 602 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended by this Act, only on or after January 20, 2017.

(2) HEAD OF OFFICE PENDING APPOINTMENT.—The individual serving as the Assistant Secretary for International Affairs of the Department of Homeland Security on the date of the enactment of this Act, or their successor, may continue to serve as a Deputy Assistant Secretary and as the head of the Office of International Affairs established by such section, until the date the Under Secretary for Policy is appointed under such section in accordance with paragraph (1).

(3) ABOLISHMENT OF EXISTING OFFICE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Office of International Affairs within the Office of the Secretary is abolished.

(B) TRANSFER OF ASSETS AND PERSONNEL.—The assets and personnel associated with such Office are transferred to the head of the Office of International Affairs provided for by section 603 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended by this Act.

(C) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection 879 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 459), and the item relating to such section in section 1(b) of such Act, are repealed.

(e) ABOLISHMENT OF OFFICE FOR STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Office for State and Local Law Enforcement of the Department of Homeland Security is abolished.

(2) TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS, ASSETS, AND PERSONNEL.—The functions authorized to be performed by such office immediately before the enactment of this Act, and the assets and personnel associated with such functions, are transferred to the head of the Office of Partnership and Engagement provided for by section 602 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended by this Act.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (b) of section 2006 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 607) is repealed.

(f) ABOLISHMENT OF OFFICE FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COORDINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Office for State and Local Government Coordination of the Department of Homeland Security is abolished.

(2) TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS AND ASSETS.—The functions authorized to be performed by such office immediately before the enactment of this Act, and the assets and personnel associated with such functions, are transferred to the head of Office of Partnership and Engagement provided for by section 602 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended by this Act.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 801 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 631), and the item relating to that section in the table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act, are repealed.

(g) ABOLISHMENT OF SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Special Assistant to the Secretary authorized by section 102(f) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 112(f)), as in effect immediately before the enactment of this Act, is abolished.

(2) TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS AND ASSETS.—The functions authorized to be performed by such Special Assistant to the Secretary immediately before the enactment of this Act, and the assets and personnel associated with such functions, are transferred to the head of the Office of Partnership and Engagement provided for by section 602 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended by this Act.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 102(f) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 112(f)) is repealed.

(h) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO ASSISTANT SECRETARIES.—Section 103(a) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 113(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking subparagraph (I) and redesignating subparagraph (J) as subparagraph (I); and

(2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

''(2) ASSISTANT SECRETARIES.—

''(A) ADVICE AND CONSENT APPOINTMENTS.—The Department shall have the following Assistant Secretaries appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate:

''(i) The Assistant Secretary, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

''(ii) The Assistant Secretary, Transportation Security Administration.

''(B) OTHER PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS.—The Department shall have the following Assistant Secretaries appointed by the President:

''(i) The Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Protection.

''(ii) The Assistant Secretary, Office of Public Affairs.

''(iii) The Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs.

''(C) SECRETARIAL APPOINTMENTS.—The Department shall have the following Assistant Secretaries appointed by the Secretary:

''(i) The Assistant Secretary, Office of Cybersecurity and Communications.

''(ii) The Assistant Secretary for International Affairs under section 602.

''(iii) The Assistant Secretary for Partnership and Engagement under section 603.

''(D) LIMITATION ON CREATION OF POSITIONS.—No Assistant Secretary position may be created in addition to the positions provided for by this section unless such position is authorized by a statute enacted after the date of the enactment of the DHS Headquarters Reform and Improvement Act of 2015.''.

(i) HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISORY COUNCIL.—Section 102(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 112(b)) is amended by striking ''and'' after the semicolon at the end of paragraph (2), striking the period at the end of paragraph (3) and inserting ''; and'', and adding at the end the following:

''(4) shall establish a Homeland Security Advisory Council to provide advice and recommendations on homeland-security-related matters.''.

(j) PROHIBITION ON NEW OFFICES.—No new office may be created to perform functions transferred by this section, other than as provided in section 601 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended by this Act, unless the Secretary of Homeland Security receives prior authorization from Congress permitting such change.

(k) DEFINITIONS.—In this section each of the terms ''functions'', ''assets'', and ''personnel'' has the meaning that term has under section 2 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101).

(l) DUPLICATION REVIEW.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall—

(1) within 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, complete a review of the international affairs offices, functions, and responsibilities of the components of the Department of Homeland Security, to identify and eliminate areas of unnecessary duplication; and

(2) within 30 days after the completion of such review, provide the results of the review to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

SEC. 105. QUADRENNIAL HOMELAND SECURITY REVIEW.

Section 707 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 347) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1) REVIEW REQUIRED.—In fiscal year 2017, and every 4 years thereafter, the Secretary shall conduct a review of the homeland security of the Nation (in this section referred to as a 'quadrennial homeland security review'). Such review shall be conducted so that it is completed, and the report under subsection (c) is issued, by no later than December 31, 2017, and by December 31 of every fourth year thereafter.''; and

(B) in paragraph (3) by striking ''The Secretary shall conduct each quadrennial homeland security review under this subsection in consultation with'' and inserting ''In order to ensure that each quadrennial homeland security review conducted under this section is coordinated with the quadrennial defense review conducted by the Secretary of Defense under section 118 of title 10, United States Code, and any other major strategic review relating to diplomacy, intelligence, or other national security issues, the Secretary shall conduct and obtain information and feedback from entities of the homeland security enterprise through'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (5), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon at the end;

(B) in paragraph (6), by striking the period and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding after paragraph (6) the following:

''(7) leverage analytical tools and resources developed as part of the quadrennial homeland security review to support the Department's ongoing programs and missions.'';

(3) in subsection (c)(2)—

(A) by striking ''and'' after the semicolon at the end of subparagraph (H);

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (I) as subparagraph (L); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (H) the following:

''(I) a description of how the conclusions under the quadrennial homeland security review will inform efforts to develop capabilities and build capacity of States, local governments, Indian tribes, and private entities, and of individuals, families, and communities;

''(J) as appropriate, proposed changes to the authorities, organization, governance structure, or business processes (including acquisition processes) of the Department in order to better fulfill responsibilities of the Department;

''(K) where appropriate, a classified annex, including materials prepared pursuant to section 306 of title 5, United States Code, relating to the preparation of an agency strategic plan, to satisfy, in whole or in part, the reporting requirements of this paragraph; and''.

SEC. 106. FUTURE YEARS HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM.

Section 874 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 454) is amended—

(1) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the 30 days following the date of each fiscal year on which the budget of the President is submitted to Congress under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a Future Years Homeland Security Program that provides detailed estimates of the projected expenditures and corresponding requests for appropriations included in that budget. The Future Years Homeland Security Program shall cover the fiscal year for which the budget is submitted and the 4 succeeding fiscal years.''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(d) CONSISTENCY OF BUDGET REQUEST WITH ESTIMATES.—For each fiscal year, the Secretary shall ensure that the projected amounts specified in program and budget information for the Department submitted to Congress in support of the President's budget request are consistent with the estimated expenditures and proposed appropriations necessary to support the programs, projects, and activities of the Department included in the budget pursuant to section 1105(a)(5) of title 31, United States Code.

''(e) EXPLANATION OF ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES AND PLANS.—Together with the detailed estimates of the projected expenditures and corresponding requests for appropriations submitted for the Future Years Homeland Security Program, the Secretary shall provide an explanation of how those estimates and requests align with the homeland security strategies and plans developed and updated as appropriate by the Secretary. Such explanation shall include an evaluation of the organization, organizational structure, governance structure, and business processes (including acquisition processes) of the Department, to ensure that the Department is able to meet its responsibilities.

''(f) PROJECTION OF ACQUISITION ESTIMATES.—Each Future Years Homeland Security Program shall project—

''(1) acquisition estimates for a period of 5 fiscal years, with specified estimates for each fiscal year, for major acquisition programs by the Department and each component therein, including modernization and sustainment expenses; and

''(2) estimated annual deployment schedules for major acquisition programs over the 5-fiscal-year period.

''(g) CONTINGENCY AMOUNTS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting the inclusion in the Future Years Homeland Security Program of amounts for management contingencies, subject to the requirements of subsection (b).

''(h) CLASSIFIED OR SENSITIVE ANNEX.—The Secretary may include with each submission under this section a classified or sensitive annex containing any information required to be submitted under this section that is restricted from public disclosure in accordance with Federal law, including information that is determined to be Sensitive Security Information under section 537 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2006 (6 U.S.C. 114) to Congress in a classified or sensitive annex.

''(i) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC.—The Secretary shall make available to the public in electronic form the information required to be submitted to Congress under this section, other than information described in subsection (h).''.

SEC. 107. MANAGEMENT AND EXECUTION.

Section 701 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341) is amended by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the direction and control of the Secretary, the Under Secretary for Management shall serve as the following:

''(1) The Chief Management Officer for all matters related to the management and administration of the Department in support of homeland security operations and programs. With regard to the management functions for which the Under Secretary has responsibility by law or by direction of the Secretary, the Under Secretary for Management takes precedence in the Department after the Secretary and the Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security.

''(2) The senior official with the authority to administer, implement, and direct management integration and transformation across functional disciplines of the Department, including—

''(A) information technology, financial management, acquisition management, and human capital management of the Department to improve program efficiency and effectiveness;

''(B) ensure compliance with laws, rules, regulations, and the Department's policies;

''(C) conduct regular oversight; and

''(D) prevent unnecessary duplication of programs in the Department.

''(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—In addition to responsibilities designated by the Secretary or otherwise established by law, the Under Secretary for Management shall be responsible for performing, or delegating responsibility for performing, the following activities of the Department:

''(1) Development of the budget, management of appropriations, expenditures of funds, accounting, and finance.

''(2) Acquisition and procurement activities under section 701(d).

''(3) Human resources and personnel.

''(4) Information technology and communication systems, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, as appropriate.

''(5) Facilities, property, equipment, and other material resources.

''(6) Real property and personal property.

''(7) Security for personnel, information technology and communications systems, facilities, property, equipment, and other material resources.

''(8) Strategic management planning, annual performance planning, and identification and tracking of performance measures relating to the responsibilities of the Department, including such responsibilities under section 306 of title 5, United States Code.

''(9) Oversight of grants and other assistance management programs to ensure proper administration.

''(10) Management integration and transformation within each functional management discipline of the Department, including information technology, financial management, acquisition management, and human capital management, and the transition process, to ensure an efficient and orderly consolidation of functions and personnel in the Department and transition, including the—

''(A) development of coordinated data sources and connectivity of information systems to the greatest extent practical to enhance program visibility and transparency;

''(B) development of standardized, automated, and real-time management information to uniformly manage and oversee programs, and make informed decisions to improve the efficiency of the Department;

''(C) development of effective program management and regular oversight mechanisms, including clear roles and processes for program governance, sharing of best practices, and access to timely, reliable, and analyzed data on all acquisitions and investments;

''(D) implementation of mechanisms to promote accountability for management integration among Department and component chief officers;

''(E) integration of financial management systems within and across the Department to ensure financial transparency, support daily operational and financial decision-making, and maintain consecutive unqualified opinions for all financial statements, including the responsibility to review, approve, and oversee the planning, design, acquisition, deployment, operation, maintenance, and modernization of business systems;

''(F) integration of human resource management systems within and across the Department to track and record information (including attrition rates, knowledge, skills, and abilities critical for workforce planning, identifying current and future human capital needs, including recruitment efforts and improving employee morale), including the responsibility to review, approve, and oversee the planning, design, acquisition, deployment, operation, maintenance, and modernization of business systems;

''(G) development of a management integration strategy for the Department and its components to be submitted annually with the President's budget to ensure that management of the Department is strengthened in the areas of human capital, acquisition, information technology, and financial management, which shall include—

''(i) short- and long-term objectives to effectively guide implementation of interoperable business systems solutions;

''(ii) issuance of guidance and action plans with dates, specific actions, and costs for implementing management integration and transformation of common functional disciplines across the Department and its components;

''(iii) specific operational and tactical goals, activities, and timelines needed to accomplish the integration effort;

''(iv) performance measures to monitor and validate corrective measures;

''(v) efforts to identify resources needed to achieve key actions and outcomes;

''(vi) other issues impeding management integration;

''(vii) reporting to the Government Accountability Office twice annually to demonstrate measurable, sustainable progress made in implementing the Department's corrective action plans and achieving key outcomes, including regarding—

''(I) leadership commitment;

''(II) capacity building; and

''(III) continuous monitoring to address Government Accountability Office designations of programs at high risk for waste, fraud, and abuse, including with respect to strengthening management functions;

''(viii) review and approve any major update to the Department's strategy related to management integration and transformation across functional disciplines and lines of business, including any business systems modernization plans to maximize benefits and minimize costs for the Department; and

''(ix) before December 1 of each year in which a Presidential election is held, the development of a transition and succession plan to guide the transition of Department functions to a new Presidential administration, and making such plan available to the next Secretary and Under Secretary for Management and to the homeland security congressional committees.

''(H) Oversight, including the conduct of internal audits and management analyses, of the programs and activities of the Department. Such supervision includes establishing oversight procedures to ensure a full and effective review of the efforts by Department components to implement policies and procedures of the Department for management integration and transformation.

''(I) Any other management duties that the Secretary may designate.''.

SEC. 108. CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER.

Section 702 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341) is amended by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively, and by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

''(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—Notwithstanding sections 901 and 1122 of title 31, United States Code, the Chief Financial Officer, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Management and the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, as appropriate, shall—

''(1) lead cost-estimating practices for the Department, including the development of the Department's policy on cost estimating and approval of life cycle cost estimates;

''(2) oversee coordination with the Office of Policy on the Department's long-term strategic planning to ensure that the development of the Department's budget is compatible with the priorities, strategic plans, and policies established by the Secretary;

''(3) develop and oversee the Department's financial management policy;

''(4) provide guidance for and over financial system modernization efforts throughout the Department;

''(5) establish effective internal controls over financial reporting systems and processes throughout the Department;

''(6) lead assessments of internal controls related to the Department's financial management systems and review financial processes to ensure that internal controls are designed properly and operate effectively;

''(7) lead the Department's efforts related to financial oversight, including identifying ways to streamline and standardize business processes;

''(8) lead and provide guidance on performance-based budgeting practices for the Department to ensure that the Department and its components are meeting missions and goals;

''(9) ensure that Department components' senior financial officers certify that their major acquisition programs have adequate resources to execute their programs through the 5-year future years homeland security program period, so that the Department's funding requirements for major acquisition programs match expected resources;

''(10) ensure that components identify and report all expected costs of acquisition programs to the Chief Financial Officer of the Department;

''(11) oversee Department budget formulation and execution;

''(12) fully implement a common accounting structure to be used across the entire Department by fiscal year 2019; and

''(13) track, approve, oversee, and make public information on expenditures by components of the Department for conferences, as appropriate, including by requiring each component of the Department to—

''(A) report to the Inspector General of the Department the expenditures by the component for each conference hosted or attended by Department employees for which the total expenditures of the Department exceed $20,000, within 15 days after the date of the conference; and

''(B) with respect to such expenditures, provide to the Inspector General—

''(i) the information described in subsections (a), (b), and (c) of section 739 of Public Law 113–235; and

''(ii) documentation of such expenditures.''.

SEC. 109. CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title VII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341 et seq.) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 708. CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—There is a Chief Procurement Officer of the Department, who shall report directly to the Under Secretary for Management. The Chief Procurement Officer is the senior procurement executive for purposes of section 1702(c) of title 41 United States Code, and shall perform procurement functions as specified in such section. The Chief Procurement Officer also shall perform other functions and responsibilities set forth in this section and as may be assigned by the Under Secretary for Management.

''(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Chief Procurement Officer shall—

''(1) exercise leadership and authority to the extent delegated by the Under Secretary for Management over the Department's procurement function;

''(2) issue procurement policies, and shall serve as a senior business advisor to agency officials on acquisition-related matters, including policy and workforce matters, as determined by the Under Secretary for Management;

''(3) account for the integrity, performance, and oversight of Department procurement and contracting functions and be responsible for ensuring that a procurement's contracting strategy and plans are consistent with the intent and direction of the Acquisition Review Board;

''(4) serve as the Department's main liaison to industry on procurement-related issues;

''(5) oversee a centralized certification and training program, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Management, for the entire Department acquisition workforce while using, to the greatest extent practicable, best practices and acquisition training opportunities already in existence within the Federal Government, the private sector, or universities and colleges, as appropriate, and including training on how best to identify actions that warrant referrals for suspension or debarment;

''(6) delegate or retain contracting authority, as appropriate;

''(7) provide input on the periodic performance reviews of each head of contracting activity of the Department;

''(8) collect baseline data and use such data to establish performance measures on the impact of strategic sourcing initiatives on the private sector, including, in particular, small businesses;

''(9) ensure that a fair proportion (as defined pursuant to the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.)) of Federal contract and subcontract dollars are awarded to small businesses, maximize opportunities for small business participation, and ensure, to the extent practicable, small businesses that achieve qualified vendor status for security-related technologies are provided an opportunity to compete for contracts for such technology; and

''(10) conduct oversight of implementation of administrative agreements to resolve suspension or debarment proceedings and, upon request, provide information to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate about the effectiveness of such agreements at improving contractor responsibility.

''(c) HEAD OF CONTRACTING ACTIVITY DEFINED.—In this section the term 'head of contracting activity' means each official responsible for the creation, management, and oversight of a team of procurement professionals properly trained, certified, and warranted to accomplish the acquisition of products and services on behalf of the designated components, offices, and organizations of the Department, and as authorized, other government entities.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is further amended by adding at the end of the items relating to such title the following:

''Sec. 708. Chief Procurement Officer.''.

SEC. 110. CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 703 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 343) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following: ''In addition to the functions under section 3506(a)(2) of title 44, United States Code, the Chief Information Officer shall perform the functions set forth in this section and such other functions as may be assigned by the Secretary.'';

(2) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (e); and

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

''(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—In addition to the functions under section 3506 of title 44, United States Code, the Chief Information Officer, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Management, shall—

''(1) advise and assist the Secretary, heads of the components of the Department, and other senior officers in carrying out the responsibilities of the Department for all activities relating to the budgets, programs, and operations of the information technology functions of the Department;

''(2) to the extent delegated by the Secretary—

''(A) exercise leadership and authority over Department information technology management; and

''(B) establish the information technology priorities, policies, processes, standards, guidelines, and procedures of the Department to ensure interoperability and standardization of information technology;

''(3) serve as the lead technical authority for information technology programs;

''(4) maintain a consolidated inventory of the Department's mission critical and mission essential information systems, and develop and maintain contingency plans for responding to a disruption in the operation of any of those information systems;

''(5) maintain the security, visibility, reliability, integrity, and availability of data and information technology of the Department including the security of the Homeland Security Data Network;

''(6) in coordination with relevant officials of the Department, ensure that the Department is in compliance with subchapter II of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code;

''(7) establish policies and procedures to effectively monitor and manage vulnerabilities in the supply chain for purchases of information technology;

''(8) in coordination with relevant officials of the Department, ensure Department compliance with Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12;

''(9) in coordination with relevant officials of the Department, ensure that information technology systems of the Department meet the standards established under the information sharing environment, as defined in section 1016 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (6 U.S.C. 485);

''(10) develop measures to monitor the performance of Department components' use and implementation of information technology systems and consistently monitor such performance to ensure that such systems are used effectively;

''(11) ensure that Department components report to the Chief Information Officer of the Department a complete inventory of information systems and fully adhere to Department guidance related to information technology;

''(12) carry out any other responsibilities delegated by the Secretary consistent with an effective information system management function; and

''(13) carry out authorities over Department information technology consistent with section 113419 of title 40, United States Code.

''(c) STRATEGIC PLANS.—In coordination with the Chief Financial Officer, the Chief Information Officer shall develop an information technology strategic plan every 5 years and report to the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate on—

''(1) how the information technology strategic plans developed under this subsection are used to help inform the Department's budget process;

''(2) how the Department's budget aligns with priorities specified in the information technology strategic plans;

''(3) in cases in which it is not possible to fund all information technology strategic plan activities for a given fiscal year, the rationale as to why certain activities are not being funded in lieu of higher priorities;

''(4) what decisionmaking process was used to arrive at these priorities and the role of Department components in that process; and

''(5) examine the extent to which unnecessary duplicate information technology within and across the components of the Department has been eliminated.

''(d) SOFTWARE LICENSING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the DHS Headquarters Reform and Improvement Act of 2015, and every 2 years thereafter until 2020, the Chief Information Officer, in consultation with Department component chief information officers, shall—

''(A) conduct a Department-wide inventory of all existing software licenses held by the Department, including utilized and unutilized licenses;

''(B) assess the needs of the Department and the components of the Department for software licenses for the subsequent 2 fiscal years;

''(C) examine how the Department can achieve the greatest possible economies of scale and cost savings in the procurement of software licenses;

''(D) determine how the use of shared cloud-computing services will impact the needs for software licenses for the subsequent 2 fiscal years; and

''(E) establish plans and estimated costs for eliminating unutilized software licenses for the subsequent 2 fiscal years.

''(2) EXCESS SOFTWARE LICENSING.—

''(A) PLAN TO REDUCE SOFTWARE LICENSES.—If the Chief Information Officer determines through the inventory conducted under paragraph (1) that the number of software licenses held by the Department and the components of the Department exceed the needs of the Department as assessed under paragraph (1), the Secretary, not later than 90 days after the date on which the inventory is completed, shall establish a plan for bringing the number of such software licenses into balance with such needs of the Department.

''(B) PROHIBITION ON PROCUREMENT OF NEW SOFTWARE LICENSES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), upon completion of a plan established under paragraph (1), no additional resources may be obligated for the procurement of new software licenses for the Department until such time as the need of the Department exceeds the number of used and unused licenses held by the Department.

''(ii) EXCEPTION.—The Chief Information Officer may authorize the purchase of additional licenses and amend the number of needed licenses as necessary.

''(3) GAO REVIEW.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall review the inventory conducted under paragraph (1)(A) and the plan established under paragraph (2)(A).

''(4) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—The Chief Information Officer shall submit a copy of each inventory conducted under paragraph (1)(A) and each plan established under paragraph (2)(A) to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.''.

(b) COMPLETION OF FIRST DEFINITION OF CAPABILITIES.—The Chief Information Officer shall complete the first implementation of section 701(c) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended by this section, by not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 111. CHIEF HUMAN CAPITAL OFFICER.

Section 704 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 343) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 704. CHIEF HUMAN CAPITAL OFFICER.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—There is a Chief Human Capital Officer of the Department who shall report directly to the Under Secretary of Management.

''(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Chief Human Capital Officer shall—

''(1) develop and implement strategic workforce planning efforts that are consistent with Government-wide leading principles, and that are in line with Department strategic human capital goals and priorities;

''(2) develop performance measures to provide a basis for monitoring and evaluating Department-wide strategic workforce planning efforts;

''(3) develop strategies to recruit, hire, and train the Department workforce;

''(4) work with the component heads to identify methods for managing and overseeing human capital programs and initiatives;

''(5) develop a career path framework, and create opportunities for leader development;

''(6) serve as the Department's central office for managing employee resources, including training and development opportunities;

''(7) coordinate the Department's human resource management system;

''(8) conduct efficiency reviews to determine if components are implementing human capital programs and initiatives; and

''(9) identify and eliminate unnecessary and duplicative human capital policies and guidance.

''(c) COMPONENT STRATEGIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Each component of the Department shall coordinate with the Chief Human Capital Officer of the Department to develop or maintain its own 5-year workforce strategy that will support the Department's goals, objectives, performance measures, and determination of the proper balance of Federal employees and private labor resources.

''(2) STRATEGY REQUIREMENTS.—The Chief Human Capital Officer shall ensure that, in the development of the strategy required by subsection (c), the head of the component reports to the Chief Human Capital Officer on the human resources considerations associated with creating additional Federal full-time equivalent positions, converting private contractor positions to Federal employee positions, or relying on the private sector for goods and services, including—

''(A) hiring projections, including occupation and grade level, as well as corresponding salaries, benefits, and hiring or retention bonuses;

''(B) the identification of critical skills requirements over the 5-year period, any current or anticipated need for critical skills required at the Department, and the training or other measures required to address such need;

''(C) recruitment of qualified candidates and retention of qualified employees;

''(D) supervisory and management requirements;

''(E) travel and related personnel support costs;

''(F) the anticipated cost and impact on mission performance associated with replacing Federal personnel due to their retirement or other attrition; and

''(G) other appropriate factors.

''(d) ANNUAL SUBMISSION.—The Secretary shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees, together with submission of the annual budget justification, information on the progress within the Department of fulfilling the workforce strategies required under subsection (c).''.

SEC. 112. CHIEF SECURITY OFFICER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title VII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341 et seq.), as amended by section 109(a) of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 709. CHIEF SECURITY OFFICER.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—There is a Chief Security Officer of the Department, who shall report directly to the Under Secretary for Management.

''(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Chief Security Officer shall—

''(1) develop and implement the Department's security policies, programs, and standards;

''(2) identify training and provide education to Department personnel on security-related matters; and

''(3) provide support to Department components on security-related matters.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is further amended by adding at the end of the items relating to such title the following:

''Sec. 709. Chief Security Officer.''.

SEC. 113. COST SAVINGS AND EFFICIENCY REVIEWS.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Under Secretary for Management of the Department of Homeland Security, shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security

of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report that—

(1) provides a detailed inventory of the management and administrative expenditures and activities of the components of the Department and identifies potential cost savings and efficiencies for those expenditures and activities of each such component;

(2) examines the size, experience level, and geographic distribution of the operational personnel of the Department, including Customs and Border Protection officers, Border Patrol agents, Customs and Border Protection Air and Marine agents, Customs and Border Protection agriculture specialists, Federal Protective Service law enforcement security officers, Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents, Transportation Security Administration officers, Federal air marshals, and members of the Coast Guard; and

(3) makes recommendations for adjustments in the management and administration of the Department that would reduce deficiencies in the Department's capabilities, reduce costs, and enhance efficiencies.

SEC. 114. FIELD EFFICIENCIES PLAN.

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a field efficiencies plan that—

(A) examines the facilities and administrative and logistics functions of components of the Department of Homeland Security located within designated geographic areas; and

(B) provides specific recommendations and an associated cost-benefit analysis for the consolidation of the facilities and administrative and logistics functions of components of the Department within each designated geographic area.

(2) CONTENTS.—The field efficiencies plan submitted under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) An accounting of leases held by the Department or its components that have expired in the current fiscal year or will be expiring in the next fiscal year, that have begun or been renewed in the current fiscal year, or that the Department or its components plan to sign or renew in the next fiscal year.

(B)(i) An evaluation for each designated geographic area of specific facilities at which components, or operational entities of components, of the Department may be closed or consolidated, including consideration of when leases expire or facilities owned by the Government become available.

(ii) The evaluation shall include consideration of potential consolidation with facilities of other Federal, State, or local entities, including—

(I) offices;

(II) warehouses;

(III) training centers;

(IV) housing;

(V) ports, shore facilities, and airfields;

(VI) laboratories; and

(VII) other assets as determined by the Secretary.

(iii) The evaluation shall include the potential for the consolidation of administrative and logistics functions, including—

(I) facility maintenance;

(II) fleet vehicle services;

(III) mail handling and shipping and receiving;

(IV) facility security;

(V) procurement of goods and services;

(VI) information technology and telecommunications services and support; and

(VII) additional ways to improve unity of effort and cost savings for field operations and related support activities as determined by the Secretary.

(C) An implementation plan, including—

(i) near-term actions that can co-locate, consolidate, or dispose of property within 24 months;

(ii) identifying long-term occupancy agreements or leases that cannot be changed without a significant cost to the Government; and

(iii) how the Department can ensure it has the capacity, in both personnel and funds, needed to cover up-front costs to achieve consolidation and efficiencies.

(D) An accounting of any consolidation in the Department or its component's real estate footprint, including the co-location of personnel from different components, offices, and agencies within the Department.

SEC. 115. RESOURCES TO RESPOND TO OPERATIONAL SURGES.

On an annual basis, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate information on the circumstances in which the Secretary exercised the authority during the preceding year to reprogram or transfer funds to address unforeseen costs, including the costs associated with operational surges, and information on any circumstances in which limitations on the transfer or reprogramming of funds impacted the Secretary's ability to address such unforeseen costs.

SEC. 116. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY ROTATION PROGRAM.

(a) ENHANCEMENTS TO THE ROTATION PROGRAM.—Section 844(a) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6) U.S.C. 414(a)) is amended as follows:

(1) In paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ''Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the'' and inserting ''The''; and

(B) by striking ''for employees of the Department'' and inserting ''for certain personnel within the Department''.

(2) In paragraph (2)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (G) as subparagraphs (C) through (I), and inserting before subparagraph (C), as so redesignated, the following:

''(A) seek to foster greater Departmental integration and unity of effort;

''(B) seek to help enhance the knowledge, skills, and abilities of participating personnel with respect to the Department's programs, policies, and activities;'';

(B) in subparagraph (D), as so redesignated, by striking ''middle and senior level''; and

(C) in subparagraph (G), as so redesignated, by inserting before ''invigorate'' the following: ''seek to improve morale and retention throughout the Department and''.

(3) In paragraph (3)(B), by striking clause (iii) and redesignating clauses (iv) through (viii) as clauses (iii) through (vii).

(4) By redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as paragraphs (5) and (6), and inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

''(4) ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS.—In carrying out any program established pursuant to this section, the Secretary shall—

''(A) before selecting employees for participation in such program, disseminate information broadly within the Department about the availability of the program, qualifications for participation in the program, including full-time employment within the employing component or office not less than one year, and the general provisions of the program;

''(B) require each candidate for participation in the program to be nominated by the head of the candidate's employing component or office and that the Secretary, or the Secretary's designee, select each employee for the program solely on the basis of relative ability, knowledge, and skills, after fair and open competition that assures that all candidates receive equal opportunity;

''(C) ensure that each employee participating in the program shall be entitled to return, within a reasonable period of time after the end of the period of participation, to the position held by the employee, or a corresponding or higher position, in the employee's employing component or office;

''(D) require that the rights that would be available to the employee if the employee were detailed from the employing component or office to another Federal agency or office remain available to the employee during the employee participation in the program; and

''(E) require that, during the period of participation by an employee in the program, performance evaluations for the employee—

''(i) shall be conducted by officials in the employee's office or component with input from the supervisors of the employee at the component or office in which the employee is placed during that period; and

''(ii) shall be provided the same weight with respect to promotions and other rewards as performance evaluations for service in the employee's office or component.''.

(b) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION AND OVERSIGHT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide information to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate about the status of the homeland security rotation program authorized by section 844 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended by this section.

TITLE II—DHS ACQUISITION ACCOUNTABILITY AND EFFICIENCY

SEC. 201. DEFINITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In this title:

(1) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(2) DEPARTMENT.—The term ''Department'' means the Department of Homeland Security.

(3) CONGRESSIONAL HOMELAND SECURITY COMMITTEES.—The term ''congressional homeland security committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and of the Senate.

(b) ADDITIONAL DEFINITIONS.—In this title:

(1) ACQUISITION.—The term ''acquisition'' has the meaning provided in section 131 of title 41, United States Code.

(2) BEST PRACTICES.—The term ''best practices'', with respect to acquisition, means a knowledge-based approach to capability development that includes identifying and validating needs; assessing alternatives to select the most appropriate solution; clearly establishing well-defined requirements; developing realistic cost assessments and schedules; securing stable funding that matches resources to requirements; demonstrating technology, design, and manufacturing maturity; using milestones and exit criteria or specific accomplishments that demonstrate progress; adopting and executing standardized processes with known

success across programs; establishing an adequate workforce that is qualified and sufficient to perform necessary functions; and integrating these capabilities into the Department's mission and business operations.

(c) AMENDMENTS TO DEFINITIONS IN HOMELAND SECURITY ACT OF 2002.—Section 2 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended—

(1) by striking ''In this Act,'' and inserting ''(a) IN GENERAL.—In this Act,'';

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by inserting ''(A)'' after ''(2)''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(B) The term 'congressional homeland security committees' means—

''(i) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

''(ii) the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and of the Senate, where appropriate.''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(b) ACQUISITION-RELATED DEFINITIONS.—In this Act, the following definitions apply:

''(1) ACQUISITION.—The term 'acquisition' has the meaning provided in section 131 of title 41, United States Code.

''(2) ACQUISITION DECISION AUTHORITY.—The term 'acquisition decision authority' means the authority, held by the Secretary acting through the Deputy Secretary or Under Secretary for Management—

''(A) to ensure compliance with Federal law, the Federal Acquisition Regulation, and Department acquisition management directives;

''(B) to review (including approving, halting, modifying, or cancelling) an acquisition program through the life cycle of the program;

''(C) to ensure that program managers have the resources necessary to successfully execute an approved acquisition program;

''(D) to ensure good program management of cost, schedule, risk, and system performance of the acquisition, including assessing acquisition program baseline breaches and directing any corrective action for such breaches; and

''(E) to ensure that program managers, on an ongoing basis, monitor cost, schedule, and performance against established baselines and use tools to assess risks to a program at all phases of the life cycle of the program to avoid and mitigate acquisition program baseline breaches.

''(3) ACQUISITION DECISION EVENT.—The term 'acquisition decision event', with respect to an investment or acquisition program, means a predetermined point within the acquisition phases of the investment or acquisition program at which the investment or acquisition program will undergo a review prior to commencement of the next phase.

''(4) ACQUISITION DECISION MEMORANDUM.—The term 'acquisition decision memorandum', with respect to an acquisition, means the official acquisition decision event record that includes a documented record of decisions, exit criteria, and assigned actions for the acquisition as determined by the person exercising acquisition decision authority for the acquisition.

''(5) ACQUISITION PROGRAM BASELINE.—The term 'acquisition program baseline', with respect to an acquisition program, means a summary of the cost, schedule, and performance parameters, expressed in standard, measurable, quantitative terms, which must be met in order to accomplish the goals of the program.

''(6) CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN.—The term 'capability development plan', with respect to a proposed acquisition, means the document that the Acquisition Review Board approves for the first acquisition decision event related to validating the need of a proposed acquisition.

''(7) COMPONENT ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE.—The term 'Component Acquisition Executive' means the senior acquisition official within a component who is designated in writing by the Under Secretary for Management, in consultation with the component head, with authority and responsibility for leading a process and staff to provide acquisition and program management oversight, policy, and guidance to ensure that statutory, regulatory, and higher level policy requirements are fulfilled, including compliance with Federal law, the Federal Acquisition Regulation, and Department acquisition management directives established by the Under Secretary for Management.

''(8) LIFE CYCLE COST.—The term 'life cycle cost', with respect to an acquisition program, means all costs associated with research, development, procurement, operation, integrated logistics support, and disposal under the program, including supporting infrastructure that plans, manages, and executes the program over its full life, and costs of common support items incurred as a result of the program.

''(9) MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAM.—The term 'major acquisition program' means a Department acquisition program that is estimated by the Secretary to require an eventual total expenditure of at least $300,000,000 (based on fiscal year 2015 constant dollars) over its life cycle cost.''.

Subtitle A—Acquisition Authorities

SEC. 211. ACQUISITION AUTHORITIES FOR UNDER SECRETARY FOR MANAGEMENT.

Section 701 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341), as amended by section 107 of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) ACQUISITION AND RELATED RESPONSIBILITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 1702(b) of title 41, United States Code, the Under Secretary for Management is the Chief Acquisition Officer of the Department. As Chief Acquisition Officer, the Under Secretary shall have the authority and perform the functions as specified in section 1702(b) of such title, and perform all other functions and responsibilities delegated by the Secretary or described in this subsection.

''(2) DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—In addition to the authority and functions specified in section 1702(b) of title 41, United States Code, the duties and responsibilities of the Under Secretary for Management related to acquisition include the following:

''(A) Advising the Secretary regarding acquisition management activities, taking into account risks of failure to achieve cost, schedule, or performance parameters, to ensure that the Department achieves its mission through the adoption of widely accepted program management best practices and standards.

''(B) Exercising the acquisition decision authority to approve, halt, modify (including the rescission of approvals of program milestones), or cancel major acquisition programs, unless the Under Secretary delegates the authority to a Component Acquisition Executive pursuant to paragraph (3).

''(C) Establishing policies for acquisition that implement an approach that takes into account risks of failure to achieve cost, schedule, or performance parameters that all components of the Department shall comply with, including outlining relevant authorities for program managers to effectively manage acquisition programs.

''(D) Ensuring that each major acquisition program has a Department-approved acquisition program baseline, pursuant to the Department's acquisition management policy.

''(E) Ensuring that the heads of components and Component Acquisition Executives comply with Federal law, the Federal Acquisition Regulation, and Department acquisition management directives.

''(F) Ensuring that grants and financial assistance are provided only to individuals and organizations that are not suspended or debarred.

''(G) Distributing guidance throughout the Department to ensure that contractors involved in acquisitions, particularly companies that access the Department's information systems and technologies, adhere to internal cybersecurity policies established by the Department of Homeland Security.

''(3) DELEGATION OF ACQUISITION DECISION AUTHORITY.—

''(A) LEVEL 3 ACQUISITIONS.—The Under Secretary for Management may delegate acquisition decision authority in writing to the relevant Component Acquisition Executive for an acquisition program that has a life cycle cost estimate of less than $300,000,000.

''(B) LEVEL 2 ACQUISITIONS.—The Under Secretary for Management may delegate acquisition decision authority in writing to the relevant Component Acquisition Executive for a major acquisition program that has a life cycle cost estimate of at least $300,000,000 but not more than $1,000,000,000 if all of the following requirements are met:

''(i) The component concerned possesses working policies, processes, and procedures that are consistent with Department-level acquisition policy.

''(ii) The Component Acquisition Executive has adequate, experienced, dedicated program management professional staff commensurate with the size of the delegated portfolio.

''(iii) Each major acquisition program concerned has written documentation showing that it has a Department-approved acquisition program baseline and it is meeting agreed-upon cost, schedule, and performance thresholds.

''(4) EXCLUDED PARTIES LIST SYSTEM CONSULTATION.—The Under Secretary for Management shall require that all Department contracting and procurement officials consult the Excluded Parties List System (or successor system) as maintained by the General Services Administration prior to awarding a contract or grant or entering into other transactions to ascertain whether the selected contractor is excluded from receiving Federal contracts, certain subcontracts, and certain types of Federal financial and nonfinancial assistance and benefits.

''(5) RELATIONSHIP TO UNDER SECRETARY FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this subsection shall diminish the authority granted to the Under Secretary for Science and Technology under this Act. The Under Secretary for Management and the Under Secretary for Science and Technology shall cooperate in matters related to the coordination of acquisitions across the Department so that investments of the Directorate of Science and Technology can support current and future requirements of the components.

''(B) OPERATIONAL TESTING AND EVALUATION.—The Under Secretary for Science and Technology shall—

''(i) ensure, in coordination with relevant component heads, that major acquisition programs—

''(I) complete operational testing and evaluation of technologies and systems;

''(II) use independent verification and validation of operational test and evaluation implementation and results; and

''(III) document whether such programs meet all performance requirements included in their acquisition program baselines;

''(ii) ensure that such operational testing and evaluation includes all system components and incorporates operators into the testing to ensure that systems perform as intended in the appropriate operational setting; and

''(iii) determine if testing conducted by other Federal agencies and private entities is relevant and sufficient in determining whether systems perform as intended in the operational setting.''.

SEC. 212. ACQUISITION AUTHORITIES FOR CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER.

Section 702 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 342), as amended by section 108 of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end of subsection (c)(2) the following new subparagraph:

''(J) Notwithstanding section 902 of title 31, United States Code, provide leadership over financial management policy and programs for the Department as they relate to the Department's acquisitions programs, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Management.''.

SEC. 213. ACQUISITION AUTHORITIES FOR CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER.

Section 703 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 343), as amended by section 110(a) of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(f) ACQUISITION RESPONSIBILITIES.—Notwithstanding section 11315 of title 40, United States Code, the acquisition responsibilities of the Chief Information Officer, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Management, shall include the following:

''(1) Oversee the management of the Homeland Security Enterprise Architecture and ensure that, before each acquisition decision event, approved information technology acquisitions comply with departmental information technology management processes, technical requirements, and the Homeland Security Enterprise Architecture, and in any case in which information technology acquisitions do not comply with the Department's management directives, make recommendations to the Acquisition Review Board regarding such noncompliance.

''(2) Be responsible for providing recommendations to the Acquisition Review Board established in section 836 of this Act on information technology programs, and be responsible for developing information technology acquisition strategic guidance.''.

SEC. 214. REQUIREMENTS TO ENSURE GREATER ACCOUNTABILITY FOR ACQUISITION PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title VII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341 et seq.), as amended by sections 109(a) and 112(a) of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 710. REQUIREMENTS TO ENSURE GREATER ACCOUNTABILITY FOR ACQUISITION PROGRAMS.

''(a) REQUIREMENT TO ESTABLISH MECHANISM.—Within the Management Directorate, the Under Secretary for Management shall establish a mechanism to prioritize improving the accountability, standardization, and transparency of major acquisition programs of the Department in order to increase opportunities for effectiveness and efficiencies and to serve as the central oversight function of all Department acquisition programs.

''(b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The Under Secretary for Management shall designate an Executive Director to oversee the requirement under subsection (a). The Executive Director shall report directly to the Under Secretary and shall carry out the following responsibilities:

''(1) Monitor the performance of Department acquisition programs regularly between acquisition decision events to identify problems with cost, performance, or schedule that components may need to address to prevent cost overruns, performance issues, or schedule delays.

''(2) Assist the Under Secretary for Management in managing the Department's acquisition portfolio.

''(3) Conduct oversight of individual acquisition programs to implement Department acquisition program policy, procedures, and guidance with a priority on ensuring the data it collects and maintains from its components is accurate and reliable.

''(4) Serve as the focal point and coordinator for the acquisition life cycle review process and as the executive secretariat for the Acquisition Review Board established under section 836 of this Act.

''(5) Advise the persons having acquisition decision authority in making acquisition decisions consistent with all applicable laws and in establishing clear lines of authority, accountability, and responsibility for acquisition decisionmaking within the Department.

''(6) Engage in the strategic planning and performance evaluation process required under section 306 of title 5, United States Code, and sections 1105(a)(28), 1115, 1116, and 9703 of title 31, United States Code, by supporting the Chief Procurement Officer in developing strategies and specific plans for hiring, training, and professional development in order to rectify any deficiency within the Department's acquisition workforce.

''(7) Oversee the Component Acquisition Executive structure to ensure it has sufficient capabilities and complies with Department policies.

''(8) Develop standardized certification standards in consultation with the Component Acquisition Executives for all acquisition program managers.

''(9) In the event that a program manager's certification or actions need review for purposes of promotion or removal, provide input, in consultation with the relevant Component Acquisition Executive, into the relevant program manager's performance evaluation, and report positive or negative experiences to the relevant certifying authority.

''(10) Provide technical support and assistance to Department acquisitions and acquisition personnel in conjunction with the Chief Procurement Officer.

''(11) Prepare the Department's Comprehensive Acquisition Status Report, as required by the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2013 (division D of Public Law 113–6; 127 Stat. 343) and section 840 of this Act, and make such report available to congressional homeland security committees.

''(12) Prepare the Department's Quarterly Program Accountability Report as required by section 840 of this Act, and make such report available to the congressional homeland security committees.

''(c) RESPONSIBILITIES OF COMPONENTS.—Each head of a component shall comply with Federal law, the Federal Acquisition Regulation, and Department acquisition management directives established by the Under Secretary for Management. For each major acquisition program, each head of a component shall—

''(1) define baseline requirements and document changes to those requirements, as appropriate;

''(2) establish a complete life cycle cost estimate with supporting documentation, including an acquisition program baseline;

''(3) verify each life cycle cost estimate against independent cost estimates, and reconcile any differences;

''(4) complete a cost-benefit analysis with supporting documentation;

''(5) develop and maintain a schedule that is consistent with scheduling best practices as identified by the Comptroller General of the United States, including, in appropriate cases, an integrated master schedule; and

''(6) ensure that all acquisition program information provided by the component is complete, accurate, timely, and valid.

''SEC. 711. ACQUISITION DOCUMENTATION.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—For each major acquisition program, the Executive Director responsible for the preparation of the Comprehensive Acquisition Status Report, pursuant to paragraph (11) of section 710(b), shall require certain acquisition documentation to be submitted by Department components or offices.

''(b) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the requirement for submission under subsection (a) for a program for a fiscal year if either—

''(1) the program has not—

''(A) entered the full rate production phase in the acquisition life cycle;

''(B) had a reasonable cost estimate established; and

''(C) had a system configuration defined fully; or

''(2) the program does not meet the definition of 'capital asset', as defined by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

''(c) CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT.—At the same time the President's budget is submitted for a fiscal year under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate information on the exercise of authority under subsection (b) in the prior fiscal year that includes the following specific information regarding each program for which a waiver is issued under subsection (b):

''(1) The grounds for granting a waiver for that program.

''(2) The projected cost of that program.

''(3) The proportion of a component's annual acquisition budget attributed to that program, as available.

''(4) Information on the significance of the program with respect to the component's operations and execution of its mission.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is further amended by adding after the item relating to section 709 the following new item:

''Sec. 710. Requirements to ensure greater accountability for acquisition programs.

''Sec. 711. Acquisition documentation.''.

Subtitle B—Acquisition Program Management Discipline

SEC. 221. ACQUISITION REVIEW BOARD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D of title VIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 836. ACQUISITION REVIEW BOARD.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish an Acquisition Review Board (in this section referred to as the 'Board') to strengthen accountability and uniformity within the Department acquisition review process, review major acquisition programs, and review the use of best practices.

''(b) COMPOSITION.—The Deputy Secretary or Under Secretary for Management shall serve as chair of the Board. The Secretary

shall also ensure participation by other relevant Department officials, including at least 2 component heads or their designees, as permanent members of the Board.

''(c) MEETINGS.—The Board shall meet every time a major acquisition program needs authorization to proceed from acquisition decision events through the acquisition life cycle and to consider any major acquisition program in breach as necessary. The Board may also be convened for non-major acquisitions that are deemed high-risk by the Executive Director referred to in section 710(b) of this Act. The Board shall also meet regularly for purposes of ensuring all acquisitions processes proceed in a timely fashion to achieve mission readiness.

''(d) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The responsibilities of the Board are as follows:

''(1) Determine whether a proposed acquisition has met the requirements of key phases of the acquisition life cycle framework and is able to proceed to the next phase and eventual full production and deployment.

''(2) Oversee executable business strategy, resources, management, accountability, and alignment to strategic initiatives.

''(3) Support the person with acquisition decision authority for an acquisition in determining the appropriate direction for the acquisition at key acquisition decision events.

''(4) Conduct systematic reviews of acquisitions to ensure that they are progressing in compliance with the approved documents for their current acquisition phase.

''(5) Review the acquisition documents of each major acquisition program, including the acquisition program baseline and documentation reflecting consideration of trade-offs among cost, schedule, and performance objectives, to ensure the reliability of underlying data.

''(6) Ensure that practices are adopted and implemented to require consideration of trade-offs among cost, schedule, and performance objectives as part of the process for developing requirements for major acquisition programs prior to the initiation of the second acquisition decision event, including, at a minimum, the following practices:

''(A) Department officials responsible for acquisition, budget, and cost estimating functions are provided with the appropriate opportunity to develop estimates and raise cost and schedule matters before performance objectives are established for capabilities when feasible.

''(B) Full consideration of possible trade-offs among cost, schedule, and performance objectives for each alternative is considered.

''(e) ACQUISITION PROGRAM BASELINE REPORT REQUIREMENT.—If the person exercising acquisition decision authority over a major acquisition program approves the program to proceed into the planning phase before it has a Department-approved acquisition program baseline, then the Under Secretary for Management shall create and approve an acquisition program baseline report on the decision, and the Secretary shall—

''(1) within 7 days after an acquisition decision memorandum is signed, notify in writing the congressional homeland security committees of such decision; and

''(2) within 60 days after the acquisition decision memorandum is signed, submit a report to such committees stating the rationale for the decision and a plan of action to require an acquisition program baseline for the program.

''(f) BEST PRACTICES DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'best practices' has the meaning provided in section 4(b) of the DHS Headquarters Reform and Improvement Act of 2015.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is further amended by adding after the item relating to section 835 the following new item:

''Sec. 836. Acquisition Review Board.''.

SEC. 222. REQUIREMENTS TO REDUCE DUPLICATION IN ACQUISITION PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D of title VIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391 et seq.) is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 837. REQUIREMENTS TO REDUCE DUPLICATION IN ACQUISITION PROGRAMS.

''(a) REQUIREMENT TO ESTABLISH POLICIES.—In an effort to reduce unnecessary duplication and inefficiency for all Department investments, including major acquisition programs, the Deputy Secretary, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Management, shall establish Department-wide policies to integrate all phases of the investment life cycle and help the Department identify, validate, and prioritize common component requirements for major acquisition programs in order to increase opportunities for effectiveness and efficiencies. The policies shall also include strategic alternatives for developing and facilitating a Department component-driven requirements process that includes oversight of a development test and evaluation capability; identification of priority gaps and overlaps in Department capability needs; and provision of feasible technical alternatives, including innovative commercially available alternatives, to meet capability needs.

''(b) MECHANISMS TO CARRY OUT REQUIREMENT.—The Under Secretary for Management shall coordinate the actions necessary to carry out subsection (a), using such mechanisms as considered necessary by the Secretary to help the Department reduce unnecessary duplication and inefficiency for all Department investments, including major acquisition programs.

''(c) COORDINATION.—In coordinating the actions necessary to carry out subsection (a), the Deputy Secretary shall consult with the Under Secretary for Management, Component Acquisition Executives, and any other Department officials, including the Under Secretary for Science and Technology or his designee, with specific knowledge of Department or component acquisition capabilities to prevent unnecessary duplication of requirements.

''(d) ADVISORS.—The Deputy Secretary, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Management, shall seek and consider input within legal and ethical boundaries from members of Federal, State, local, and tribal governments, nonprofit organizations, and the private sector, as appropriate, on matters within their authority and expertise in carrying out the Department's mission.

''(e) MEETINGS.—The Deputy Secretary, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Management, shall meet at least quarterly and communicate with components often to ensure that components do not overlap or duplicate spending or activities on major investments and acquisition programs within their areas of responsibility.

''(f) RESPONSIBILITIES.—In carrying out this section, the responsibilities of the Deputy Secretary, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Management, are as follows:

''(1) To review and validate the requirements documents of major investments and acquisition programs prior to acquisition decision events of the investments or programs.

''(2) To ensure the requirements and scope of a major investment or acquisition program are stable, measurable, achievable, at an acceptable risk level, and match the resources planned to be available.

''(3) Before any entity of the Department issues a solicitation for a new contract, coordinate with other Department entities as appropriate to prevent unnecessary duplication and inefficiency and—

''(A) to implement portfolio reviews to identify common mission requirements and crosscutting opportunities among components to harmonize investments and requirements and prevent unnecessary overlap and duplication among components; and

''(B) to the extent practicable, to standardize equipment purchases, streamline the acquisition process, improve efficiencies, and conduct best practices for strategic sourcing.

''(4) To ensure program managers of major investments and acquisition programs conduct analyses, giving particular attention to factors such as cost, schedule, risk, performance, and operational efficiency in order to determine that programs work as intended within cost and budget expectations.

''(5) To propose schedules for delivery of the operational capability needed to meet each Department investment and major acquisition program.

''(g) BEST PRACTICES DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'best practices' has the meaning provided in section 4(b) of the DHS Headquarters Reform and Improvement Act of 2015.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is further amended by adding after the item relating to section 836 the following new item:

''Sec. 837. Requirements to reduce duplication in acquisition programs.''.

SEC. 223. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REVIEW OF BOARD AND OF REQUIREMENTS TO REDUCE DUPLICATION IN ACQUISITION PROGRAMS.

(a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a review of the effectiveness of the Acquisition Review Board established under section 836 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (as added by section 221) and the requirements to reduce unnecessary duplication in acquisition programs established under section 837 of such Act (as added by section 222) in improving the Department's acquisition management process.

(b) SCOPE OF REPORT.—The review shall include the following:

(1) An assessment of the effectiveness of the Board in increasing program management oversight, best practices and standards, and discipline among the components of the Department, including in working together and in preventing overlap and unnecessary duplication.

(2) An assessment of the effectiveness of the Board in instilling program management discipline.

(3) A statement of how regularly each major acquisition program is reviewed by the Board, how often the Board stops major acquisition programs from moving forward in the phases of the acquisition life cycle process, and the number of major acquisition programs that have been halted because of problems with operational effectiveness, schedule delays, or cost overruns.

(4) An assessment of the effectiveness of the Board in impacting acquisition decision-making within the Department, including the degree to which the Board impacts decisionmaking within other headquarters mechanisms and bodies involved in the administration of acquisition activities.

(c) REPORT REQUIRED.—The Comptroller General shall submit to the congressional homeland security committees a report on the review required by this section not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act. The report shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 224. EXCLUDED PARTY LIST SYSTEM WAIVERS.

The Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide notification to the congressional homeland security committees within 5 days after the issuance of a waiver by the Secretary of Federal requirements that an agency not engage in business with a contractor in the Excluded Party List System (or successor system) as maintained by the General Services Administration and an explanation for a finding by the Secretary that a compelling reason exists for this action.

SEC. 225. INSPECTOR GENERAL OVERSIGHT OF SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT.

The Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security—

(1) may audit decisions about grant and procurement awards to identify instances where a contract or grant was improperly awarded to a suspended or debarred entity and whether corrective actions were taken to prevent recurrence; and

(2) shall review the suspension and debarment program throughout the Department of Homeland Security to assess whether suspension and debarment criteria are consistently applied throughout the Department and whether disparities exist in the application of such criteria, particularly with respect to business size and categories.

Subtitle C—Acquisition Program Management Accountability and Transparency

SEC. 231. CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAM BREACH.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D of title VIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391 et seq.) is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 838. CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAM BREACH.

''(a) BREACH DEFINED.—The term 'breach', with respect to a major acquisition program, means a failure to meet any cost, schedule, or performance parameter specified in the acquisition program baseline.

''(b) REQUIREMENTS WITHIN DEPARTMENT IF BREACH OCCURS.—

''(1) NOTIFICATIONS.—

''(A) NOTIFICATION OF BREACH.—If a breach occurs in a major acquisition program, the program manager for that program shall notify the Component Acquisition Executive for the program, the head of the component concerned, the Executive Director referred to in section 710(b) of this Act, the Under Secretary for Management, and the Deputy Secretary.

''(B) NOTIFICATION TO SECRETARY.—If a major acquisition program has a breach with a cost overrun greater than 15 percent or a schedule delay greater than 180 days from the costs or schedule set forth in the acquisition program baseline for the program, the Secretary and the Inspector General of the Department shall be notified not later than 5 business days after the breach is identified.

''(2) REMEDIATION PLAN AND ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a breach with a cost overrun greater than 15 percent or a schedule delay greater than 180 days from the costs or schedule set forth in the acquisition program baseline, a remediation plan and root cause analysis is required, and the Under Secretary for Management or his designee shall establish a date for submission within the Department of a breach remediation plan and root cause analysis in accordance with this subsection.

''(B) REMEDIATION PLAN.—The remediation plan required under this subsection shall be submitted in writing to the head of the component concerned, the Executive Director referred to in section 710(b) of this Act, and the Under Secretary for Management. The plan shall—

''(i) explain the circumstances of the breach;

''(ii) provide prior cost estimating information;

''(iii) propose corrective action to control cost growth, schedule delays, or performance issues;

''(iv) in coordination with Component Acquisition Executive, discuss all options considered, including the estimated impact on cost, schedule, or performance of the program if no changes are made to current requirements, the estimated cost of the program if requirements are modified, and the extent to which funding from other programs will need to be reduced to cover the cost growth of the program; and

''(v) explain the rationale for why the proposed corrective action is recommended.

''(C) ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS.—The root cause analysis required under this subsection shall determine the underlying cause or causes of shortcomings in cost, schedule, or performance of the program, including the role, if any, of the following:

''(i) Unrealistic performance expectations.

''(ii) Unrealistic baseline estimates for cost or schedule or changes in program requirements.

''(iii) Immature technologies or excessive manufacturing or integration risk.

''(iv) Unanticipated design, engineering, manufacturing, or technology integration issues arising during program performance.

''(v) Changes in procurement quantities.

''(vi) Inadequate program funding or changes in planned out-year funding from 1 5-year funding plan to the next 5-year funding plan as outlined in the Future Years Homeland Security Program required under section 874 of this Act.

''(vii) Legislative, legal, or regulatory changes.

''(viii) Inadequate program management personnel, including lack of training, credentials, certifications, or use of best practices.

''(3) CORRECTION OF BREACH.—The Under Secretary for Management or his designee shall establish a date for submission within the Department of a program of corrective action that ensures that 1 of the following actions has occurred:

''(A) The breach has been corrected and the program is again in compliance with the original acquisition program baseline parameters.

''(B) A revised acquisition program baseline has been approved.

''(C) The program has been halted or cancelled.

''(c) REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION IF BREACH OCCURS.—

''(1) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—If a notification is made under subsection (b)(1)(B) for a breach in a major acquisition program with a cost overrun greater than 15 percent or a schedule delay greater than 180 days from the costs or schedule set forth in the acquisition program baseline, or with an anticipated failure for any key performance threshold or parameter specified in the acquisition program baseline, the Under Secretary for Management shall notify the congressional homeland security committees of the breach in the next quarterly Comprehensive Acquisition Status Report after the Under Secretary for Management receives the notification from the program manager under subsection (b)(1)(B).

''(2) SUBSTANTIAL VARIANCES IN COSTS OR SCHEDULE.—If a likely cost overrun is greater than 20 percent or a likely delay is greater than 12 months from the costs and schedule set forth in the acquisition program baseline for a major acquisition program, the Under Secretary for Management shall include in the notification required in (c)(1) a written certification, with supporting explanation, that—

''(A) the acquisition is essential to the accomplishment of the Department's mission;

''(B) there are no alternatives to such capability or asset that will provide equal or greater capability in both a more cost-effective and timely manner;

''(C) the new acquisition schedule and estimates for total acquisition cost are reasonable; and

''(D) the management structure for the acquisition program is adequate to manage and control performance, cost, and schedule.

''(3) SUBMISSIONS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 calendar days after submission to such committees of a breach notification under paragraph (1) of this section for a major acquisition program, the Under Secretary for Management shall submit to such committees the following:

''(A) A copy of the remediation plan and the root cause analysis prepared under subsection (b)(2) for the program.

''(B) A statement describing the corrective action or actions that have occurred pursuant to subsection (b)(3) for the program, with a justification for the action or actions.

''(d) ADDITIONAL ACTIONS IF BREACH OCCURS.—

''(1) PROHIBITION ON OBLIGATION OF FUNDS.—During the 90-day period following submission under subsection (c)(3) of a remediation plan, root cause analysis, and statement of corrective actions with respect to a major acquisition program, the Under Secretary for Management shall submit a certification described in paragraph (2) of this subsection to the congressional homeland security committees. If the Under Secretary for Management does not submit such certification by the end of such 90-day period, then funds appropriated to the major acquisition program shall not be obligated until the Under Secretary for Management submits such certification.

''(2) CERTIFICATION.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the certification described in this paragraph is a certification that—

''(A) the Department has adjusted or restructured the program in a manner that addresses the root cause or causes of the cost growth in the program; and

''(B) the Department has conducted a thorough review of the breached program's acquisition decision event approvals and the current acquisition decision event approval for the breached program has been adjusted as necessary to account for the restructured program.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is further amended by adding after the item relating to section 837 the following new item:

''Sec. 838. Congressional notification and other requirements for major acquisition program breach.''.

SEC. 232. MULTIYEAR ACQUISITION STRATEGY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) AMENDMENT.—Subtitle D of title VIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391 et seq.) is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 839. MULTIYEAR ACQUISITION STRATEGY.

''(a) MULTIYEAR ACQUISITION STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate homeland security committees a multiyear acquisition strategy to guide the overall direction of the acquisitions of the Department while allowing flexibility to deal with ever-changing threats and risks and to help industry better understand, plan, and align resources to meet the future acquisition needs of the

Department. The strategy shall be updated and included in each Future Years Homeland Security Program required under section 874 of this Act.

''(b) CONSULTATION.—In developing the strategy, the Secretary shall consult with others as the Secretary deems appropriate, including headquarters, components, employees in the field, and when appropriate, individuals from industry and the academic community.

''(c) FORM OF STRATEGY.—The report shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex for any sensitive or classified information if necessary. The Department also shall publish the plan in an unclassified format that is publicly available.

''(d) CONTENTS OF STRATEGY.—The strategy shall include the following:

''(1) PRIORITIZED LIST.—A systematic and integrated prioritized list developed by the Under Secretary for Management or his designee in coordination with all of the Component Acquisition Executives of Department major acquisition programs that Department and component acquisition investments seek to address, that includes the expected security and economic benefit of the program or system and an analysis of how the security and economic benefit derived from the program or system will be measured.

''(2) INVENTORY.—A plan to develop a reliable Department-wide inventory of investments and real property assets to help the Department plan, budget, schedule, and acquire upgrades of its systems and equipment and plan for the acquisition and management of future systems and equipment.

''(3) FUNDING GAPS.—A plan to address funding gaps between funding requirements for major acquisition programs and known available resources including, to the maximum extent practicable, ways of leveraging best practices to identify and eliminate overpayment for items to prevent wasteful purchasing, achieve the greatest level of efficiency and cost savings by rationalizing purchases, aligning pricing for similar items, and utilizing purchase timing and economies of scale.

''(4) IDENTIFICATION OF CAPABILITIES.—An identification of test, evaluation, modeling, and simulation capabilities that will be required to support the acquisition of the technologies to meet the needs of the plan and ways to leverage to the greatest extent possible the emerging technology trends and research and development trends within the public and private sectors and an identification of ways to ensure that the appropriate technology is acquired and integrated into the Department's operating doctrine and procured in ways that improve mission performance.

''(5) FOCUS ON FLEXIBLE SOLUTIONS.—An assessment of ways the Department can improve its ability to test and acquire innovative solutions to allow needed incentives and protections for appropriate risk-taking in order to meet its acquisition needs with resiliency, agility, and responsiveness to assure the Nation's homeland security and facilitate trade.

''(6) FOCUS ON INCENTIVES TO SAVE TAXPAYER DOLLARS.—An assessment of ways the Department can develop incentives for program managers and senior Department acquisition officials to prevent cost overruns, avoid schedule delays, and achieve cost savings in major acquisition programs.

''(7) FOCUS ON ADDRESSING DELAYS AND BID PROTESTS.—An assessment of ways the Department can improve the acquisition process to minimize cost overruns in requirements development, procurement announcements, requests for proposals, evaluation of proposals, protests of decisions and awards and through the use of best practices as defined in section 4(b) of the DHS Headquarters Reform and Improvement Act of 2015 and lessons learned by the Department and other Federal agencies.

''(8) FOCUS ON IMPROVING OUTREACH.—An identification and assessment of ways to increase opportunities for communication and collaboration with industry, small and disadvantaged businesses, intra-government entities, university centers of excellence, accredited certification and standards development organizations, and national laboratories to ensure that the Department understands the market for technologies, products, and innovation that is available to meet its mission needs to inform the requirements-setting process and before engaging in an acquisition, including—

''(A) methods designed especially to engage small and disadvantaged businesses and a cost-benefit analysis of the tradeoffs that small and disadvantaged businesses provide, barriers to entry for small and disadvantaged businesses, and unique requirements for small and disadvantaged businesses; and

''(B) within the Department Vendor Communication Plan and Market Research Guide, instructions for interaction by program managers with such entities to prevent misinterpretation of acquisition regulations and to permit freedom within legal and ethical boundaries for program managers to interact with such businesses with transparency.

''(9) COMPETITION.—A plan regarding competition as described in subsection (e).

''(10) ACQUISITION WORKFORCE.—A plan regarding the Department acquisition workforce as described in subsection (f).

''(11) FEASIBILITY OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUND PILOT PROGRAM.—An assessment of the feasibility of conducting a pilot program to establish an acquisition workforce development fund as described in subsection (g).

''(e) COMPETITION PLAN.—The strategy shall also include a plan (referred to in subsection (d)(9)) that shall address actions to ensure competition, or the option of competition, for major acquisition programs. The plan may include assessments of the following measures in appropriate cases if such measures are cost effective:

''(1) Competitive prototyping.

''(2) Dual-sourcing.

''(3) Unbundling of contracts.

''(4) Funding of next-generation prototype systems or subsystems.

''(5) Use of modular, open architectures to enable competition for upgrades.

''(6) Acquisition of complete technical data packages.

''(7) Periodic competitions for subsystem upgrades.

''(8) Licensing of additional suppliers, including small businesses.

''(9) Periodic system or program reviews to address long-term competitive effects of program decisions.

''(f) ACQUISITION WORKFORCE PLAN.—

''(1) ACQUISITION WORKFORCE.—The strategy shall also include a plan (referred to in subsection (d)(10)) to address Department acquisition workforce accountability and talent management that identifies the acquisition workforce needs of each component performing acquisition functions and develops options for filling those needs with qualified individuals, including a cost-benefit analysis of contracting for acquisition assistance.

''(2) ADDITIONAL MATTERS COVERED.—The acquisition workforce plan shall address ways to—

''(A) improve the recruitment, hiring, training, and retention of Department acquisition workforce personnel, including contracting officer's representatives, in order to retain highly qualified individuals that have experience in the acquisition life cycle, complex procurements, and management of large programs;

''(B) empower program managers to have the authority to manage their programs in an accountable and transparent manner as they work with the acquisition workforce;

''(C) prevent duplication within Department acquisition workforce training and certification requirements through leveraging already-existing training within the Federal Government, academic community, or private industry;

''(D) achieve integration and consistency with Government-wide training and accreditation standards, acquisition training tools, and training facilities;

''(E) designate the acquisition positions that will be necessary to support the Department acquisition requirements, including in the fields of—

''(i) program management;

''(ii) systems engineering;

''(iii) procurement, including contracting;

''(iv) test and evaluation;

''(v) life cycle logistics;

''(vi) cost estimating and program financial management; and

''(vii) additional disciplines appropriate to Department mission needs;

''(F) strengthen the performance of contracting officer's representatives (as defined in subpart 1.602–2 and subpart 2.101 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation), including by—

''(i) assessing the extent to which contracting officer's representatives are certified and receive training that is appropriate;

''(ii) determining what training is most effective with respect to the type and complexity of assignment; and

''(iii) implementing actions to improve training based on such assessment; and

''(G) identify ways to increase training for relevant investigators and auditors to examine fraud in major acquisition programs, including identifying opportunities to leverage existing Government and private sector resources in coordination with the Inspector General of the Department.

''(g) FEASIBILITY OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUND PILOT PROGRAM.—The strategy shall also include an assessment (referred to in subsection (d)(11)) of the feasibility of conducting a pilot program to establish a Homeland Security Acquisition Workforce Development Fund (in this subsection referred to as the 'Fund') to ensure the Department acquisition workforce has the capacity, in both personnel and skills, needed to properly perform its mission and ensure that the Department receives the best value for the expenditure of public resources. The assessment shall address the following:

''(1) Ways to fund the Fund, including the use of direct appropriations, or the credit, transfer, or deposit of unobligated or unused funds from Department components into the Fund to remain available for obligation in the fiscal year for which credited, transferred, or deposited and to remain available for successive fiscal years.

''(2) Ways to reward the Department acquisition workforce and program managers for good program management in controlling cost growth, limiting schedule delays, and ensuring operational effectiveness through providing a percentage of the savings or general acquisition bonuses.

''(3) Guidance for the administration of the Fund that includes provisions to do the following:

''(A) Describe the costs and benefits associated with the use of direct appropriations or credit, transfer, or deposit of unobligated or unused funds to finance the Fund.

''(B) Describe the manner and timing for applications for amounts in the Fund to be submitted.

''(C) Explain the evaluation criteria to be used for approving or prioritizing applications for amounts in the Fund in any fiscal year.

''(D) Explain the mechanism to report to Congress on the implementation of the Fund on an ongoing basis.

''(E) Detail measurable performance metrics to determine if the Fund is meeting the objective to improve the acquisition workforce and to achieve cost savings in acquisition management.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is further amended by adding after the item relating to section 838 the following new item:

''Sec. 839. Multiyear acquisition strategy.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT TO FUTURE YEARS HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM.—Section 874(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 454(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (2);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (3) and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) include the multiyear acquisition strategy required under section 839 of this Act.''.

SEC. 233. ACQUISITION REPORTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D of title VIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391 et seq.) is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 840. ACQUISITION REPORTS.

''(a) COMPREHENSIVE ACQUISITION STATUS REPORT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary for Management each year shall submit to the congressional homeland security committees, at the same time as the President's budget is submitted for a fiscal year under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, a comprehensive acquisition status report. The report shall include the following:

''(A) The information required under the heading 'Office of the Under Secretary for Management' under title I of division D of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112–74) (as required under the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2013 (Public Law 113–6)).

''(B) A listing of programs that have been cancelled, modified, paused, or referred to the Under Secretary for Management or Deputy Secretary for additional oversight or action by the Board, Department Office of Inspector General, or the Comptroller General.

''(C) A listing of established Executive Steering Committees, which provide governance of a program or related set of programs and lower-tiered oversight, and support between acquisition decision events and component reviews, including the mission and membership for each.

''(2) INFORMATION FOR MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAMS.—For each major acquisition program, the report shall include the following:

''(A) A narrative description, including current gaps and shortfalls, the capabilities to be fielded, and the number of planned increments or units.

''(B) Acquisition Review Board (or other board designated to review the acquisition) status of each acquisition, including the current acquisition phase, the date of the last review, and a listing of the required documents that have been reviewed with the dates reviewed or approved.

''(C) The most current, approved acquisition program baseline (including project schedules and events).

''(D) A comparison of the original acquisition program baseline, the current acquisition program baseline, and the current estimate.

''(E) Whether or not an independent verification and validation has been implemented, with an explanation for the decision and a summary of any findings.

''(F) A rating of cost risk, schedule risk, and technical risk associated with the program (including narrative descriptions and mitigation actions).

''(G) Contract status (including earned value management data as applicable).

''(H) A lifecycle cost of the acquisition, and time basis for the estimate.

''(3) UPDATES.—The Under Secretary shall submit quarterly updates to such report not later than 45 days after the completion of each quarter.

''(b) QUARTERLY PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT.—The Under Secretary for Management shall prepare a quarterly program accountability report to meet the Department's mandate to perform program health assessments and improve program execution and governance. The report shall be submitted to the congressional homeland security committees.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is further amended by adding after the item relating to section 839 the following new item:

''Sec. 840. Acquisition reports.''.

SEC. 234. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REVIEW OF MULTIYEAR ACQUISITION STRATEGY.

(a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—After submission to Congress of the first multiyear acquisition strategy (pursuant to section 839 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002) after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a review of the plan within 180 days to analyze the viability of the plan's effectiveness in the following:

(1) Complying with the requirements in section 839 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 232 of this Act.

(2) Establishing clear connections between Department objectives and acquisition priorities.

(3) Demonstrating that Department acquisition policy reflects program management best practices and standards.

(4) Ensuring competition or the option of competition for major acquisition programs.

(5) Considering potential cost savings through using already-existing technologies when developing acquisition program requirements.

(6) Preventing duplication within Department acquisition workforce training requirements through leveraging already-existing training within the Federal Government, academic community, or private industry.

(7) Providing incentives for program managers to reduce acquisition and procurement costs through the use of best practices and disciplined program management.

(8) Maximizing small business utilization in acquisitions by, to the maximum extent practicable, ensuring strategic sourcing vehicles seek to increase participation by small businesses, including small and disadvantaged business.

(9) Assessing the feasibility of conducting a pilot program to establish a Homeland Security Acquisition Workforce Development Fund.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—The Comptroller General shall submit to the congressional homeland security committees a report on the review required by this section. The report shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 235. OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT.

(a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—No later than 2 years following the submission of the report submitted by the Comptroller General of the United States as required by section 234, the Department's Inspector General shall conduct a review of whether the Department has complied with the multiyear acquisition strategy (pursuant to section 839 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002) and adhered to the strategies set forth in the plan. The review shall also consider whether the Department has complied with the requirements to provide the Acquisition Review Board with a capability development plan for each major acquisition program.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—The Inspector General shall submit to the congressional homeland security committees a report of the review required by this section. The report shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3572, the Department of Homeland Security Headquarters Reform and Improvement Act of 2015, which I introduced with my colleague from Mississippi, Ranking Member BENNIE THOMPSON.

This important, bipartisan legislation reforms and streamlines DHS headquarters so it can more effectively focus on its core mission of better protecting national security. At the same time, this bill saves millions in taxpayer dollars and reins in unnecessary bureaucracy.

DHS headquarters plays an important role in providing direction and oversight to the Department's 22 components; yet, over the years, Department management has become bloated and unwieldy.

DHS has established, reorganized, and expanded offices and programs without the approval of Congress, created new assistant secretary positions, and spent billions of dollars on acquisitions that don't meet the needs of our men and women on the frontlines securing the homeland.

This bill helps to get DHS management on track by mandating multiple efficiency reviews to ensure taxpayer dollars are not wasted but, instead, directly linked to protecting the homeland. It also requires DHS to increase

transparency with Congress, to hold acquisition programs accountable, and to better communicate with industry when making major acquisition decisions.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Oversight and Management Efficiency Subcommittee Chairman SCOTT PERRY and Ranking Member BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN for their leadership in conducting much of the oversight and research that informed the bill, especially their work to reform DHS' troubled acquisitions process. I am grateful for their tremendous efforts.

In addition, this bill eliminates unnecessary assistant secretary and director positions, abolishes unproductive, idle offices, consolidates offices to streamline functionality, and prohibits the Department of Homeland Security Secretary from creating any new assistant secretary positions without prior congressional approval.

In short, Mr. Speaker, this bill ensures that the Department of Homeland Security is a leaner, less bureaucratic, and more efficient organization focused on the mission and getting the job done.

While H.R. 3572 addresses waste, fraud, abuse, and a lack of transparency at DHS headquarters, it is just one part of a larger suite of legislation that this committee has passed this year dedicated to reforming and improving the Department overall.

To date, we have passed by voice vote more than 40 bills addressing similar shortcomings at CBP, TSA, FEMA, Secret Service, NPPD, and S&T, just to name a few.

I am very proud of our success in passing specific targeted bills dedicated to reining in bureaucracy, saving taxpayer dollars, providing much-needed congressional guidance, and protecting national security.

I am grateful to all the members of this committee and to the staff on both sides of the aisle whose hard work and bipartisan commitment to the priority of keeping America safe helped to make all of this legislation possible.

My committee approved this bill unanimously last month, something you don't hear of every day in this Congress.

In conclusion, I urge all Members of the House to join me in supporting this bipartisan bill that will help DHS to operate more efficiently and effectively in protecting the American people.

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

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

I rise in support of H.R. 3572, the Department of Homeland Security Headquarters Reform and Improvement Act of 2015.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Homeland Security was established in 2003, when 22 agencies were folded together in what was the most substantial reorganization of Federal agencies since the National Security Act of 1947.

Since that time, the Department of Homeland Security has faced an ever-evolving range of threats and has taken on more missions and responsibilities, most notably with respect to cybersecurity.

Even as the Department of Homeland Security has risen to the operational demands of the post-9/11 world, departmental integration and coordination of key activities—such as policy development, acquisitions, and human capital management—have been a challenge.

As a result, the comptroller general and the Department of Homeland Security inspector general have repeatedly found instances where decisionmaking at the component level has resulted in performance failures that have wasted limited Department of Homeland Security resources.

H.R. 3572 is designed to drive improvements at all levels of the Department and to codify key departmental management directives that were issued in recent years.

Specifically, H.R. 3572 would strengthen the under secretary for management; authorize and realign central offices within the Management Directorate; bolster the Office of Policy, including its management of DHS overseas personnel; and address the Department's employee morale issues.

Importantly, H.R. 3572 codifies the Department's acquisition policies, promoting management practices designed to deliver needed capabilities while actively managing risk.

This bipartisan measure was introduced by Chairman MCCAUL on September 18, and Ranking Member THOMPSON was his original cosponsor.

The degree to which this bill is a bipartisan product was further underscored by the acceptance of 13 amendments offered by Democratic members at the full committee markup held on September 30.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3572 is in line with Department of Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson's Unity of Effort initiative. For example, it streamlines how the Department conducts outreach with Homeland Security stakeholders, including businesses and local government agencies, and integrates that process with the Department's policymaking.

Additionally, in an effort to address chronic morale issues and build bridges between Department of Homeland Security components, H.R. 3572 directs the Department to establish a rotational program for its workforce.

Finally, the bill elevates the Assistant Secretary for Policy to an under secretary level, a move that successive DHS leaders have sought.

□ 1645

By doing so, the bill seeks to not only improve departmentwide policymaking, but to also advance the goals of the initiative.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 3572.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I will be brief.

I think it is an excellent bipartisan bill. I want to thank Mr. HIGGINS from New York for his presentation here today and support, and I want to thank the other side of the aisle for working with me and continuing to work with me in a bipartisan way to get things done for the country. I think that is how most committees should work; and certainly for one that involves protecting the American people, I think it is paramount that we work together, both Republicans and Democrats.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3572.

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 Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3572, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REQUIRING BUDGET SUBMISSIONS TO PROVIDE AN ESTIMATE OF THE COST PER TAXPAYER OF THE DEFICIT

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1315) to amend section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, to require that annual budget submissions of the President to Congress provide an estimate of the cost per taxpayer of the deficit, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1315

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

SECTION 1. REQUIREMENT IN BUDGET SUBMISSION WITH RESPECT TO THE COST PER TAXPAYER OF THE DEFICIT.

Section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) redesignating paragraph (37) (relating to the list of outdated or duplicative plans and reports) as paragraph (39); and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(40) in the case of a fiscal year in which the budget is projected to result in a deficit, an estimate of the pro rata cost of such deficit for taxpayers who will file individual income tax returns for taxable years ending during such fiscal year.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. MESSER) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. YARMUTH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, first, I apologize for my voice today. My son, Hudson, and I attended the Patriots-Colts game on Sunday night, and, unfortunately, the Colts were not successful by a touchdown, but I lost my voice in the process of rooting them on.

I would like to thank Budget Chairman TOM PRICE and Ranking Member VAN HOLLEN for bringing H.R. 1315 to the floor. I rise today in support of this small but important measure.

H.R. 1315 requires the President's annual budget submission to Congress to include the cost per taxpayer of any budget deficit in a given fiscal year. This bill is based on a simple principle: each hardworking American taxpayer deserves to know how much the deficit costs them each year. This requirement would be a powerful reminder to the President and the Congress that our decisions here in Washington have real-world consequences.

Since 2010, the national debt has increased by over $5 trillion. That is unsustainable, and it is irresponsible. Rather than make some tough choices, we just spend more money we don't have and borrow some more. Unfortunately, because of out-of-control spending, we will, once again, be hitting our debt ceiling soon. That means in 2 weeks, we will have borrowed the maximum amount of money our country is allowed to borrow by law, which now is $18.1 trillion.

Now, think about that for a second. We are $18.1 trillion in debt. That is approximately $154,000 per taxpayer. And instead of asking ourselves, ''How can we stop the borrow-and-spend cycle?'' we are asking, ''Should we borrow more money?''

Mr. Speaker, it is past time we get our fiscal house in order. I know this bill won't solve our Nation's fiscal problems, and it won't prevent the government from spending more money that it doesn't have; however, making this information the bill requires more easily accessible will help us and our constituents better understand the real-world impact of budgets that never balance.

It is past time we get our fiscal house in order. I know this bill, again, won't solve our Nation's problems.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss H.R. 1315, legislation which requires the President's budget to include an estimate of the size of the deficit on a per-taxpayer basis. I don't oppose this legislation—indeed, I voted for a previous version of it in the last Congress—but I am having a hard time understanding what, if anything, it will accomplish.

Requiring the President's budget to include a basic calculation will do nothing to produce better policies or outcomes that the American people are demanding. And when I say ''a basic calculation,'' I am talking about a calculation that my 7-year-old nephew, Lucas, could do probably without his smartphone. But I will vote ''yes'' because I don't think this bill will do any harm.

I do think it says something about the majority's priorities that this bill is even being considered. We are facing a series of enormous and serious budget issues, yet the majority is devoting floor time to legislation that is essentially meaningless.

Our government is now operating with funding under a continuing resolution that will expire on December 11, and we have failed to address the pending, across-the-board cuts known as sequestration that will drastically reduce funding for education, infrastructure, job training, and nutrition programs for children and the elderly. Those programs aren't meaningless. Millions of Americans depend on them.

On top of all that, unless Congress acts, we will default on the full faith and credit of the United States in less than a month. That would cost our economy billions of dollars. We need to be meeting the urgency of the situation with urgent action on the House floor to raise the debt ceiling and avert a disastrous default.

Additionally, we only have a few weeks left before the Federal highway program runs out of money again, yet it isn't even scheduled for floor debate. We have yet to extend tax provisions that benefit millions of taxpayers, both individuals and small businesses. They deserve certainty, not meaningless legislation like this.

These priorities, which are also the priorities of the American people, demand our attention. We should be working on reaching agreements to resolve these issues. Instead, we are not just wasting our time, we are wasting America's time.

Let's face it, this bill has two purposes: first, to create the illusion for the American people that Congress is actually being productive; and, second, to suggest, and possibly to scare, millions of Americans into thinking that they will be responsible for a certain amount of debt—an absurd notion, just as the notion that every American bears an equal share of our tax burden.

So, Mr. Speaker, I will vote for this bill. Again, I think it is a pointless exercise, but that is kind of where Congress is in this unfortunate era.

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

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

I appreciate the gentleman's comments. I certainly appreciate his support for the legislation. I would just suggest I don't think this is meaningless at all. I think it is important that we let the American taxpayer understand the true cost of operating our government with constant deficits.

When you throw around numbers in this town like billion and trillion, it is very hard to put them into a scale that the average American can understand. When you look at a $400-billion deficit that we now have on the books—and somehow brag to ourselves, as if we are somehow serving the American people well—and you divide that by 152 million taxpayers, it is over $3,000 we are still adding to the debt. When you look at the entire national debt of $18 trillion, it is $150,000 a person. It is unsustainable.

There are, of course, costs to the economy. No one is suggesting that a bill collector is going to come to an individual taxpayer's door, knock, and ask for $150,000. But it gives us a sense of the scale of debt that we are accumulating—five times, for the individual taxpayer, the average wage in this American society.

It is unsustainable, and it ought to be called out. That is why we have this bill. I think there can be honest disagreements about how we solve our fiscal challenges, but no disagreement about the fact that we ought to be transparent with the American people about what we are doing.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the remarks of my friend from across the Ohio River. I would say that if we want to do things like show what the per-taxpayer impact of our decisions might be, we also might want to look at how much the Federal deficit has been reduced in the last 8 years.

In 2009, when President Obama came into office, the Federal deficit was $1.4 trillion. It is now right about just over $400 billion—still a lot of money. But I did the calculation, and that is almost a $7,000 reduction in the deficit per individual taxpayer over the last 8 years. So it can be a positive thing as well.

But if we want to add a mathematical calculation to a budget, we really ought to be looking at the one the Republican Party approved in March. That budget, the Republican House budget, doesn't add up. When I say that, I mean it literally doesn't add up. Here are a couple of examples:

Their budget fully repeals ObamaCare but still counts all the revenue that is raised from the law.

The House has approved more than $610 billion worth of tax cuts this year, yet none of that lost revenue is accounted for in the Republican budget.

There are other tax cuts that are scheduled to expire that we all know will be extended, but, again, the Republican budget reflects none of that lost revenue.

So, yes, I will support this bill which requires that the President's budget include this one very basic calculation. I just wish my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would apply basic addition and subtraction to their own budget and, more importantly, deal with

the truly important issues that confront this country in the weeks to come.

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

Mr. MESSER. Again, Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Kentucky for his remarks.

I believe the most direct path towards a healthier and more secure economy now and in the future is less spending, lower taxes, a balanced budget, and a smaller debt. The first step, though, is more transparency, letting taxpayers know what is happening here. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1315.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. MESSER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1315.

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.

□ 1700

SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE TO FREELY ELECT THEIR GOVERNMENT

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 348) supporting the right of the people of Ukraine to freely elect their government and determine their future, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 348

Whereas after President Yanukovych had fled Kyiv, Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered the forcible and illegal occupation of Crimea in March 2014;

Whereas Russian-led separatists have forcibly seized large areas of Ukraine and continue their attacks on Ukraine's forces;

Whereas the Russian Federation has continued to engage in relentless political, economic, and military aggression to subvert the independence and violate the territorial integrity of Ukraine;

Whereas the United States has supported the democratically elected Government of Ukraine, which represents the will of the people of Ukraine, and Congress has passed multiple pieces of legislation to provide support to Ukraine;

Whereas Congress passed the Sovereignty, Integrity, Democracy, and Economic Stability of Ukraine Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–95), which authorized loan guarantees for the Government of Ukraine;

Whereas Congress passed the Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–272), which authorized the Administration to provide Ukraine's Government with support to facilitate necessary reforms, and stated that it is United States policy to assist the Government of Ukraine in restoring its sovereignty and territorial integrity;

Whereas in September 2014, a cease-fire agreement was brokered between Ukraine, Russia, and Russian-led separatists, but the agreement was never fully implemented;

Whereas in February 2015, an additional cease-fire, known as the Minsk Implementation Agreement or Minsk 2, was agreed upon;

Whereas the United States has assisted in many elections around the world, including Ukraine's Presidential election in May 25, 2014, to ensure that international election standards are upheld;

Whereas early parliamentary elections were held on October 26, 2014, but 29 of the 450 seats in parliament were not filled due to the inability to hold elections in areas controlled by separatists;

Whereas, despite the disenfranchisement of people living in separatist-controlled areas, international election observers declared the parliamentary elections in the rest of the country to have met international standards;

Whereas Ukraine and Russia are participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and party to its commitments, including the 1990 Copenhagen Document which states that States ''will respect each other's right freely to choose and develop, in accordance with international human rights standards, their political, social, economic and cultural systems'' and that ''free elections that will be held at reasonable intervals by secret ballot or by equivalent free voting procedure, under conditions which ensure in practice the free expression of the opinion of the electors in the choice of their representatives'';

Whereas the next local elections are scheduled to take place in Ukraine on October 25, 2015;

Whereas these elections are critical to continued legislative and constitutional reform in Ukraine;

Whereas the Russian-led separatists in eastern Ukraine continue to refuse to implement Ukrainian law and to permit Ukrainian authorities to conduct elections in the areas they control and have therefore made free and fair elections in those areas impossible;

Whereas Ukraine's government has therefore been forced to postpone the local elections in those areas; and

Whereas the United States is supporting efforts to promote citizen engagement in the constitutional reform process, educating voters, and election monitoring: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) strongly supports the right of the people of Ukraine to freely elect their government and determine their future;

(2) urges the Administration to expedite assistance to Ukraine to facilitate the political, economic, and social reforms necessary for free and fair elections that meet international standards; and

(3) condemns attempts on the part of outside forces, specifically the Government of Russia, its agents and supporters, to interfere in Ukraine's elections, including through intimidation, violence, or coercion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, almost 2 years after the conflict in Ukraine began, Russian aggression there remains almost a daily regular occurrence. The fighting has taken over 8,000 Ukrainian lives, and that number is growing as Russia continues to provide weapons and support to separatists in eastern Ukraine.

Last year, along with Ranking Member ELIOT ENGEL and several other members of the Foreign Affairs Committee—there were eight of us, as I recall, including the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE), who is the author of this resolution before us today—we traveled to Ukraine to see the situation on the ground. We traveled to Kyiv and we traveled to Dnepropetrovsk in the east, and we spoke with local officials. We spoke with representatives from civil society, women's groups, lawyers' groups, local government, different minority groups, a broad range of individuals—leaders of the Tatar community, leaders of the Jewish community there, and even former supporters of President Yanukovych, among many, many others.

We heard that same message from everyone, namely, that they were committed to building a peaceful, united Ukraine that is free to determine its own future, and that they want to do it without outside interference.

Now there is a new effort to bring peace to this war-torn region under the so-called Minsk agreements. These specify a number of measures that must be implemented by all sides, one of which is to hold local elections by the end of this year. The Ukrainian Government has scheduled these for October 25, which is this Sunday.

Unfortunately, they cannot be held in the areas controlled by Russian-led separatists because intimidation and manipulation make free and fair elections impossible in these regions. But they will take place in the rest of the country where independent observers will ensure that they meet international standards, and this is to be welcomed.

Their hoped-for success will be a real-world demonstration that Ukraine is continuing to implement the democratic reforms that Ukrainian people are determined to bring peace into their country with.

I urge my colleagues to vote for this bipartisan resolution and reaffirm that America's commitment to Ukraine's independence and to the right of the Ukrainian people to determine their own future is strong and it is enduring.

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

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

I rise in support of this measure.

First of all, I want to thank Mr. CICILLINE for drafting this resolution. With its passage, we will again be signaling that the United States stands

with the people of Ukraine, that we want them to chart the future for their own country, and that we reject the aggression and unlawfulness of Russia's actions under President Putin.

Let me also thank our chairman, ED ROYCE. The hallmark of the Foreign Affairs Committee is our success in advancing good, bipartisan legislation, and this resolution is a prime example of business as usual for our committee. I am very proud of it.

Our interest in Ukraine is nothing new. Over the past year, our committee has focused a great deal on this crisis. We have passed legislation aimed at assisting Ukraine. We want to see a successful democratic transition, we want Ukraine's territorial integrity to be restored, and we want to deter Russia from further aggression.

The cease-fire in Ukraine finally seems to be holding. That is good news, but I still have deep concerns.

First of all, while the upcoming elections are important, not all of Ukraine's citizens will have their voices heard. Only areas under Kyiv's control will be casting ballots—and Russia has a history of sticking its nose in Ukraine's elections. Putin has said that he won't interfere with this vote. But I am not holding my breath, nor should anyone else.

So we will be looking for some specific benchmarks. For instance, the agreement in Minsk requires that elections in Donetsk and Luhansk be held after Russia draws down its forces there. Not just Russian personnel, but all military equipment, all mercenaries, all support for proxies must be out of these areas before elections. It is critical that the OSCE mount a full-scale observation mission and be permitted to monitor every stage of the process. We will be keeping a close eye on this as well.

Yet, even if Minsk is followed to the letter—a cease-fire, followed by elections, followed by restoration of Kyiv's control over its own eastern border—the international order will remain compromised. This agreement does not address Crimea, nor does it hold the force of international law.

And as much as we talk about Minsk, we shouldn't forget prior and far more important agreements, such as the Helsinki Final Act and the Budapest Memorandum, which reaffirmed the core principle of the Final Act: that the territorial integrity of states is inviolable.

Ukraine was part of the former Soviet Union; and when the Soviet Union collapsed, Ukraine gave up its nuclear weapons. As part of giving that up, Ukraine was guaranteed its territorial integrity—guaranteed by the United States, by Russia, and by others. Certainly they are being betrayed right now, and we should not stand for it.

Lastly, we should have no illusions that this agreement will deter President Putin's aggression. Indeed, as Moscow dials up its intervention in the Middle East in Syria, Ukraine is looking more and more like just one element of a much larger scheme by President Putin to destabilize countries on Russia's borders. That is what Putin wants to do. He wants to keep Ukraine unstable and destabilized.

So, with this resolution, we reaffirm our support for Ukraine, we express our hope that Minsk will keep the peace, and we make clear that we are keeping a watchful eye on Russia and that we are ready to continue assisting Ukraine to consolidate its democratic gains and restore its territorial integrity.

Ukraine wants to be democratic. Ukraine wants to look toward the West. Ukraine does not want to be dominated by Russia. We should give them all the support that they deserve. That is what the United States does, that is what the United States is all about, and that is what this resolution does. I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is now my pleasure to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE), the author of this resolution.

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise to support H. Res. 348, supporting free elections in Ukraine.

I want to thank Chairman ROYCE and Ranking Member ENGEL for their strong support and cosponsorship of this legislation, which I was proud to introduce and which affirms Congress' unwavering support for free elections in Ukraine. I thank my many colleagues on both sides of the aisle who have signed on as cosponsors and contributed to the final language of the bill.

Support of the democratic and economic development of Ukraine in the face of Russian aggression remains one of the most vital efforts the United States can undertake to combat Russian belligerence and demonstrates our unwavering commitment to promoting democracy and human rights around the world.

Next week—next Sunday, in fact—the people of Ukraine will head to the polls to exercise their right to choose their own government. However, because of the continued defiance of Russian-led separatists, not every region of Ukraine will be able to participate in these elections.

The illegal and forcible occupation of Crimea and the ongoing Russian support for separatists in eastern Ukraine are a clear violation of international law and diplomacy. The Minsk II agreement was a historic step toward potentially ending the violence and unrest in the country, and it is now upon the Governments of Ukraine, Russia, and the U.S. and our European allies as implementing partners to ensure its successful execution. The existing cease-fire is a positive development, but one that must be accompanied by free elections and restoration of Ukraine's territorial integrity.

Ukraine has local elections scheduled for most of the country—except some separatist-controlled areas—for this Sunday, October 25. This resolution demonstrates this Congress' steadfast commitment to supporting the right of the people of Ukraine to freely elect their government and determine their future. It condemns any Russian attempts to interfere in Ukraine's elections in any way, including through intimidation, violence, or coercion. During Ukraine's last elections, these tactics were used to prevent Ukrainians from voting in certain regions. This cannot happen again, and any actions undermining these elections must be met with swift and uncertain international condemnation.

At this delicate juncture in Ukraine's history, it is essential that the United States and our European allies continue to demonstrate firm support for Ukrainian territorial integrity, sovereignty, and the right of Ukrainian people to participate in free and fair elections. America has a long history of supporting free and fair elections and the right of people to decide their own future.

This resolution was passed by the Committee on Foreign Affairs with overwhelming bipartisan support, and I urge my colleagues to support its passage today.

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY).

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from New York and, of course, the distinguished chairman of the committee.

I rise in support of H. Res. 348. The people of Ukraine have the right to hold free and fair elections within the sovereign territory of their own country. The ruthless tyranny of Russian military aggression in Ukraine must end, and we must never agree to a settlement that even hints to President Vladimir Putin that the borders of Europe are up for sale.

The resolution notes: the forcible and illegal occupation of Crimea. The United States must make it clear in both our words and our deeds that Crimea is within the sovereign territory of Ukraine, and we will not recognize its forcible and illegal annexation by Russia—ever. This resolution is clear on that account, and I thank the author, Mr. CICILLINE, for it.

The Senate and House of Representatives recently passed the fiscal year 2016 National Defense Authorization Act conference report. That text included an amendment I authored to prohibit the authorization of funds to be obligated or expended in order to implement any activity that could be construed as recognizing the sovereignty of the Russian Federation over Ukraine's Crimea. Crimea is not

an issue we can allow to fade into the background—ever. As the resolution notes in just its second clause, this was Putin's original sin in Ukraine.

If we are to deter, Mr. Speaker, further Russian separatist and revanchist moves in eastern Ukraine, we must never yield on Crimea.

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

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

In closing, once again, I want to voice my strong support for this resolution. I again thank Mr. CICILLINE for authoring this measure and his leadership, and I thank our chairman once again.

Even with a cease-fire in place, the crisis in Ukraine is a major threat to the international order. The United States stands with the people of Ukraine as they try to chart the path forward for their country and restore their territorial integrity. So long as President Putin's aggression continues, we need to stay focused on this serious challenge. I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1715

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, let me again thank ELIOT ENGEL, along with Mr. CICILLINE and Mr. CONNOLLY—cosponsors of this resolution with myself and other members of that committee—but mention in particular the decision we made to go as far east in Ukraine as we could. We traveled to the border of Luhansk and Donetsk, actually, because Dnipropetrovsk was where we flew in. To the south is Donetsk. To the east is Luhansk.

One of the great advantages of having with us the ranking member—an individual who knows the country well and knows the people well, Mr. ELIOT ENGEL—is the fact that both of his grandparents on his mother's side are from Ukraine and both of his grandparents on his father's side are from Ukraine.

It is a reminder to us of the long struggle, the long, ardent effort, for independence, for some modicum of freedom, that the people of Ukraine have struggled for all of these years, a dream that finally seemed realized; and now, in the wake of that, you have the occupation of the eastern and southern parts of the country.

I think it is a reminder to all of us of how we can be surprised on the world stage. The United States, in my opinion, could do more in this particular case to end the aggression. As people told us in Dnipropetrovsk—and we were there, actually. We had a service in the synagogue where Mr. ENGEL spoke during Passover. People asked us in each of these groups—the city council, the governor, the women's groups, the different civil society groups—they said: We can handle the fact that every skin-headed malcontent that Putin can recruit, that he radicalizes, and he trains—then they send them here, and we capture them, and we hold them in our brig until the end of hostilities—but what is a real challenge is the Russian armor, that Russian equipment out there. We can't match that. We need anti-tank missiles.

Now, anti-tank weapons is what they have asked for. Many of us in Congress, myself included, have asked that we more forcefully oppose Russian aggression by giving those people on those frontlines the armaments they need to defend themselves, and the House has gone on record as taking this position.

I think it would be a deterrent against Russian aggression that has brought so much suffering, and my hope is that, as we go forward, we convince the administration as well.

The local elections scheduled for this Sunday are a concrete example that Ukrainians are determined to do all that they can to achieve peace throughout the entirety of that country. By overwhelmingly adopting this bipartisan resolution, I believe the House will send a clear message to the Ukrainian people that the United States remains committed to their right to have Ukrainians choose their own government and choose their own destiny.

I want to thank the gentleman from Rhode Island for authoring this particular bill, and I urge its passage.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 348 to support the right of the people of Ukraine to freely elect their government and determine their future, which was introduced by my friend, Representative DAVID CICILLINE.

Citizens everywhere should be afforded the right to freely choose their leaders—and the people of Ukraine are no different. It is imperative that the American people stand with Ukrainians to ensure that the future of their government is determined freely and fairly.

Russian troops began an illegal occupation of Crimea following the resignation of Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovych in March 2014. In spite of economic sanctions, diplomatic efforts and successive ceasefires, we have tragically seen over 6,500 people killed in eastern Ukraine since Russia annexed Crimea. Russia's continued violations of the Minsk agreement by ignoring the ceasefire is simply unacceptable. Their actions betray their previous commitments and have derailed good faith efforts to de-escalate the crisis in Ukraine. Russia's continued military aggression in Ukraine threatens peace and security in the region. Russia's aggression has also hindered the electoral process and disenfranchised voters in the troubled region. I support Ukraine's right to determine their own future, protect their territorial integrity and we must do all we can to prevent the slaughter of innocent lives.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage the passage of H. Res. 348, supporting the right of Ukrainian citizens to freely elect their officials and determine their future. I would like to emphasize the importance of protecting democracy around the world. In 2015, it is essential that we ensure people at home and abroad are able to elect their government representatives by exercising this basic right.

This issue is of particular importance to me as the Congressional Representative for the 14th District of Michigan, which is home to a large population of women and minorities who fought hard to gain the right to vote. This year marked the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, which is of critical importance in protecting every citizen's right to participate in free and fair elections. However, fair elections are also vital to democracies across the globe. Therefore, we must act appropriately when those rights are infringed upon.

This resolution demonstrates the federal government's commitment to protect Ukraine's critical elections. Ukraine's next local elections are scheduled to take place on October 25, 2015 and are essential for the continuation of legislative and constitutional reform. We cannot allow Russia or other outside forces to interfere with Ukraine's elections, especially through intimidation, violence, or coercion. By supporting the right of the people of Ukraine to freely elect their government and have a say in their future, we are working toward ensuring all people around the world benefit from these basic yet profoundly critical rights.

I am grateful that our chamber is continuing with our legacy of safeguarding democracy. I want to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for supporting America's commitment to defending these important freedoms around the world.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 348, as amended.

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. ROYCE. 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 proceedings 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 until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HULTGREN) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 10, SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OPPORTUNITY AND RESULTS REAUTHORIZATION ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 692, DEFAULT PREVENTION ACT

Ms. FOXX, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114–300) on the resolution (H. Res. 480) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 10) to reauthorize the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 692) to ensure the payment of interest and principal of the debt of the United States, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1937, NATIONAL STRATEGIC AND CRITICAL MINERALS PRODUCTION ACT OF 2015

Ms. FOXX, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114–301) on the resolution (H. Res. 481) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1937) to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to more efficiently develop domestic sources of the minerals and mineral materials of strategic and critical importance to United States economic and national security and manufacturing competitiveness, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 3493, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 3350, by the yeas and nays;

H. Res. 348, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

SECURING THE CITIES ACT OF 2015

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3493) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Securing the Cities program to enhance the ability of the United States to detect and prevent terrorist attacks and other high consequence events utilizing nuclear or other radiological materials that pose a high risk to homeland security in high-risk urban areas, and for other purposes, as amended, 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 New York (Mr. DONOVAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 411, nays 4, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 550]

YEAS—411

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amodei
Ashford
Babin
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Benishek
Bera
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bost
Boustany
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clawson (FL)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Donovan
Doyle, Michael F.
Duckworth
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers (NC)
Emmer (MN)
Engel
Eshoo
Esty
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Forbes
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gibson
Goodlatte
Graham
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guinta
Guthrie
Hahn
Hanna
Hardy
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinojosa
Holding
Honda
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huffman
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd (TX)
Hurt (VA)
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jolly
Jordan
Joyce
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Knight
Kuster
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lee
Levin
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lummis
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Massie
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neugebauer
Newhouse
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
Nugent
Nunes
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Pascrell
Paulsen
Pearce
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pittenger
Pitts
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (NC)
Price, Tom
Quigley
Rangel
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney (FL)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Russell
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Stutzman
Swalwell (CA)
Takai
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Young (IN)
Zeldin
Zinke

NAYS—4

Amash
Gohmert
Jones
Sanford

NOT VOTING—19

Brown (FL)
Crawford
Davis, Danny
Fleming
Fortenberry
Gosar
Gowdy
Grayson
Gutiérrez
Hice, Jody B.
Hudson
Kelly (IL)
Marino
Neal
Payne
Pelosi
Pingree
Rush
Sires

□ 1857

Messrs. GOHMERT and JONES changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. JEFFRIES changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

KNOW THE CBRN TERRORISM THREATS TO TRANSPORTATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3350) to require a terrorism threat assessment regarding the transportation of chemical, biological, nuclear, and radiological materials

through United States land borders and within the United States, 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 New York (Mr. DONOVAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 416, nays 0, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 551]

YEAS—416

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Ashford
Babin
Barr
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Benishek
Bera
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bost
Boustany
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clawson (FL)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Donovan
Doyle, Michael F.
Duckworth
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers (NC)
Emmer (MN)
Engel
Eshoo
Esty
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Forbes
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gibson
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Graham
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guinta
Guthrie
Hahn
Hanna
Hardy
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinojosa
Holding
Honda
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huffman
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd (TX)
Hurt (VA)
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jolly
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Knight
Kuster
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lee
Levin
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lummis
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Massie
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neugebauer
Newhouse
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
Nugent
Nunes
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Pascrell
Paulsen
Pearce
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pittenger
Pitts
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (NC)
Price, Tom
Quigley
Rangel
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney (FL)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Russell
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Stutzman
Swalwell (CA)
Takai
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Young (IN)
Zeldin
Zinke

NOT VOTING—18

Barletta
Crawford
Cummings
Davis, Danny
Fleming
Fortenberry
Gosar
Gowdy
Grayson
Gutiérrez
Hice, Jody B.
Hudson
Kelly (IL)
Marino
Payne
Pelosi
Pingree
Rush

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1906

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 551 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE TO FREELY ELECT THEIR GOVERNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 348) supporting the right of the people of Ukraine to freely elect their government and determine their future, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 413, nays 4, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 552]

YEAS—413

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Ashford
Babin
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Benishek
Bera
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bost
Boustany
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clawson (FL)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Donovan
Doyle, Michael F.
Duckworth
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers (NC)
Emmer (MN)
Engel
Eshoo
Esty
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Forbes
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gibson
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Graham
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guinta
Guthrie
Hahn
Hanna
Hardy
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinojosa
Holding
Honda
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huffman
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd (TX)
Hurt (VA)
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jolly
Jordan
Joyce
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer

Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Knight
Kuster
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lee
Levin
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lummis
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neugebauer
Newhouse
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
Nugent
Nunes
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Pascrell
Paulsen
Pearce
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pittenger
Pitts
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (NC)
Price, Tom
Quigley
Rangel
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rokita
Rooney (FL)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Russell
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Sherman
Shimkus
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Stutzman
Swalwell (CA)
Takai
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Young (IN)
Zeldin
Zinke

NAYS—4

Duncan (TN)
Jones
Massie
Rohrabacher

NOT VOTING—17

Crawford
Fleming
Fortenberry
Franks (AZ)
Gosar
Gowdy
Grayson
Gutiérrez
Hice, Jody B.
Hudson
Kelly (IL)
Marino
Payne
Pelosi
Pingree
Rush
Shuster

□ 1914

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for votes today. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 550, 551, and 552.

LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS SUCCESSION MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2015

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of the bill (S. 2162) to establish a 10-year term for the service of the Librarian of Congress, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2162

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Librarian of Congress Succession Modernization Act of 2015''.

SEC. 2. APPOINTMENT AND TERM OF SERVICE OF LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall appoint the Librarian of Congress, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(b) TERM OF SERVICE.—The Librarian of Congress shall be appointed for a term of 10 years.

(c) REAPPOINTMENT.—An individual appointed to the position of Librarian of Congress, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, may be reappointed to that position in accordance with subsections (a) and (b).

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with respect to appointments made on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.

The first paragraph under the center heading ''LIBRARY OF CONGRESS'' under the center heading ''LEGISLATIVE'' of the Act entitled ''An Act Making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and for other purposes'', approved February 19, 1897 (29 Stat. 544, chapter 265; 2 U.S.C. 136), is amended by striking ''to be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate,''.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING CHIEF EDWARD J. HUDAK, JR.

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Edward J. Hudak, Jr., on being sworn in this past Friday, October 16, as the chief of police for the Coral Gables Police Department.

Chief Hudak has a long record of service to south Florida, having worked for 26 years for the city of Coral Gables and its police department, helping residents and visitors alike in ''The City Beautiful,'' a city which I am so humbled and honored to represent.

As I am, Chief Hudak is a proud University of Miami Hurricane. Chief Hudak earned his undergraduate and master's degree from the U, having more recently graduated from the FBI's National Law Enforcement Executive Academy.

Coral Gables is indeed fortunate to have such a hardworking and relentless civil servant take the lead at its police department.

Congratulations, Chief Hudak, on being named the top cop of ''The City Beautiful,'' the city of Coral Gables.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

(Mr. GALLEGO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, as we close Hispanic Heritage Month and look back at our community's history and ongoing challenges, I rise today to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics.

For 25 years, the Initiative has played an important role in advancing the dialogue and policies that have helped our community move forward. This year, as part of its anniversary celebration, the Initiative released the Bright Spots in Hispanic Education, an online national catalog. The catalog features 230 programs, organizations, and initiatives that are supporting and investing in educational attainment of Hispanics from cradle to career.

Today, I congratulate four Bright Spots in my district that have been recognized for their outstanding commitment and contributions to our community: the American Dream Academy, the Bilingual Nursing Fellows Program, the Fowler Head Start Program, and the Victoria Foundation. These programs are leading the way to close the education gap. I look forward to continuing to work with them as they find ways to ensure every child, including Latino children, has the tools they need to succeed.

REMEMBERING AITKIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S INVESTIGATOR STEVEN SANDBERG

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor Aitkin County Sheriff's Investigator Steven Sandberg, who was killed in the line of duty last week.

Investigator Sandberg was deeply respected by his community and was somebody who was always handling the

county's toughest cases, which meant putting himself in harm's way.

Those who knew Steven knew that he was a dedicated family man and a committed parent, not missing a single one of his daughter's basketball games.

He was also a shining light for his entire community. He was a former three-sport athlete at Aitkin High School. He served as a volunteer firefighter for 17 years, and he taught Sunday school at the local Methodist church.

Mr. Speaker, Steven Sandberg dedicated his life to serving others and keeping people safe. We honor his sacrifice. My thoughts are with his wife, Kristi, and with his daughter, Cassie, as well as with the entire community in Aitkin County.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

(Mr. CÁRDENAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I come here to remind us how diverse our country is and how beautiful it is that we have been celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month for the last 30 days.

I just wanted to take the opportunity to remind everybody that when we do things like that, it is not to talk about how we are different or separate. No, it is to talk about how alike we are and to talk about how wonderful and great our country is.

The tapestry of people that come from all over the world come here to start a new life, come here to create opportunities, perhaps not for them, but for the next generation. Together, we have created the greatest country that this world has ever known and has ever seen.

From Europe, from the Americas, from Africa, from Australia, from all parts of the planet, people come to this country for a better life and a second chance.

I hope and pray that in these Chambers we can live up to the responsibility of holding true to the values of America and holding true to our responsibilities as a legislative body of this country to create and pass laws to make sure that everybody can continue to have those opportunities for generations to come.

HONORING JUNE SORG

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Elk County, Pennsylvania, Commissioner June Sorg. June was honored recently with the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania's Outstanding Commissioner of the Year Award and with the Special Presidential Award. This award recognizes a commissioner who has contributed to the advancement of county government.

June has a long career of public service, serving for six terms as county commissioner, totaling 24 years. In that time, she has been a leader in Elk County on issues ranging from human services, workforce investment, prison issues, infrastructure improvement, recycling, and environmental issues.

Specific accomplishments during June's tenure include consolidation of county offices to a centralized location, improvements to the county's jail, and the construction of Elk County's new emergency management center.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, county commissioners across the country dedicate countless hours toward the improvement of counties and communities that they serve. I know that June's Sorg's work proves this is true in Elk County.

HEROIN TASK FORCE AND STOP ABUSE ACT

(Mr. GUINTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the new members of the bipartisan task force to combat the heroin epidemic. We introduced our first piece of legislation, the Stop Abuse Act, this month.

Heroin abuse in the United States has reached unprecedented levels, increasing 63 percent over the last decade. This addictive and dangerous drug has torn a path through every community, destroying families and ruining lives.

In my home State of New Hampshire, the number of patients admitted to the State-funded treatment programs reached over 1,500 in 2013, doubling the number from 2004.

Nationwide, in 2014, heroin abuse was responsible for nearly 8,200 deaths. In just 10 years, the number of addicts has doubled to over 500,000.

To address this health crisis, we must expand coordination between local, State, and Federal governments, law enforcement agencies, and medical professionals. We must assemble the best ideas from experts around the country, which is why Congresswoman ANN KUSTER and I formed the bipartisan task force. We are doing everything possible to raise awareness, increase education, and hear from families and individuals affected by the spread of heroin.

I urge my colleagues to join our effort so we can stop this epidemic.

MINNESOTA LYNX BASKETBALL TEAM

(Mr. ELLISON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, allow me to congratulate the Minnesota Lynx Basketball Team. This wonderful basketball team has won three titles in 5 years. This is the great sports story of our time.

I would like to just let the Minnesota Lynx, their coach, and all their fans know that we are incredibly proud of them. We celebrated, and we had a victory parade.

We had all those things happen, but the truth is that this is women's basketball. It is high quality, and it is excellent. It shows girls that women are excellent athletes, and it shows boys the same thing. This is great for our whole country and great for our community in Minnesota.

We are proud of the Minnesota Lynx.

Do you know what? I want to know if they can win another one next year. I wouldn't put it past them.

Go Minnesota Lynx.

FEDERAL DEFICIT

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Treasury Department confirmed what we already knew: we have cut the Federal deficit to the lowest level since this President took office. At $439 billion, the deficit is about 10 percent lower than in 2014 and is less than one third of what it was in 2009.

Yet, earlier this week, the administration was quick to boast about announcing the deficit being down that low when we asked in the past, ''What is the plan, Mr. President, for balancing the budget ever?'' Not telling me how to do it, but when. We haven't gotten any answer.

This has been the result of discipline started by House Republicans with the Budget Control Act and other measures to keep spending in line so that we will have a chance some day to have a truly balanced budget.

If we had the economy responding and things to help spur the economy, we could reach that goal even faster, perhaps even by 2019. With the right discipline, we could balance the budget. Then no longer will we have to have a debate about whether we should be extending the debt limit, which I think is appalling for all of us here, especially for the next generation who are going to have to pay the price on that.

So this is indeed good news. We want to get that budget deficit number to zero as soon as we can and maintain the business of this country.

CONGRATULATING BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AND RICE UNIVERSITY

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I am very excited today to congratulate the researchers from the Baylor College of Medicine and Rice University in my hometown of Houston.

On Monday, they announced an important discovery about the structure

of human genetic material, an advance that one day could enable scientists to fix genetic defects that lead to disease. This was in the journal of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. The authors included experts from Stanford, the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, who brought about this particular research, described the process through which a 6-foot-long string of human DNA folds and organizes itself.

The main excitement about this is that to the many children, to the many young people, to the many families who suffer the loss of a child through a deadly disease, we now have research that may alter that process and impact, if you will, the DNA that results in diseases that cause the death of our children.

Let me congratulate Baylor and Rice University for this great success, and we look forward to saving lives from Houston, Texas.

□ 1930

CHAOS IN AMERICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEM

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, this is chaos week in Washington, and there are a lot of things going on. Most people want to talk about Benghazi or—I don't know—maybe the Speaker, the next Speaker or the last Speaker. However, what I would like to talk about today is chaos in America's infrastructure system.

Early this morning on my way to the airport in Sacramento I was driving up Interstate 5, the highway that connects Mexico and Canada and Oregon and Washington and California. I hit a huge pothole and then another pothole. It turns out that the entire right lane was a series of potholes for the 9 miles that I traveled to get to the airport. That is not unusual, but that is the story of America's infrastructure.

Everybody here on the floor wants to talk about how our great Nation is the world's most vibrant economy, the place where intellectual infrastructure takes place, but it certainly is not the place where physical infrastructure takes place. We rank 16th among the developed nations in the world on our infrastructure.

Travel to China. High-speed rail is going every which way. They have new airports. I remember the comment of our Vice President when he flew into LaGuardia in New York City. It wasn't very complimentary.

We have a need to build the infrastructure of this Nation because it is upon the infrastructure that the economy grows. It is upon the highways that we travel and move the goods and services. It is upon the transit system that more than 45 percent of Americans depend on for their transportation.

We have got problems. I was reminded of Apollo 13 and that very famous quote coming back from space: ''Houston, we've had a problem here.'' Yep. America, we have got problems.

That is a picture of the bridge on Interstate 5 in Washington State. Just a little bit north of this bridge is the Canadian border. This bridge collapsed about 3 years ago. There are 63,500 bridges in America that are deficient, and over the last decade we have seen Americans die on bridges that have collapsed. We have got a problem.

Among other things, given all the chaos here in Washington, we have got a problem with infrastructure. The House of Representatives is going to take up an infrastructure bill this week in committee. We will talk about that a little later.

First I want to go through some of the other problems besides bridges and highways. Oh, by the way, it would take $780 billion to bring our highways up to adequate standards. That is a lot of money. Or maybe it is not. That is about three-quarters of what we have spent in Afghanistan over the last 14 years. I guess we make decisions here about where we spend money.

Forty-two percent of our highways are in inadequate condition, and congestion abounds in 42 percent of the urban highways. Yep, we have got problems, but we can solve them. We will see whether the House of Representatives and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure is willing to solve the problems this week when we take up the infrastructure bill here in the House of Representatives.

I would like to have my colleague from California, Representative JANICE HAHN, address one of our other problems. It is a problem that she is particularly aware of. She represents the greatest port in America, the Port of Los Angeles, and its neighboring port, the Port of Long Beach.

Representative HAHN.

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my good colleague from California, Mr. GARAMENDI, for devoting this Special Order hour to the needs that we have in this country when it comes to our infrastructure.

I am sort of excited because this week, at long last, barely in time before the highway trust fund runs out of money, we are finally going to look at a long-term surface transportation bill to fund some of our Nation's most critical infrastructure, which you have been talking about.

Our Nation's highways, our roads, our bridges, they have been neglected far too long. Today we unfortunately have an infrastructure crisis. Not only do the American people rely on these roads to get from point A to point B safely and efficiently, our economy relies on them as well.

I have been advocating, as you know, for more funding for our freight network. That is the series of highways and roads that go from our ports and our manufacturing hubs and that the vast majority of our Nation's freight travel on. Our Nation's ports are hard at work, bringing in cargo from all over the world and exporting the products of American manufacturing to the growing overseas market.

Twenty-two million jobs nationwide rely on the efficient movement of goods in and out of our ports. These jobs rely on our Nation's freight network. For too long we have failed to invest in this important infrastructure and allowed it to crumble. Too many bridges along the freight network are in disrepair, and too many of our highways are unable to handle the modern levels of traffic.

Now, many of us deal with the inconvenience of traffic every day, but this same traffic also costs both businesses and consumers money, and it threatens our economy's ability to stay competitive in the 21st century global economy.

As the roads on our freight network become more and more unreliable, the cost of transporting these goods increases, and American manufacturers and consumers pay the price. That is why I proposed legislation that would drastically increase the funding of this freight network infrastructure.

I thought it would be a good idea, and my bill would have used existing customs fees to provide $2 billion every year just to fund this freight network and the infrastructure projects without, by the way, raising any taxes. I thought, by investing in our freight network, we could give American businesses and manufacturers a competitive edge and spur job creation across the country.

The highway bill that we are considering this week provides just $750 million per year in freight funding. That is less than half of what I was hoping for. But it is a start. I hope that we can continue this conversation and find ways to invest in our ports and in this freight network at the level that our economy needs.

I hope that in coming days we can work in a bipartisan way to improve the highway bill and ensure that it passes before the end of this year. I would like to see the freight network expanded to include that last mile. Those are the roads that connect everything to our ports with highways and with rail. And when we talk about improving our roads, these last mile roads are often forgotten, even when they have the greatest amount of traffic.

I hope that we can expand the freight title to include funding for on-dock rail at our ports. Investing in on-dock rail would actually ease traffic on our highways by taking a lot of those trucks off the roads. That cargo would come off the ships, go right onto the rail and then to the end consumer.

This bill is a positive step. It is not perfect. It is not as good as I would like

to have seen, but it is the right step for a long-term plan to invest in our Nation's critical infrastructure.

I am looking forward to working with you, Mr. GARAMENDI. Thank you for your leadership on this. Thank you for talking about why Make It In America makes sense. But none of that makes sense unless we can finally invest in this infrastructure in this country to, as you said, make this country great and make it work for everyone.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Representative HAHN, your leadership on the port issues is well known. You head up the PORTS Caucus here in the House of Representatives. You are constantly badgering all of us about the necessity of the ports being expanded.

We know the Eastern ports are facing the challenge of providing access for the Panamax ships, bigger ships being able to go through the Panama Canal. As you have told us so many times, we need to improve the infrastructure on the West Coast for the efficiency so that we can keep those Panamax ships on the West Coast.

The freight issue that you talked about so eloquently here is absolutely on. It is the major part of the American transportation economy. We look at roads, we look at railroads, but the notion of combining this into a comprehensive strategy in which we talk about the movement of goods, the freight movement.

Your leadership is very, very important. I thank you so very much for joining us. I know that you have a tight schedule for the evening, but you broke away to bring us the very, very important message.

I want to continue on here really with the ports. The American Society of Civil Engineers does a report card on the American infrastructure. We would fail. We would have to go back to remedial classes if their report card was somehow the way in which we would judge the work of the United States Congress because, with regard to ports, as we just discussed, it is a C, even though progress has been made.

To meet the needs of the ports, we are going to have to spend an additional $46 billion over and above what is already programmed. We are going to have to spend $748 billion in the future in order to meet the needs of the highways, and that just gets us out of the D rating provided by the American Society of Civil Engineers.

For transit, it is also a D. As I said earlier, some one-half of American households depend upon transit because they don't have a car, and 45 percent of the urban passengers cannot get the services that they need from transit.

It goes on and on and on. Bridges, a C-plus. As I said earlier, 63,500 bridges are inadequate. For the rail system, part of what Congresswoman HAHN was talking about, the railroads have invested over $75 billion of their own money improving their systems, but the intermodal programs that are so necessary require that those rails connect to the highways, to the trucking industry, and that hasn't been done. So the rails actually receive a C-plus ranking.

We have got work to do here. We have got some very, very serious problems. Let me just put this up because there are solutions available to us.

If we take a look at the problem, in this case, the global assessment of the United States is 16th for transportation infrastructure. The solution? Invest. For every dollar that we invest, the economy grows by $3.54. So when you put a dollar in, suddenly you get the economy moving. People go to work.

For every billion dollars that we invest in roads and bridges, we are going to create 21,671 jobs. Those are people that are getting good, high-quality, high-paying, middle-income jobs. Guess what. They are going to pay taxes. So you invest a dollar and you get back $3.54 of economic activity. And you get tax growth, not new taxes, but new people paying taxes.

That is what we want. We want people to go to work. We want jobs in America. We find that, if we invest in infrastructure, we have got the opportunity to create jobs, to increase the tax base, and grow the economy.

Now, on the negative side, underinvesting in infrastructure costs America over 900,000 jobs, including 97,000 jobs in manufacturing. These things go together. We have fortunately had over the years a buy-America requirement in the infrastructure financing for highways and bridges and the rest and for transit, that your tax dollars, my tax dollars, all of our tax dollars, are required to be used to buy American-made goods, equipment, services, buses, and the like.

Unfortunately, it is only 50 percent. So a transit agency can take your tax money and spend 50 percent of that tax money on buying a bus or a train from China, and the other 50 percent presumably would have to be spent on American-made services and goods.

□ 1945

Not good enough. I think it ought to be 99 percent. Why not use our tax money to buy American?

So these are the opportunities and the problems that we have available to us, and that is the large outsourcing that I just talked about.

And the solution? Make It In America. I have talked about that for 5 years here on the floor. Build the American economy with Make It In America laws and regulations. Use our tax money to buy American-made goods and equipment.

Here is what it means. Let me give you a couple of examples of the good news and the bad news. Here is why Make It In America strategies are important.

The bad news is California, my home State, where we had to rebuild the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, spanning from Oakland to the peninsula, San Francisco. It fell down during the '89 earthquake, and then we decided we had to rebuild it.

Well, you know, it takes a long time to figure out how to build it and what it is going to look like. It took forever. However, it was a multibillion-dollar project; and someone decided that it would be cheaper to buy Chinese steel than American steel, so they contracted with a Chinese steel company. The result was 3,000 jobs in China, a brand-new steel mill to manufacture the most high-quality steel. And what the Chinese sent to America was deficient. The welds were insufficient. There were problems in the quality of the steel.

The result was, at least part of that problem was, some $3.5 billion overrun. That is the bad news. California really screwed up. We say, ''Make it in America.''

Guess what happened on the other side of the continent? New York needed to rebuild a new bridge, the New York Tappan Zee Bridge. It was made with United States manufactured steel; total cost, $3.9 billion, 7,728 American jobs because they undertook a buy America requirement, and they bought it in America; on time, under budget. The Tappan Zee Bridge, good; the San Francisco Bay Bridge, bad.

Make it in America, buy American, that ought to be our policy.

I want to move on to where we are this week. On October 29, the United States Congress will engage in its favorite game: kicking the can down the road.

We will take up a transportation and infrastructure bill in the House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee this week. Good for us. Several months late, not in time for next week's deadline. So we will kick the can down the road. We will give ourselves another couple of months to ponder how we can address the needs of America's infrastructure.

I want to suggest to you there is a way we can do it. I put this chart up to challenge all of us. This chart displays the opportunity as well as the potential for the missed opportunity.

There are three new infrastructure pieces of legislation that are floating around the United States Capitol. But before we go to those three, I want to call your attention to where we are today.

Highway funding, this is today's highway funding. We are spending somewhere around $264 billion on highways, $64.2 billion on transit. The entire amount over a 6-year period of time—this is 6 years—is $319 billion. This does not include the rail system.

So $319 billion is what we are spending today over a 6-year period of time. I have already said how inadequate that is. I won't go back through that again.

Now, the administration proposed but, frankly, never pushed, never put any weight behind it and, I think,

copped out on what is, in my view, a very, very good bill, a comprehensive bill that included rail transit—again, not included here. It was a bill that had $449 billion, not including the rail, over a 6-year period, compared to the $319 billion that we are spending today. That amounts to, what, $120 billion a year more—actually, $130 billion a year more.

That is good. That is what we need. I misquoted that. It is $130 billion over 6 years. That is the kind of money that we need to build the infrastructure.

Highways, $317 billion, over 6 years, compared to where we are today, $246 billion. Significant increase, enough to fix the potholes on I–5. Transit, $114.6 billion over 6 years, compared to today, $64 billion over 6 years. The entire sum, $449 billion, compared to $319 billion over 6 years.

That is the kind of progress that we can and must make if we want to move from 16th among the world's economies, developed economies, to get back up into the top five. That is what we need to do.

Now, once again, this does not include the rail transit. If you add the rail transit in, these numbers are a little bigger. That is the kind of effort.

The United States Senate, what did they decide to do in their bill called the Senate DRIVE Act? $276 billion compared to $246 billion over 6 years; $74.9 billion for transit, compared to $64 billion. That is good. That is $10 billion. Better, but not enough. We actually need over $114 billion or $115 billion.

The entire sum on the Senate side, not including rail, is $361 billion compared to $319 billion. Better, but not enough. Not sufficient to build the infrastructure that this economy and this society need to move out of 16th place back into the top tier of five.

Now, where is the House of Representatives?

This week, we are going to take up a bill that is less than the Senate bill and just a little, teeny, tiny bit better than what we are doing today. So if you are happy with what we are doing today, you will love the House bill. But if you don't want potholes, if you want to deal with congestion, if you want to deal with ports and freight, if you want to move from a D to a B or an A, you don't do it with the House bill.

I understand, this is a starting point. This is the beginning of negotiations. But why in the world would you begin negotiations at the bottom when you need to get to the top? It beats me. I don't get it.

We have got to build the American infrastructure. It is how we move our economy. It is how we move people back to work in good, middle-class jobs. It is how your tax money should be spent.

And how can we raise the revenue for this?

Well, we don't need to increase the gasoline or the diesel tax. Keep it the same, no increase. People can argue that it should or should not be increased, but you don't need to.

This proposal, the GROW AMERICA Act, the additional $100-plus billion dollars over 6 years to build our infrastructure, is fully paid for by keeping the gasoline and the diesel tax at the level it is today and going after the hidden profits of the United States corporations that have skipped out on their responsibility to this country.

They are hiding their profits overseas. We need to go after those profits and say: You owe it to America; bring that money back and pay your just taxes. That is how this is paid for, fully paid for.

How much? About $120 billion over 6 years, enough to get the job done.

American corporations won't be allowed to run away from their responsibility to their country. They will pay their fair share, here in America. No more tax dodges overseas, folks.

So, where are we? The question for the Congress of the United States is: Are we going to go with what we have today, just a little bit more, just keeping up with inflation? Is that good enough for America to be number one? No, it is not.

Can we do better without burdening the truckers, without burdening the commuters? We can, if we are willing to step up to the American corporations, the big and the powerful, and say: Pay your fair share.

Oh, by the way, their fair share is 14 percent, which is less than one-half of the corporate tax rate.

We will see what happens. The House of Representatives, the men and women that you have elected, are going to make some decisions. We will make a decision about Speaker eventually. That will get taken care of eventually. We will make some decisions about a few other things. But the infrastructure issue of this Nation is fundamental to economic growth.

I hope we make the right decision. I hope we make the decision to grow this economy, to make it in America, spend your tax dollars here at home, and give you the roads, the transit system, the ports, the freight movement, the airports that you need and America needs.

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

HONORING AMERICA'S PHARMACISTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to be here this evening. It is a good time to be back here on the floor tonight, especially after coming back from a week, I am always very pleased to go see home, be a part of folks who get outside this beltway, get outside where they get up in morning, they go to work, they do the things that families do and communities do, and they do so with a sense of purpose and work.

I think tonight we are going to bring to light, during our time together, we are going to talk about some of the great folks, our American pharmacists and the battle that they carry on every day. They are true champions on the front lines of health care.

Tonight we are going to be joined by several people. My good colleague from Georgia, BUDDY CARTER, is going to be here. DAVE LOEBSACK from Iowa is going to be here as well. We will have many people come in and out.

Over the next 60 minutes, I hope the words that we speak will encourage and inspire those who care for our constituents in their time of need.

Back in 1925, the first celebration of National Pharmaceutical Week was held October 11–17. In 2004, American Pharmacists Month was launched to bring greater awareness to the expanding role of pharmacists in the healthcare system and recognize their unwavering commitment to patient care.

On October 1, we celebrated Pharmacist Appreciation Day and participated in the third annual tweet-a-thon. This year, there were 7,214 tweets from 1,285 tweeters, and I wanted to share some of my favorite ones at this time.

They say:

> Can you give me a flu shot through the drive-through?
>
> We do more than count pills. We ensure medication safety for our patients in a variety of settings. We save lives.
>
> We filled insulin for a patient after she was refused by the big box pharmacies.
>
> What does Batman have in common with your pharmacist? They save lives.
>
> I wanted to be a pharmacist because in my small town, doctors rotated in and out, but the pharmacist knew my community.

Every year, the American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists creates a national theme to encourage and advocate for the profession of pharmacy, and this year the theme is: Live your ''why.'' We are going to come back to that a lot tonight, Live your ''why.''

It is incredible to read the outpouring of stories from student pharmacists around the country.

Hannah Holbrook is a pharmacy student at ULM, one of the most active and committed student pharmacist chapters in the Nation. She told a local paper: ''Even as students, we can be leaders and have impact on patients.''

I believe the next generation of pharmacists is going to do truly remarkable things that could radically transform patient care, but it won't happen unless Congress acts. We must act to level the playing field so independent and community pharmacists can not only compete, all they are asking for is a chance, and we need to make sure that we step up and do that.

Tonight, like I said, we are going to share from many as we go tonight, but I want to start off with Representative BLUM, who has come down to speak

with us. He has got to run off on some other events, but we wanted to get you here tonight. We are glad that you are here to speak on this important issue for your community and others.

I yield to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BLUM).

□ 2000

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of pharmacies across the country, especially the independent community pharmacies who operate in a tough business climate to serve rural areas and provide patients with convenient, affordable, and personal care.

In my home State of Iowa, 72 of our 99 counties are considered medically underserved; and of these, 27 are served by only one pharmacy. Many of these areas are rural, and a large number of citizens in these sparsely populated areas rely on their community pharmacy for access to lifesaving drugs and treatments.

Unfortunately, the implementation of Federal policy to address the rising costs of drugs has left independent community pharmacists at a disadvantage. Often unable to cover the costs of maintaining and managing a storefront, community pharmacies are closing their doors at an alarming rate. This leaves many Americans without access to the timely, efficient, and personal patient services they provide.

To that end, I am most happy to cosponsor H.R. 592, to ensure that pharmacists are recognized as providers under Medicare part B so that my constituents can have access to local healthcare services instead of traveling long distances to seek out care.

Additionally, I am also proud to work with the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) as well as my colleagues across the aisle, such as Congressman DAVE LOEBSACK from the Second District of Iowa, to lower the cost of drugs and promote fair competition and choice, which will ultimately benefit patients.

I will continue to work to pass legislation, such as H.R. 244, to increase the transparency of drug payment rates under Medicare part D and TRICARE, while ensuring a fair, competitive market for generic drugs.

Finally, I wish to highlight the work of Hartig Drug Stores, the second-oldest family-owned independent drugstore company in America, which has locations throughout my district, including my hometown of Dubuque, Iowa. Hartig's pharmacies operate in three States, employing 437 people.

I believe we should be enacting policies that allow these kinds of local pharmacies to thrive instead of shut down. My hope is that through the continued hard work of their dedicated employees and the implementation of better policies at the Federal level, these family businesses will continue to serve patients in and around my district for many years to come.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Thank you, Mr. BLUM.

I think what you have recognized are the struggles that are going on right now. And what I have found—I was speaking with a Member tonight from one of our Midwestern districts. It was on the floor as we were voting earlier. I started explaining what was going on in our independent pharmacies. This Member did not know. They had not had a chance to interact. They didn't know what was going on and the changes that were going on. So you being here tonight helps highlight that.

I think as we educate Members, this is just an inequity that is in our healthcare system that needs to be fixed.

I appreciate the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BLUM) being here.

There are many things that are talked about in our time up here. Many times, we talk about not being able to work together. This is an issue that draws us together.

Mr. LOEBSACK and I have worked through two Congresses now on this issue. We are going to work on more together. It is my honor to yield to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LOEBSACK) to expound on this because we have been working on this for a while, and it is good to have you here tonight.

Mr. LOEBSACK. Thank you, Mr. COLLINS. It is great to be here. I know that you folks have a lot of things going on on your side of the aisle, and it is a testament to your commitment to this issue that you have gotten a number of your colleagues here tonight to speak to this issue, to speak to the importance of independent and community pharmacists.

It is really, really important for America that we talk about this. And as Mr. COLLINS said—and Mr. CARTER, I appreciate your invitation as well—it is really important that we speak to how important these folks are for our communities, for health care, for their patients.

Mr. BLUM, thank you for being here tonight as well.

Mr. BLUM represents the district that borders me to the north, and he mentioned the Hartig pharmacy. They have a pharmacy in Iowa City, and I took a little bit of time out of my schedule a couple years ago to visit there and to hear the problems that they have when it comes to all kinds of issues.

This month, of course, is American Pharmacists Month. It is a month during which we recognize the important role that pharmacies play in our communities. Pharmacists are, in fact, frontline healthcare providers, and they are counselors for many patients who consistently depend on their training and expertise to stay informed, to stay healthy, and to stay out of the hospital. They also play an incredibly important role in strengthening the economies of the areas they serve, particularly in rural counties like so many of those that I represent of the 24 counties I have.

It is also crucial that these pharmacies have a level playing field, as was already mentioned by the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BLUM), when trying to run a successful business in a challenging and complex environment. Like most small-business owners, community pharmacists face many challenges to compete and negotiate on a day-to-day basis with large entities on their business transactions.

I have personally visited, as I have said, many of these pharmacies in my district, the Second District. I have learned firsthand how they often struggle to compete.

One problem I have heard, for example, from many pharmacists is that the reimbursement system—and I am sure we are going to hear more from folks about that tonight—for generic drugs is largely unregulated; and it is, in fact, a mystery to many folks. Generic prescription drugs account for the vast majority of drugs dispensed, so it is critical for pharmacists' bottom line that their reimbursement is transparent.

However, pharmacists are reimbursed for generics via the maximum allowable cost, or MAC, lists created by pharmacy benefits managers, PBMs—the drug plan middleman, something we have heard so much about. But the methodology used to create these lists is not disclosed. It is a secret. It shouldn't be a secret. It should be open. We need to have transparency on this front. Also, the lists aren't updated on a regular basis, resulting in pharmacists often being reimbursed below what it costs them to actually acquire the drugs. That makes no sense whatsoever.

So to address the problem, I partnered with the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) to introduce H.R. 244, the MAC Transparency Act. We have a lot of folks onboard on this. It is a bipartisan bill at a time when, as Mr. COLLINS said, there is not a lot of bipartisanship in this body at the moment.

Basically, what this bill would do is it would ensure that Federal health plan reimbursements to pharmacies keep pace with generic drug prices, which can skyrocket overnight, as we know.

I am not going to go into great detail at the moment. We have got time to talk about this a little bit more. There are other things we can talk about tonight. But I just wanted to say a few things at the outset and to just thank you again, Mr. COLLINS and Mr. CARTER, for setting this particular time aside so we can really educate our colleagues, as much as anything, about the problems facing independent community pharmacists.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. I thank my colleague. I do appreciate that.

And that is the issue here: education. People can look in on this. They can hear what we are talking about. They can see this education part of it.

This is found in every district. It is almost like veterans. There is no Member of Congress that doesn't have veterans' issues, because they come from

every area. Every one of our districts has independent pharmacists. And as one told me just the other day, he said, if the condition doesn't change, they will be gone in a year and a half.

I have had, even in my area, county governments who believe that they can cut their healthcare costs by going and taking the pharmacies and putting them with a PBM and centralizing it for county employees. They said that they would save X amount of dollars. And when I called my county commissioner and asked him about this, I said: You save this amount of money. But, I said: If you realize, if you take county employees out of the system, government operating this—and this is someone on my side of the aisle. I told him: You take government and put this in control, you are going to put pharmacies out of business. And I said: How much do you save when they have to lay off employees? They shutter their businesses, and you lose sales tax, property tax, and the peripheral income that comes with that.

We have got to address it, and that is why we are here tonight. This educational process is important.

When you come up through the legislative ranks—whether it is here in Congress or the State house, where I started, you meet folks who you learn to have a great deal of respect for, especially from the places that they have come and what they have done in the past.

BUDDY CARTER, the Congressman from the southeast coastline of Georgia, is one of those who actually is a pharmacist.

I think one of the things I want to emphasize tonight is—and some people might be saying: Why are you bashing pharmacists? We are not bashing pharmacists. Pharmacists are great. I love them. No matter where they work, it is the system that they are trapped in that is broken, that is hurting the individuals who need that care.

So tonight we are going to have a great perspective from one in the profession who understands this firsthand, from owning those pharmacies, but also dispensing and taking care of patients.

With that, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for his comments.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Thank you, Representative COLLINS, and thank you for hosting this tonight. This is certainly a very important subject. It is very important to me, personally, yes, but it is more important to our healthcare system.

Mr. Speaker, for over 2,000 years, the practice of pharmacies has existed to help people with their ailments. Today, the most common pharmacy position is that of the community pharmacist. Community pharmacists are the front lines of medication, instructing and counseling on the proper use and adverse effects of medically prescribed drugs.

However, over the past decade, there have been several issues that have threatened the role of community pharmacists. Being a community pharmacist myself, I know these issues all too well. I believe that there are three main issues that we can address in Congress that will allow the community pharmacists to continue to fill the invaluable role of counseling Americans on the proper use and dangers of prescription medications.

First of all, MAC pricing transparency.

When I became a Member of the United States Congress and I got involved in government, I jokingly said that if I could learn 10 percent of all the acronyms in the Federal Government, I think I would have been a success. Then I got to thinking about it, and I feel a little silly now because there are a lot of acronyms in pharmacy as well. One of those is MAC, M-A-C, maximum allowable cost. Another is PBM, pharmacy benefits manager.

Now let's talk about MAC pricing transparency. This is a bill that is being offered, and this is a situation that needs to be taken care of. It needs to be addressed. It is perhaps one of the most pressing—if not the most pressing—issues facing community pharmacists right now.

MAC is a price list. The maximum allowable cost is a price list that lists the upper limit or the maximum amount that an insurance plan will pay for a generic drug. In other words, if you have a generic drug and it is on that MAC list, they are going to tell you what the maximum allowable cost is. That maximum allowable cost may be $10. Now, if you can buy it for $9, more power to you; but if you have to buy it for $11, you are only going to get paid $10. That is why they call it the maximum allowable cost.

Each insurance plan sets the maximum allowable cost for the plan. Some States require them to follow a certain policy, if you will, a certain procedure when they set those plans, those prices. Most States don't. In a lot of States that don't, the insurance companies can set it wherever they want to, whatever they want to set it at. They may choose a drug that is only available in a certain area for a certain price.

For instance, if I am in southeast Georgia, I may not be able to get that drug at that price that they set it at because they used the price that it is available in the northeast and is not available to us in the southeast. That is why we have got to have transparency. That is why we have got to have maximum allowable cost transparency.

PBMs are supposed to ensure that the cost of the drugs do not rise to unaffordable price levels, which is supposed to allow continued access to medications to Americans and maintain low costs for employers who provide coverage for those employees, and that is very important. They are supposed to set those prices so that their plan's recipients, the ones that are covered, are able to get those medications.

Therein lies a couple of problems. One is what I just explained, that it is not always available at the price that they set. A second is that sometimes the price goes up. We know that the price of generics have been going up significantly and rapidly. When that happens, sometimes the insurance companies, the PBMs, are slow to raise their MAC prices, which means that if I have got a MAC price of $10 and, overnight, the price of that drug went up to $20, until the insurance company raises the MAC price, I am still going to get paid $10 even though it is costing me $20. That cannot be sustainable for community pharmacists.

Community pharmacy is somewhat different from other healthcare providers in that we have a product. We actually have a product that we have to pay for. We have that product.

Now, granted, doctors' offices have injectables they have to pay for and so and so, and we understand that. But in community pharmacy, we actually have that product on our shelf, and we have got to pay for it, regardless of how much we get paid for it. The wholesaler doesn't say: Well, how much did you get paid for it? That is how much we are going to charge you.

We wish it worked that way, but it doesn't work that way.

The way it works is they have got a set price. If it is $20 and I am only getting paid $10 for it, I am losing that $10.

Now, some of you may think: Well, you can make up that $10, can't you, and charge the patient? No. You can't do that.

If they have got a copay, that copay is $5, that is what they pay. I can't charge them $15 to make up for that difference. That is not allowed. That is one of the things that is leading to the detriment of the community pharmacy.

But perhaps an even more important point there is what happens with the patient. Because, keep in mind, ultimately what we are talking about here, when we are talking about keeping community pharmacies open, when we are talking about making certain that this provider is available, we are talking about the patients.

□ 2015

We are talking about the patient and patient care. If I am not able to pay for that medication because I am not getting reimbursed enough, that patient is not going to get the medication, and that is going to lead to even more medical costs. That is why this is so vitally important. In the end, what it comes to is patient care.

What is the problem? What is the problem with PBMs, with the pharmacy benefits managers? First of all, there is no transparency. There is no transparency in the contracts with the PBMs. For example, several years ago Meridian Health Systems, a nonprofit that owns and operates six hospitals in southern New Jersey, hired a PBM to help reduce their surging medication

costs for its 12,000 employees and their families.

This PBM projected it would slice at least $763,000 from Meridian's $12 million in annual medication spending. Just 3 months into the contract Meridian was on pace to balloon by $1.3 million. This PBM insisted that it was actually saving Meridian money. It was not.

After some investigation by Meridian, Meridian discovered that this PBM was making huge gross profits ranging from $5 per prescription to multiple times that amount. In one example, Meridian was charged $92.53 on a generic bottle of antibiotics while the PBM only paid $26.91 to get the prescription filled. That is a profit spread of $65.62.

Therein lies the problem in what is referred to as the spread, the difference between what the PBM actually charged the company and the difference in what they actually paid for. That is the spread that the PBMs work on.

The amount that PBMs charge the small businesses, the customer, or the government under part D of Medicare can be significantly more than what it actually costs for them to fill the prescription. As I mentioned, PBMs don't always update their price list in a reasonable amount of time. This hurts pharmacies, and more than that, again, it hurts patients.

There has been evidence to suggest that some PBMs wait until 4 to 6 months to update that reimbursement rates after a drug price rises. There has been evidence of that.

I have experienced that while I was still working. Ten months ago, before I entered Congress, before I became a Member of Congress, when I was still running my drugstore, I experienced this. I experienced where a product would go up in cost, yet the PBM would not adjust their price, their cost, their MAC.

We would have months, literally months, where we were getting paid less than what we were having to pay for the drug. Obviously, that is not sustainable. That business model doesn't work for anyone regardless of who it is.

This leaves pharmacists getting reimbursed for drug prices that could be extremely out of date. Any small business in the country can't sustain operability when they don't know how much it costs to provide the customer with their service. You are basically asking a business owner to operate with no understanding of revenue. No one in the country can operate a business like this.

We need as much transparency as possible to make sure that PBMs are doing what they were created to do. My colleague from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) has introduced H.R. 244, the MAC Transparency Act, which would provide much-needed transparency to the operations of PBMs and provide pharmacies, businesses, and Americans a better understanding of their insurance coverage and the true drug costs. This is a very important piece of legislation.

Another issue that is very important and extremely important to pharmacists is provider status. Now, Mr. Speaker, I graduated from pharmacy school in 1980. I have what is known as a bachelor of pharmacy degree. Back then it was a 5-year degree. The pharmacists that are graduating now are graduating with a doctor of pharmacy degree, a 4-year professional degree that usually comes after a bachelor's degree.

In most cases, they have at least 6 and, in most cases, 8 years of education. Their clinical expertise is so impressive right now. The practice of pharmacy has changed so much during the years that I have been practicing. I have seen it go from where we did nothing more than fill prescriptions to where now the pharmacist is a vital member of the healthcare team.

Mr. COLLINS mentioned a little while ago about someone asking if they could get a flu shot in a drive-through. We have actually seen that done sometimes. But the point that I want to make is pharmacists now are actually administering vaccines.

How does that help us? How does that help Americans? How does that help our healthcare system? Obviously, our vaccination rate improves. Keep in mind, in south Georgia, where I represent, rural health care is a concern. We quite often say that, in Georgia, there are two Georgias. There is north Georgia and the Atlanta metro area and then there is the rest of Georgia.

Access to health care is very important in south Georgia, particularly in the rural area of south Georgia, where you find that pharmacists are some of the most accessible healthcare professionals out there. If it were not for our pharmacists, many of these patients would not get those vaccinations, and that is very important. It is very important that we have provider status for pharmacists.

The U.S. healthcare system has come into an era of integrated care delivery systems that provide all-encompassing care to Americans. This new structure of care will provide Americans with the type of care that allows constant collaboration with all sectors of health care to provide the highest level of care.

As all of us know, the majority of Americans that rely on healthcare professionals are the elderly. However, under part B of Medicare, pharmacists are excluded from the list of providers under Medicare part B.

This is something that is going to have to change. Regardless of how you might feel about the Affordable Care Act, regardless of how you might feel about what is our state of health care here in America now, one thing is for certain. We are going to have to utilize all disciplines in health care to improve our system. We are going to have to utilize pharmacists. We are going to have to utilize nurses and physician's assistants. We are going to have to make use of all of those.

Now, to my physician friends, make no mistake about it. Doctors remain the quarterback. They remain the captains of the team. We have to have them. They are essential. But these services that have been provided in the old model where doctors did everything and the other healthcare professionals didn't participate has got to change in order for health care to sustain here in America.

We have got to utilize these. My wife is a physical therapist. The physical therapists who are graduating now, again, are so clinically oriented and they can do so much more. We find that in all different aspects in allied health care.

That is something that we have to do. That is why it is vitally important that we have provider status for pharmacists, physicians, physician's assistants, certified nurse practitioners, qualified psychologists, clinical social workers, certified nurse midwives, and certified registered nurse anesthetists.

All of those are reimbursable and covered under Medicare part B, but pharmacists are not. Pharmacists need to be included in that. These professionals make up a healthcare team that provides an integrated healthcare plan for the treatment of a patient. However, I have never experienced a patient that required this level of care without being prescribed medications. It is a vital part of it.

If we don't get the medications to them, the whole process fails. Why does the patient go to the doctor and spend all this time being diagnosed and this doctor use all of his expertise in diagnosing this patient if they are not going to get the medications? It is a vital part.

We refer to it as a three-legged stool where you have got the physician, you have got the pharmacist, and you have got the patient. All of them have to work together to make the system work.

If we really want to provide a fully integrated healthcare system, pharmacists' services should be included under Medicare. This is why my friend from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) has introduced H.R. 592, the Pharmacy in Medically Underserved Areas Enhancement Act. This legislation would include pharmacists under the list of providers under Medicare part B and provide a true integrated healthcare team for Medicare patients.

Finally, the third thing that we need to do and that Congress can do—some health plans, particularly Medicare prescription plans, have selected certain pharmacies to be the plan's preferred provider. We must have any willing provider, pharmacy legislation, rather than allow insurance plans to pick and choose a preferred pharmacy.

Now, this is something I have, unfortunately, a lot of experience with. I have been practicing for over 34 years

now. Let me tell you, I have had patients who have been with me that long. They are a part of my family.

I have provided services to them. They have come to my store. I have provided generations of services to them, to their parents, to their grandparents, and now to them and to their children. Yet, they at the first of the year come to me, some of them in tears, and tell me, ''I have got to change pharmacies. I don't want to. But my insurance plan is telling me that this is the only pharmacy I can use.''

Sometimes the PBMs will mask it by saying, ''Well, that is not true. They can use you. They can go ahead and pay for the medications and submit us the receipts and we will see if we can reimburse them or they can go to our preferred pharmacy and pay the $5 copay.'' That is not a choice. That is not a choice at all.

Other plans will tell you, ''Okay. You can use this pharmacy outside of our preferred network if you want to. The copay is going to be $45. But if you use our preferred pharmacy, the copay is going be to $5.''

Well, let me tell you, if you have 10 prescriptions, as a lot of elderly patients do, are you going to pay $450 as opposed to $50? That is not a choice. That is not something that is going to lead patients to stay with their pharmacy.

They are going to have to change, and they don't want to do that. Mr. Speaker, having a choice makes a difference. These relationships that patients have with their healthcare providers are very, very important.

So my colleague from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH) has offered legislation to remedy this problem. The Ensuring Seniors Access to Local Pharmacies Act of 2015 would allow Medicare enrollees to keep their longtime pharmacist if that pharmacist agrees to the terms and conditions of the Medicare prescription drug plan.

In providing this reform, we will be able to provide a free market system for prescription drug plans that will lower cost while also providing comfort to Americans. This is win-win.

Now, before you say, ''Oh, Buddy, all you are saying is that you want to force people to have to do this,'' no, not at all. I am a free market guy. You will not meet more of a free market person than me. All we are asking to do is to have the ability to compete. That is all we are asking to do, to participate in the free market.

If the insurance company—if the PBM, sets the reimbursement, if I see, okay, this is the reimbursement they are going to pay me, if I am willing to accept that reimbursement, I should be able to participate. That is all we are saying.

Give us the opportunity, if we are a willing provider, to participate. Select Networks are hurting us. But, more importantly—more importantly—they are hurting the patients.

Why is that? Because now the patient, instead of going to my pharmacy where it is convenient, where they have been going for 34 years, where their parents went, where their grandparents went, are having to go and travel long distances, particularly in south Georgia, to get to the pharmacy that is a Select pharmacy, the Select provider. A lot of times they just do without. Then what happens? Then all of a sudden medical costs rise, and we don't see adherence. That is a problem.

So those three things, Mr. Speaker, are three things that are very important to community pharmacies.

I want to thank again my colleague from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) for bringing this up and let you know that I have been honored to serve as a pharmacist. I think it is a noble profession.

But, most importantly, I want to make sure you understand this is about the patients. If community pharmacies don't survive, this is going to mean that health care in this country suffers.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate my friend from Georgia and his passionate defense of what we are doing here tonight.

Earlier this month many of my colleagues and I sent a letter to CMS in support of proposed guidance to ensure part D plan cosponsors consistently report pharmacy price concessions. That letter was led by fellow Georgian and a good champion of pharmacists, AUSTIN SCOTT, and it is my pleasure to yield some time to him now.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Thank you, Mr. COLLINS and Mr. LOEBSACK. I appreciate your being here. This is certainly a bipartisan issue and gets to the heart of some of the challenges in health care in our country right now. I certainly rise today in support of our Nation's community pharmacists and our pharmacies which play a critical role in our healthcare system.

Many of these independent businesses operate in underserved areas like the ones that I represent in rural Georgia, 24 counties. In areas where a doctor may be many miles away, local pharmacists deliver flu shots, give advice on over-the-counter drugs, and help with late-night drugstore runs for sick kids.

Many people see their pharmacists much more often than their doctor, and there is a very personal relationship between these community pharmacists, patients, and the physician. They are community pillars, and they contribute greatly to the economies. It is crucial that these pharmacies have a level playing field when trying to run a successful business in a challenging and complex environment.

As you know, Mr. COLLINS, I was an insurance broker for many years. I thought I might tell a very personal story about one of my clients who, shortly after their contract was issued, the gentleman's child got sick and they needed a prescription filled. So they went to the local big box pharmacist or pharmacy, and they wouldn't fill it for them.

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Even when I, as the agent, could provide evidence that the person was insured without the card, they simply would not fill the gentleman's prescription. The local community pharmacist was the one that filled the script.

Now, the irony of it and what we are talking about here and where the real problem comes in is that, when the person got their insurance card because of the PBMs, they could no longer use that community pharmacist that was the only one that would provide the service that they needed when they actually needed it.

So it is extremely important that, when we have these business models, we keep those local community pharmacists where they are able to run a successful business and stay in business.

During the August district work period, I stopped by another drugstore, a small drug store in Quitman that had been there many, many years. Generations of people have continued to rely on them for their services.

While I was there, I watched one of our senior citizens, a lovely lady, come in. The owner called her by name. They caught up on family and friends and what was going on in life, and she had some questions about the medications.

And let me tell you that pharmacist knew the answer to every single one. He knew her history with those medications and was able to answer those questions that she asked. She left there with a smile on her face knowing that she knew what she needed to take, when she needed to take it, and what she needed to take it with.

As I stopped at these local community pharmacies like the ones I visited in August, I continued to hear concerns from them about what is happening in the pricing structure and that, if the price on a drug goes up, the insurance company has the ability and takes several months to change the rate when the price goes up. But if the price comes down, as happens in free market sometimes, they immediately reduce the price that they reimburse to the pharmacist.

There should be no excuse for the difference in the timeframe in which the reimbursement occurs. If it can be done when the price is changing to the downside, it can certainly be done in the same time limit when the price is changing to the upside.

A lot of things we have seen lately in pharmacy. We saw where a venture capitalist purchased a drug and raised the price of that drug several thousandfold overnight. That has been happening, and local community pharmacists have expressed concerns with this issue for many years.

It has happened with nitroglycerine tablets, for example, that has been around for decades and decades. They

have gone from 8 cents apiece to $8 apiece. Digoxin for a heart condition, doxycycline, the same thing has happened with these drugs.

How is this happening? And who is going to help us fix this if not for the ability to get the information from their local community pharmacist?

They are the ones that care the most, and they are the ones that are willing to help resolve the challenges with the higher drug costs in this country.

So one would ask: How is it that, in many cases, our local pharmacists are kept from being able to participate in the networks? Well, in many cases, the networks that are blocking out the local community pharmacists are actually owned by the big box pharmacies.

If you want to talk about a conflict of interest, that is about as conflicted as it gets when your big box pharmacists own the network that actually can determine who you can get your drugs from and they box out their own competition.

Quite honestly, I think it would be a wonderful issue for the Federal Trade Commission to get involved in and to bring competition back into that area.

One of the things that I think would help is H.R. 793, the Ensuring Seniors Access to Local Pharmacies Act of 2015. I want to thank my colleagues that are here that are also cosponsors for it.

This bill allows community pharmacies that are located in medically underserved areas or areas that have health professional shortages the ability to participate in Medicare part D in the preferred pharmacy networks so long as they are willing to accept the contract terms and conditions that other in-network providers operate under.

This is reasonable. This is patient choice. This keeps the small business owner out there. Let me ask you to make no mistake about it. This is big business versus small business.

One of the other things that I want to talk about is MAC, the maximum allowable cost. Pharmacists are often reimbursed for generics by this MAC list. You have heard BUDDY CARTER talk about this earlier. He certainly knows more about it than I do. This list is created by the PBMs, but nobody knows how they create this list.

As patients, we have a right to determine how the costs are derived for the drugs that we are going to take. And understand this. It is not a manufacturer's cost. It is not a manufacturer's cost. It is a maximum allowable cost. When the lists are updated, certainly it should be done in a timely manner.

I am happy to have cosponsored H.R. 244, and I certainly hope to see that bipartisan bill pass.

With that, Mr. COLLINS, thank you for taking the lead on this issue.

Our local community pharmacists are extremely important to our healthcare system. There is a way to create a scenario under which the patients have more choice and that requires keeping that local community pharmacist in business.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Well, Mr. SCOTT, I don't disagree with you. I thank you for being here. You have been a great champion to this cause as well.

I think the interesting thing here—I want to repeat—basically, what we are going back to is some simple fixes. We are not asking for one to be preferred over another one.

I think exactly what the PBMs actually want is they want to prefer and they want to run you into their network and control you.

And, by the way, most people don't realize that a lot of our community pharmacists have to buy from PBM, who operate other big box stores, who, in turn, then audit them and can fine them if they don't follow the plan exactly.

These are the kind of crazy things that just obviously——

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Can I repeat one thing you just said right there?

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Go right ahead.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. They get to audit their competitors. Now, in what other scenario in the world could you say it is a free market when your competitor, who is the big box multibillion-dollar operation, gets to audit their small business competitor?

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. It is baffling. That is why H.R. 244 simply says you have 7 days to update the list, number one. Number two, it says that patients will not be forced by PBMs to use a PBM-owned pharmacy, an obvious conflict of interest.

And according to Medicare data, PBM on mail order pharmacies may charge plans more, as much as 83 percent more, to fill prescriptions than community pharmacies.

Mr. LOEBSACK, you have been with us on this from day one. Tell me some more about what you are hearing out there.

Mr. LOEBSACK. Oh, my gosh. First of all, I want to thank Mr. CARTER. It is testimonials like his that I have been hearing for the last 10 years, since I have been in Congress, since I first went to an independent community pharmacist, and you spoke with such great passion.

You are not alone, as you know. Every single person like you in my district can tell me the same things that you have told me. That is why I am on these bills. That is why I am talking tonight about these issues.

I don't have the firsthand experience that you have as a pharmacist. The closest I ever got to a pharmacy, other than picking up my prescription drugs, before I got into Congress was when I was 16 and 17 years old. I was a delivery boy for Greenville Pharmacy in Sioux City, Iowa, which, by the way, still exists, since 1969. Actually, longer ago than that it was established. But I would deliver prescription drugs to folks, especially to the elderly who couldn't get out of their home, who couldn't get to the pharmacy.

That is what this is about, as you said. It is about making sure ultimately. And as a Member of Congress, my job is to make sure that folks have access to affordable quality health care.

And that is where pharmacists play such an important role, whether it is with medication therapy management or just simply consulting on an informal basis with someone who comes in and has a lot of different prescriptions and is confused by what to take and when to take them.

You folks really do such a wonderful job. And if we lost that service, as you said, because of unfair business practices, because of being squeezed by the big guys—and it doesn't make any sense at all for that to happen—then patients would suffer in the end.

That is why I support both of these pieces of legislation, two of these that have been mentioned already. 244, which Mr. COLLINS just mentioned again, to make sure that everyone understands what it is about, it is a measure that will increase transparency of generic drug payment rates in Medicare part D and the Federal Employees Health Benefits program, which serves a lot of folks, as we know, millions of folks, and in the TRICARE pharmacy program by requiring those PBMs, one, to provide pricing updates at least once every 7 days. That doesn't seem like a lot to ask, to me, and I am sure it doesn't seem like a lot to ask for you; number two, disclose the sources used to update that MAC list and to notify pharmacies of any changes in individual drug prices before these prices can be used as a basis of reimbursement. This is complete common sense. That is why there are Republicans and Democrats alike on this bill, and I hope we can move this bill forward.

In Iowa, the State legislature did pass something not quite this comprehensive, but something similar to this, because in Iowa folks understand what these PBMs are doing and what those independent community pharmacists are up against.

And the second piece of legislation, H.R. 592 that was already referenced, again, a bipartisan piece of legislation, has got 218 cosponsors. If memory serves me, that is exactly the number we need, if everybody votes, to pass a piece of legislation in this body. We could get it done. If we brought it to the floor, we could get it done.

Maybe we ought to do a discharge petition. Sorry. I don't mean to create too many anxieties there with you folks. But, nonetheless, we have got to get this thing done. It is about making sure that our pharmacists are able to continue to deliver the kind of quality health care.

Look, whatever we decide at the Federal level when it comes to utilizing pharmacists to their full potential, this legislation does stipulate that nothing

will override State scope of practice laws as well.

Because I know that a lot of folks in other professions have concerns about that, that pharmacists are going to go too far. Well, they are not going to. If States have laws in place about scope of practice, this legislation will not override that.

But it is about making sure, as Mr. CARTER said and as Mr. COLLINS would agree and others who have been so active on these issues would agree—it is about making sure that folks get the quality care that they need.

If we close down these pharmacies in these rural areas—95 percent of the folks in Iowa are within 5 miles of an independent community pharmacist—if they close down those pharmacies, those folks in my district who depend upon those pharmacies and those pharmacists are going to suffer. That is unacceptable to me.

Thanks again for giving me the time to speak on this.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. LOEBSACK, you hit it right. There are so many times we get to talking policy and big picture up here. The bottom line is what we do up here—and when I was in the State legislature, you could see it because you were a little bit closer—States are starting to pick up this mantle, as you just said, in Iowa and other States. But it goes back to that feeling of what I call security.

Now, as I said just a few minutes ago, the pharmacist is not the issue. The pharmacist is someone who helps in the curing process. They are part of that.

I don't want to ever have anyone who happened to watch this to say, ''Why are you bashing pharmacists?'' We are not bashing pharmacists. What we are taking shots at and what we are trying to find solutions for is an abusive practice that has been set up in the name of saving money at the expense of the patient. That is unacceptable.

It is time we have a hearing up here on those kind of abuses. I call for that. I call for the bills to be brought to the floor. Let's do those kind of things. We have got 26 cosponsors and growing daily on H.R. 244. They are understanding the issue.

As we go into this thing, one of the things that I talked about earlier and I said I was going to come back to was: Live your ''why.'' You know, think about this. I want everybody to have a choice. If you like going to the big box and getting your bananas, your shotgun shells, and your aspirin at the same place, go for it. That is great. I love it.

But if you want to go to there and then go by and see your pharmacist who opened up, hung a shingle, so to speak, had that American Dream, he sells other things—and in my pharmacy I can get a scoop of ice cream and I sit there and talk and I see people and see life. That is what it is about. It is not about forcing us in.

That is one of the problems that on our side we have had about health care in general. The government, that is not the place. This is an area where we have got our thumb sort of on the scale, and we have got to stop that. I think this is what does that, and your help has been tremendous in that regard.

Congressman CARTER, one of the things we see in Georgia and I know we have seen it in Iowa—in short, you have a story—I have got stories I am going to probably share a little bit later—just where this is has affected a patient.

Several of my pharmacists talk about how they have had customers that have been coming to them for years and then get a disease that they can't keep the medicine because it is too expensive. Do you have some examples like that where this kind of legislation would help?

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Well, there is no question about it. As I said earlier, I am a free market guy. All I want to do is compete, and I want to compete on a level playing field. Let me compete.

You know, when I first entered pharmacy before PBMs became so vogue and became such a big part of this, it was pretty easy in the sense of being in business in pharmacy because all you had to do was be nice to the people.

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I mean, it was about customer service. It was about taking care of the patient, and that is what we are talking about—taking care of the patient.

I told you earlier I have had generations of families who trade with me—grandparents, parents.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. I want to jump in right here on this, and if you have a story, we will talk about it.

My own family member had an issue, and we were discussing medication. I knew the doctor—I could call—but my first call was to my pharmacist because I said I knew I could get him; I knew he would answer; and at the time—and what was amazing was—my parents didn't buy their drugs from him, but, yet, he picked up the phone, and he heard my complaint.

Is that sort of what you see and what you have seen as well?

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Oh, there is no question about it. In fact, I have experienced it.

Look, I have been a community pharmacist, as I said earlier, for 34 years. I have been in business for myself for almost 28 years now. I live near where my pharmacy is. I live less than 5 miles away from it. I am a member of that community. I was the mayor of that community for 9 years. For 9 years, I was mayor. I served in the State legislature. I represent them now in Congress, and I have gotten calls in the middle of the night.

What is interesting and what has been very rewarding for me professionally is when I ran for office and when I would be knocking on doors, and I would introduce myself. ''I know you. I know you. You helped my mother when she was under hospice care. You got up and went to the store and met me there one night and got her medication.'' Now, let me tell you that that makes you feel good.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. It does. Again, when you get into this, it is about people.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. It is.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Politics and drug stores and people. This is about politics. This is about people. It is those people. It is people. It is policy.

What kinds of things have you heard, Mr. LOEBSACK?

Mr. LOEBSACK. I just want to say one thing.

Pharmacists are among the most respected folks in all of America, and there is a reason for that.

Now, Mr. CARTER, I realize you went from being a pharmacist to being a Congressman.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. We do question that.

Mr. LOEBSACK. We might question your judgment about that kind of a transition, and you are finding out about that; but, nonetheless, every single time I go to a pharmacist, it is the same thing—they care. They care about their patients.

Again, I have so many stories, but it would take forever for me to recount all the stories of all of the pharmacies I have gone to in my congressional district over the last 9 years. I have 24 counties. I have a lot of local pharmacies, as you might imagine, and those pharmacists are among the most respected folks in the community. They are right up there with the clergymen; so that tells you something about them and about their profession and about how folks look up to them and about how folks depend upon them.

As you just said, they are the folks who get called when they are worried about their prescriptions. They are the folks who can be reached the most easily. Other professionals can be reached, but pharmacists are right there at the ready, and that is very important.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. It is.

If you are following and tracking, we can talk bills, and we can talk regulations, and those are great things; but the bottom line is what is best in the health care arena from the whole perspective.

You did a great job, Representative CARTER, about talking about the doctor and all the different agencies coming in together.

I will never forget, when growing up, the story, for me, of, when you got to the pharmacist, you were getting better. One, I had gotten through the doctor's office—I had gotten my shot, or I had gotten whatever—but I had gotten to the pharmacist's. Just give me some medicine. Let me go home. Back then, there was some tasting bad stuff—I don't know where that came from—but I remember going in, and they would take time, and they would care.

Still, in my district and in many of your districts, you can go in and look at the community pharmacist who was on the square. A lot of them had lunch counters. A lot of them had other things. They sold cards and trinkets. What is amazing to me today is I do not want to see through consolidation and corporate work a system that has a fingerprint on the scale, where government has basically allowed this to happen—to start taking away the centerpieces of American squares. When you start taking away the centerpieces of squares and of lots and of communities, both big and small—when you start doing that—then we are part of the problem. It is time we started educating everybody we can.

Do you see that?

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. I do see that.

I want to mention just two things.

First of all, as an American taxpayer, you can imagine my being in business and having what we call ''taxation without participation.'' Here we have Medicare part D plans that are paid for and supplemented through the government, which I pay taxes to, but my business is not allowed to participate. I am being taxed. I am paying my taxes and am doing what I am supposed to do. It is being used for a plan that excludes my business. How fair is that? I am not asking for anything special. All I am asking for is an even playing field.

Another thing that I want to mention is that I have intentionally not mentioned the names of PBMs. There are some good PBMs, and it is not the company that I have the problem with as much as it is the process and the model. I mean, that is very important to understand—we are talking about the model here—but I will tell you this. There have been numerous instances where companies think they are going to be saving money, and the PBMs have misled them into thinking they are going to save money. Let me tell you that these are some of the most profitable businesses around.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. May I jump in right here?

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Sure.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. You may have heard this.

I agree with you in that there are some great PBMs out there that do work. We are not just saying PBMs in general.

The other thing that bothers me is—and I have heard this from my pharmacist, and you, I know, have experienced this, and we have talked about it, and Mr. LOEBSACK has as well—my pharmacists, my community pharmacists, are scared to say something. They are scared to talk about what is actually going on because they are scared their contracts will get canceled. They are scared that they will get another audit.

I am sorry. I am not a pharmacist. You can't audit me, and I am going to stand here and talk about it for the pharmacists because they can't. That is wrong. Anybody who wants to say that that is right, I do not understand that; but when you have got pharmacists who are just honest, hard-working people who are trying to run independent businesses and when they are scared to talk about their vendors to work a workable plan, what are we doing here? This should be easy.

Mr. LOEBSACK. It doesn't serve any of us. It certainly doesn't serve any of us in the end, because those folks are the ones who are serving us, and if they are suppressed—if their voices cannot be heard—that stifles competition. It goes back to the market. It stifles competition, and that is not good for any of us in the end.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. When things change and when they say that we can't give input because we are scared, that is just a problem.

We are coming up on our time of closing.

Any last comments, Mr. LOEBSACK?

Mr. LOEBSACK. Yes.

Thank you, Mr. COLLINS. Thanks again for inviting me and Mr. CARTER. I really do appreciate this.

As always, Mr. CARTER, I have learned something tonight from a pharmacist—I always do—and I really appreciate your comments.

I just want to touch upon sort of the issue of the city square. That is so important for so many of our rural districts, as you folks know all too well. It is kind of hard to explain that to our more urban colleagues, but we have to do the best that we can. A pharmacy is so absolutely critical for the economy of a small community. Yes, it is absolutely critical and necessary to serve the population in the area, but it is important for the economy as well.

We have a pharmacy—Mahaska Drug in Oskaloosa, Iowa. It is off the square a little bit, but it is such an important institution in its own right. Every Christmas, they have wonderful decorations, and they have things to sell for Christmas. I mean, people come to depend upon them to do the kinds of things they have done in providing not just the pharmacy services but other things as well. If they were to go under as a pharmacy, I am not at all sure that they would survive, and that community would suffer as a result. Folks' choices would be lessened. Their tradition would be hurt. It would be a disaster in many ways for so many of our local communities if those pharmacies were to close down.

I, for one, am with you. I am not willing to accept that. I am going to fight as hard as I possibly can with you, and we are going to do it together, holding hands across the aisle, which, as you know, doesn't get done a lot around here; but when we can come together, I think it is important for us to do that. So thanks again for organizing this tonight. I appreciate it.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. CARTER, would you like to add just a couple of things?

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. I will very quickly.

First of all, again, I want to thank you, Representative COLLINS and my colleagues—all of you—for participating in this. This has been a great exercise.

Among my proudest possessions are the plaques that the baseball teams give you every year whenever you sponsor a team, and I have got a wall that is just filled with them. Patients come in all the time. ''There I am. I played ball. That was the team I was on,'' and they point toward it. It was the Carter's Pharmacy team.

I want to ask you: How many PBMs have you seen sponsoring Little League Baseball teams? I mean, seriously.

Folks, we are talking about something that is essential to our communities, and this is a dire situation. I am telling you. If this is not fixed soon, you are going to see a whole profession of community pharmacies going by the wayside. This is a matter of survival here.

Again, we are not asking for a government handout. All we are asking for is to be able to compete. It is to be able to compete in a fair market, in a free market, on a level playing field. Ultimately, the loser here is going to be the patient. If we allow this to happen and community pharmacies go away, the ones who are going to suffer are going to be the patients.

Thank you again for this. I can't tell you how proud I am of my profession, a profession that I chose years ago when I was in high school and when I was a delivery driver. After I realized I was not going to be the athlete that I wanted to be, I decided it was time to get serious and decide on a profession. I did, and I could not be any prouder than the profession I chose of professional pharmacy. Thank you.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. I thank all of my colleagues for coming here tonight.

I am going to go back to where we started: Live your ''why.'' Live your ''why.'' That is all we are asking. Our independent pharmacists and our community pharmacists are just simply saying: Let us have an even playing field. We will play with the big boys. We don't care. Just let us have our ''why.'' When we do that, our benefits come to our communities.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. HUDSON (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of family reasons.

Mr. PAYNE (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today through October 23 on account of medical procedure.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title,

which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1735. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 56 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, October 21, 2015, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3169. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter authorizing Captain William W. Wheeler III, United States Navy, to wear the insignia of the grade of rear admiral (lower half), in accordance with 10 U.S.C. 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

3170. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility (Otero County, NM, et al.); [Docket ID: FEMA-2015-0001] [Internal Agency Docket No.: FEMA-8403] received October 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Financial Services.

3171. A letter from the Executive Director, NACIQI, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's annual report of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity for FY 2015, pursuant to Sec. 114(e) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

3172. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's biennial report to Congress entitled Scientific and Clinical Status of Organ Transplantation for 2011-2012, in accordance with Sec. 376 of the Public Health Service Act, 42 U.S.C. 274d; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3173. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's biennial report to Congress entitled Scientific and Clinical Status of Organ Transplantation 2008-2010, in accordance with Sec. 376 of the Public Health Service Act, 42 U.S.C. 274d; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3174. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's NURSE Corps Loan Repayment and Scholarship Programs Report to Congress for FY 2014, in accordance with Sec. 846(h) of the Public Health Service Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3175. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — 2-propen-1-aminium, N,N-dimethyl-N-propenyl-, chloride, homopolymer; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2015-0363; FRL-9933-98] received October 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3176. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Air Plan Approval; Michigan; 2006 PM2.5 and 2008 Lead NAAQS State Board Infrastructure SIP Requirements [EPA-R05-OAR-2014-0657; FRL-9935-63-Region 5] received October 15, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3177. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: The 2016 Critical Use Exemption from the Phaseout of Methyl Bromide [EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0369; FRL-9935-69-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AS44) received October 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3178. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Clean Air Act Redesignation Substitute for the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria 1-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area; Texas [EPA-R06-OAR-2014-0259; FRL-9935-68-Region 6] received October 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3179. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; New Mexico; Albuquerque/Bernalillo County; Revisions to State Boards and Conflict of Interest Provisions [EPA-R06-OAR-2013-0614; FRL-9935-53-Region 6] received October 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3180. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Pyrimethanil; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2015-0012; FRL-9935-11] received October 16, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3181. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Poly[oxy(methyl-1,2-ethanediyl)], a-[(9Z)-1-oxo-9-octadecen-1-yl]-w-[[(9Z)-1-oxo-9-octadecen-1yl]oxy-]; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2015-0442; FRL-9935-34] received October 16, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3182. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Texas: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision [EPA-R06-RCRA-2015-0109; FRL-9936-00-Region 6] received October 16, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3183. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Potassium Salts of Hops Beta acids; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0374; FRL-9933-73] received October 16, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3184. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's Major final rule — Petroleum Refinery Sector Risk and Technology Review and New Source Performance Standards [EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0682; FRL-9935-40-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AQ75) received October 16, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3185. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's Major final rule — National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone [EPA-HQ-OAR-2008-0699; FRL-9933-18-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AP38) received October 16, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3186. A letter from the Deputy Chief, CCR Division, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Ensuring Continuity of 911 Communications [PS Docket No.: 14-174] received October 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3187. A letter from the Deputy Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Improving 911 Reliability [PS Docket No.: 13-75]; Reliability and Continuity of Communications Networks, Including Broadband Technologies [PS Docket No.: 11-60] received October 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3188. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting a notice of a proposed lease to the government of Nicaragua, Transmittal No. 01-16, pursuant to Sec. 62(a) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3189. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report entitled ''Report of U.S. Citizen Expropriation Claims and Certain Other Commercial and Investment Disputes'', pursuant to Sec. 527(f) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995, Pub. L. 103-236; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3190. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12170 of November 14, 1979, as required by Sec. 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and Sec. 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3191. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Somalia that was declared in Executive Order 13536 of April 12, 2010 as required by Sec. 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and Sec. 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3192. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification that the national emergency, with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond October 21, 2015, as required by Sec. 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); (H. Doc. No. 114—68); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

3193. A letter from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-277, 5 U.S.C. 3345-3349d; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3194. A letter from the Executive Analyst (Political), Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-277, 5 U.S.C. 3345-3349d; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3195. A letter from the Acting Director, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's report entitled ''Federal Student Loan Repayment Program Calendar Year 2014'', pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5379(h)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3196. A letter from the Division Chief, Legislative Affairs and Correspondence, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting the final map and corridor boundary description for the Crooked Wild and Scenic River, pursuant to Pub. L. 90-542, Sec. 3(b), as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1271-1287; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3197. A letter from the Branch Chief, Endangered Species Listing, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 4(d) Rule for the Georgetown Salamander [Docket No.: FWS-R2-ES-2014-0008; 4500030113] (RIN: 1018-BA32) received October 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3198. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Endangered Species Listing, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for Diplacus vandenbergensis (Vandenberg Monkeyflower) [Docket No.: FWS-R8-ES-2013-0049] [4500030113] (RIN: 1018-AZ33) received October 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3199. A letter from the Acting Listing Branch Chief, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for Trichomanes punctatum ssp. floridanum (Florida Bristle Fern) [Docket No.: FWS-R4-ES-2014-0044; 4500030113] (RIN: 1018-AY97) received October 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3200. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Ohio Regulatory Program [OH-254-FOR; Docket ID: OSM-2012-0012; S1D1S SS08011000 SX066A000 156S180110; S2D2S SS08011000 SX066A000 15XS501520] received October 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3201. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Kentucky Regulatory Program [SATS No.: KY-253-FOR; Docket ID: OSM-2009-0014; S1D1S SS08011000 SX064A000 167S180110; S2D2S SS08011000 SX064A000 16X501520] received October 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3202. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Endangered Species Listing, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Status for 16 Species and Threatened Status for 7 Species in Micronesia [Docket No.: FWS-R1-ES-2014-0038] [4500030113] (RIN: 1018-BA13) received October 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3203. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Endangered Species Listing, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the Dakota Skipper and Poweshiek Skipperling [Docket No.: FWS-R3-ES-2013-0017] [4500030113] (RIN: 1018-AZ58) received October 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3204. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — 2015-2016 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-NWRS-2015-0029; FXRS12650900000-156-FF09R20000] (RIN: 1018-BA57) received October 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3205. A letter from the Deputy Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Pennsylvania Regulatory Program [SATS No. PA-154-FOR; Docket ID: OSM-2010-0002; S1D1S SS08011000 SX064A000 167S180110 S2D2S SS08011000 SX064A000 16XS501520] received October 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251;; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3206. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher/Processors Using Trawl Gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 140918791-4999-02] (RIN: 0648-XE174) received October 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3207. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Bluefish Fishery; Quota Transfer [Docket No.: 140117052-4402-02] (RIN: 0648-XE113) received October 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3208. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Scup Fishery; Adjustment to the 2015 Winter II Quota [Docket No.: 140117052-4402-02] (RIN: 0648-XE156) received October 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3209. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Trip Limit Reduction [Docket No.: 101206604-1758-02] (RIN: 0648-XD779) received October 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3210. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; 2015 Commercial Accountability Measure and Closure for South Atlantic Snowy Grouper [Docket No.: 0907271173-0629-03] (RIN: 0648-XE181) received October 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3211. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's determination on a petition filed on behalf of workers from the Hooker Electrochemical Corporation in Niagara Falls, New York, to be added to the Special Exposure Cohort, pursuant to the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 and 42 C.F.R. pt. 83; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

3212. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Visas: Documentation of Nonimmigrants under the Immigration and Nationality Act, as Amended (RIN: 1400-AD17) received October 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

3213. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule — Visas: Procedures for Issuing Visas (RIN: 1400-AD84) received October 8, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

3214. A letter from the Assistant Administrator, Office of Procurement, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Department's final rule — NASA Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workforce and Mission Critical Systems Personnel Reliability Program (NFS Case 2015-N002) (RIN: 2700-AE17) received October 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

3215. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Department's final rule — Collection of Administrative Debts [Docket No.: SSA-2011-0053] (RIN: 0960-AH36) received October 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk

for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. GOODLATTE: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 1428. A bill to extend Privacy Act remedies to citizens of certified states, and for other purposes (Rept. 114–294, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. MCCAUL: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 3493. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Securing the Cities program to enhance the ability of the United States to detect and prevent terrorist attacks and other high consequence events utilizing nuclear or other radiological materials that pose a high risk to homeland security in high-risk urban areas, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114–295). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. MCCAUL: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 3350. A bill to require a terrorism threat assessment regarding the transportation of chemical, biological, nuclear, and radiological materials through United States land borders and within the United States, and for other purposes (Rept. 114–296). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. MCCAUL: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 3572. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to reform, streamline, and make improvements to the Department of Homeland Security and support the Department's efforts to implement better policy, planning, management, and performance, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114–297). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CHAFFETZ: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 598. A bill to provide taxpayers with an annual report disclosing the cost and performance of Government programs and areas of duplication among them, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114–298). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CHAFFETZ: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 2320. A bill to provide access to and use of information by Federal agencies in order to reduce improper payments, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114–299). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. FOXX. Committee on Rules. House Resolution 480. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 10) to reauthorize the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 692) to ensure the payment of interest and principal of the debt of the United States (Rept. 114–300). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. NEWHOUSE: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 481. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1937) to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to more efficiently develop domestic sources of the minerals and mineral materials of strategic and critical importance to United States economic and national security and manufacturing competitiveness (Rept. 114–301). Referred to the House Calendar.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1428 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. SHUSTER (for himself, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 3763. A bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. BISHOP of Utah:

H.R. 3764. A bill to provide that an Indian group may receive Federal acknowledgment as an Indian tribe only by an Act of Congress, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. POE of Texas (for himself, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, and Mr. JOLLY):

H.R. 3765. A bill to amend the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to promote compliance through education, to clarify the requirements for demand letters, to provide for a notice and cure period before the commencement of a private civil action, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. POE of Texas (for himself and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H.R. 3766. A bill to direct the President to establish guidelines for United States foreign development and economic assistance programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. WALKER):

H.R. 3767. A bill to amend title 44, United States Code, to prohibit the assembly or manufacture of secure credentials or their component parts by the Government Publishing Office; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. BROWN of Florida:

H.R. 3768. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that rates of basic pay for members of the Senior Executive Service are determined on the basis of the position, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DESJARLAIS (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

H.R. 3769. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the James K. Polk Home in Columbia, Tennessee, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. MOORE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. RUSH, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. TONKO, Mr. NADLER, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. POCAN, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. HASTINGS, and Ms. JUDY CHU of California):

H.R. 3770. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to prevent surprise billing practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FLORES:

H.R. 3771. A bill to establish a procedure in the House of Representatives and the Senate to accomplish the policies contemplated by the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2016, to encourage the timely completion of fiscal policy work in Congress, and to provide for regulatory relief to grow the economy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, the Judiciary, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. LOWEY (for herself, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KIND, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. HASTINGS, and Mr. COHEN):

H.R. 3772. A bill to reduce childhood obesity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. NORTON (for herself, Ms. EDWARDS, and Mrs. COMSTOCK):

H.R. 3773. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, relating to the authority of the Secretary of Transportation under the public transportation safety program; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. COOPER):

H.R. 3774. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to apply the debt limit only to debt held by the public and to adjust the debt limit for increases in the gross domestic product; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PETERS:

H.R. 3775. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to provide for a debt stabilization process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. GABBARD (for herself and Mr. HURD of Texas):

H. Res. 482. A resolution expressing the sense of the House that Congress should recognize the benefits of charitable giving and express support for the designation of #GivingTuesday; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. SHUSTER:

H.R. 3763.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically Clause 3 (related to regulation of Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with Indian Tribes) and Clause 7 (related to

establishment of Post Offices and Post Roads).

By Mr. BISHOP of Utah:

H.R. 3764.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8, clause 3

By Mr. POE of Texas:

H.R. 3765.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. POE of Texas:

H.R. 3766.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 and Article 1, Section 9, Clause 7

By Mrs. BLACKBURN:

H.R. 3767.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. BROWN of Florida:

H.R. 3768.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Necessary and Proper Regulations to Effectuate Power—Art. I, Sec. 8, Cls. 18

The Congress shall have power [. . .] To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by the constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department of officer thereof

By Mr. DESJARLA1S:

H.R. 3769.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 2 of Section 3 of Article IV of the U.S. Constitution: The Congress shall have the power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States.

By Mr. DOGGETT:

H.R. 3770.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. FLORES:

H.R. 3771.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 5, Clause 2 of the United States Constitution, which on confers each house of Congress the power to determine the rules of its proceedings; Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 2 of the United States Constitution, which confer on Congress the power to collect and manage revenue for the payment of debts owed by the United States and to borrow money on the credit of the United States; and Article 1, Section 9, Clause 7 of the United States Constitution, which states: ''No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law.

By Mrs. LOWEY:

H.R. 3772.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 1 of the Constitution

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 3773.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. PETERS:

H.R. 3774.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 2 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. PETERS:

H.R. 3775.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 2, Section 8, Article I of the Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 31: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.

H.R. 188: Mrs. MILLER of Michigan.

H.R. 224: Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. FARR, Mr. TONKO, Mr. COHEN, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. GRAYSON, and Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 282: Mr. BERA.

H.R. 379: Mrs. MILLER of Michigan and Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 389: Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 448: Mr. FATTAH.

H.R. 465: Mr. EMMER of Minnesota.

H.R. 500: Mr. MCDERMOTT.

H.R. 525: Mr. HURT of Virginia.

H.R. 546: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. BASS, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. NEAL, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. KEATING, and Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 563: Mr. CONYERS.

H.R. 578: Mr. LAMBORN.

H.R. 590: Ms. DUCKWORTH.

H.R. 592: Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, and Mr. CARTER of Texas.

H.R. 632: Ms. KUSTER, Mr. MEEKS, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas.

H.R. 662: Mr. PETERSON, Mrs. LUMMIS, and Mr. RICE of South Carolina.

H.R. 699: Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 721: Mr. WENSTRUP.

H.R. 759: Mr. QUIGLEY.

H.R. 765: Mr. COFFMAN.

H.R. 816: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.

H.R. 834: Mr. PETERS.

H.R. 842: Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H.R. 845: Ms. DUCKWORTH.

H.R. 865: Mr. CULBERSON.

H.R. 870: Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. COURTNEY, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 920: Mrs. LAWRENCE.

H.R. 921: Mr. BERA.

H.R. 956: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas.

H.R. 985: Mr. SERRANO and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 990: Mr. CAPUANO.

H.R. 997: Mr. ADERHOLT and Mr. MCCAUL.

H.R. 1019: Miss RICE of New York and Mr. BISHOP of Michigan.

H.R. 1062: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas.

H.R. 1087: Mr. DEUTCH.

H.R. 1111: Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 1141: Mr. TAKAI.

H.R. 1151: Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee.

H.R. 1197: Ms. NORTON, Mr. PASCRELL, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.

H.R. 1205: Mr. YOHO.

H.R. 1247: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 1258: Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. NEAL, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. VELA, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, and Mr. CONYERS.

H.R. 1282: Mr. GRAYSON, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

H.R. 1284: Mr. GRAYSON.

H.R. 1299: Mr. JORDAN.

H.R. 1301: Mr. CHABOT, Mr. BOST, and Mr. LOBIONDO.

H.R. 1312: Mr. ASHFORD, Mr. KEATING, and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1346: Mr. DELANEY.

H.R. 1347: Mr. DELANEY.

H.R. 1389: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.

H.R. 1401: Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H.R. 1422: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.

H.R. 1453: Ms. BASS and Mr. DESJARLAIS.

H.R. 1457: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1475: Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. POMPEO, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. TOM PRICE of Georgia, and Mr. MOULTON.

H.R. 1515: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.

H.R. 1548: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.

H.R. 1550: Mr. GUINTA, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. RENACCI, and Mr. CONNOLLY.

H.R. 1559: Mr. HULTGREN and Mr. BYRNE.

H.R. 1568: Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 1602: Ms. MOORE.

H.R. 1603: Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. HENSARLING, and Mr. MASSIE.

H.R. 1608: Mr. JEFFRIES, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. YOUNG of Iowa.

H.R. 1610: Mr. BISHOP of Michigan.

H.R. 1643: Mr. BISHOP of Michigan.

H.R. 1655: Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. BUCSHON, and Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 1670: Mr. PASCRELL and Mr. CONYERS.

H.R. 1671: Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. BISHOP of Michigan.

H.R. 1674: Ms. LEE.

H.R. 1684: Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 1688: Mr. RUSH.

H.R. 1716: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1728: Ms. LEE and Mr. GRAYSON.

H.R. 1733: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1736: Mr. KING of Iowa.

H.R. 1752: Mr. CARTER of Texas.

H.R. 1763: Ms. NORTON, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. KIND, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 1769: Mr. CRAMER, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, and Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 1784: Mr. HOLDING.

H.R. 1786: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. HILL, and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1818: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK and Ms. JENKINS of Kansas.

H.R. 1854: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.

H.R. 1859: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Mr. LEWIS.

H.R. 1861: Mr. GROTHMAN.

H.R. 1877: Mr. COFFMAN and Ms. LEE.

H.R. 1956: Ms. ADAMS.

H.R. 1957: Ms. ADAMS.

H.R. 1958: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 1978: Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 2016: Mr. KEATING, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

H.R. 2087: Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 2125: Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 2142: Mr. KATKO.

H.R. 2173: Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 2221: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 2224: Mr. HASTINGS and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 2228: Mr. LIPINSKI.

H.R. 2247: Mr. FLEMING.

H.R. 2254: Mr. VEASEY.

H.R. 2287: Mr. FINCHER and Mr. HULTGREN.

H.R. 2304: Mr. BISHOP of Michigan.

H.R. 2350: Mr. HONDA.

H.R. 2400: Mr. FORTENBERRY and Mr. WESTERMAN.

H.R. 2410: Mr. DEUTCH.

H.R. 2434: Ms. FUDGE.

H.R. 2460: Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 2493: Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. LEE, and Mr. CUMMINGS.

H.R. 2500: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 2510: Mrs. LAWRENCE and Mr. BYRNE.

H.R. 2513: Mr. FLORES.

H.R. 2515: Ms. CLARKE of New York.

H.R. 2536: Mr. WELCH.

H.R. 2540: Ms. ADAMS.

H.R. 2568: Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia.
H.R. 2597: Mr. COFFMAN, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, and Ms. STEFANIK.
H.R. 2646: Mr. HILL.
H.R. 2654: Mr. KATKO, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. BEYER, and Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
H.R. 2657: Mr. TONKO and Mr. YODER.
H.R. 2689: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 2697: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. LEE, Mr. HASTINGS, and Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 2698: Mr. ZINKE, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan.
H.R. 2710: Mr. HANNA, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. MASSIE, and Mr. HENSARLING.
H.R. 2726: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and Mr. MEEKS.
H.R. 2737: Mr. RENACCI and Mr. JONES.
H.R. 2764: Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.
H.R. 2769: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas.
H.R. 2799: Mr. BOUSTANY.
H.R. 2801: Mr. OLSON.
H.R. 2802: Mr. MICA.
H.R. 2811: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 2849: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. LEE, Mr. KEATING, and Mr. GRAYSON.
H.R. 2855: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 2858: Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. NEAL, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. SIRES, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. MACARTHUR, Mr. VELA, Mr. BERA, Mr. SHERMAN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 2867: Miss RICE of New York and Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 2871: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 2880: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 2896: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mrs. LOVE, and Mr. FINCHER.
H.R. 2903: Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. SIMPSON, and Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 2918: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 2920: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
H.R. 2987: Ms. FUDGE, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.
H.R. 2994: Mr. ENGEL, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 3044: Ms. BROWNLEY of California and Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 3048: Mr. RUSSELL and Ms. JENKINS of Kansas.
H.R. 3063: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 3099: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Mr. FORTENBERRY.
H.R. 3110: Ms. GABBARD.
H.R. 3164: Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 3177: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 3221: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 3229: Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. CALVERT, and Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 3255: Mr. EMMER of Minnesota.
H.R. 3263: Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 3268: Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. KATKO, and Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3283: Mr. RIBBLE.
H.R. 3306: Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 3309: Mr. COOK.
H.R. 3314: Mr. OLSON and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 3326: Mr. KNIGHT, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, and Mrs. WAGNER.
H.R. 3339: Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California.
H.R. 3340: Mr. MCHENRY.
H.R. 3351: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3355: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. BROWN of Florida, and Mr. GIBSON.
H.R. 3356: Mr. ROSKAM.
H.R. 3364: Mr. WELCH, Ms. LEE, Ms. SPEIER and Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 3366: Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. FUDGE, and Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 3381: Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. WALZ, Mr. COHEN, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. HONDA, Mr. TONKO, and Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 3384: Mr. MEEKS.
H.R. 3393: Mr. COFFMAN.
H.R. 3399: Mr. CONYERS, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. POCAN, Mr. POLIS, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. GIBSON, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. FUDGE, and Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
H.R. 3411: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. KEATING, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. RICHMOND.
H.R. 3445: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 3463: Mrs. COMSTOCK.
H.R. 3470: Mr. DOLD, Ms. NORTON, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 3471: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia, and Ms. SINEMA.
H.R. 3480: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Mr. TOM PRICE of Georgia.
H.R. 3488: Mr. HUELSKAMP, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, and Mr. WESTERMAN.
H.R. 3514: Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. KILMER, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 3516: Mr. WALDEN, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. NUNES.
H.R. 3518: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 3520: Ms. BROWN of Florida and Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 3522: Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 3526: Ms. SPEIER, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. POCAN, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. TSONGAS, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. HECK of Washington.
H.R. 3535: Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 3542: Ms. JUDY CHU of California and Ms. EDWARDS.
H.R. 3556: Ms. JACKSON LEE and Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 3568: Ms. DUCKWORTH.
H.R. 3573: Mr. JOYCE.
H.R. 3585: Mr. LIPINSKI.
H.R. 3589: Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 3591: Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. COOPER.
H.R. 3610: Mr. PIERLUISI.
H.R. 3618: Mr. NUNES.
H.R. 3621: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 3630: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.
H.R. 3632: Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 3636: Mr. SMITH of Texas.
H.R. 3640: Ms. WILSON of Florida and Ms. JUDY CHU of California.
H.R. 3651: Ms. GRANGER, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. JONES, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. BARR, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. WALZ, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mrs. BEATTY, and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 3652: Miss RICE of New York, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. MOORE, and Ms. JUDY CHU of California.
H.R. 3654: Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. DESANTIS, and Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 3664: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina and Mr. HASTINGS.
H.R. 3666: Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. HANNA, and Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 3668: Mr. VALADAO.
H.R. 3669: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, and Mr. SWALWELL of California.
H.R. 3687: Mr. CRAMER and Mr. EMMER of Minnesota.
H.R. 3691: Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 3696: Mr. BECERRA, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. COHEN, Mr. TAKAI, Mr. POCAN, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. GABBARD, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. FRANKEL of Florida.
H.R. 3699: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 3707: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 3711: Ms. JACKSON LEE and Mr. GUTIÉRREZ.
H.R. 3712: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 3720: Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. LEE, and Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 3733: Mr. GARAMENDI and Ms. JUDY CHU of California.
H.R. 3744: Mr. MURPHY of Florida.
H.R. 3756: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JONES, Mr. HARPER, and Ms. BROWN of Florida.
H.R. 3757: Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. COSTA, and Mr. ASHFORD.
H.J. Res. 30: Mr. POCAN.
H.J. Res. 59: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio and Mr. HECK of Nevada.
H. Con. Res. 86: Ms. FUDGE, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. LEE, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, and Mrs. LAWRENCE.
H. Res. 12: Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania.
H. Res. 28: Mr. HECK of Washington.
H. Res. 54: Mr. UPTON, Ms. WILSON of Florida and Mr. YOUNG of Iowa.
H. Res. 110: Mr. COURTNEY.
H. Res. 130: Ms. SPEIER.
H. Res. 214: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H. Res. 265: Mr. CICILLINE.
H. Res. 293: Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, and Ms. JENKINS of Kansas.
H. Res. 348: Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H. Res. 386: Mr. HASTINGS and Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H. Res. 428: Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
H. Res. 429: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. PETERS, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H. Res. 456: Mr. POLIS.
H. Res. 467: Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. RUSH, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. LEE, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SARBANES, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KEATING, and Mr. CONYERS.
H. Res. 472: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

The amendment to be offered by Representative CHAFFETZ, or a designee, to H.R. 10, the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Reauthorization Act, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

The amendment to be offered by Representative ALAN LOWENTHAL, or a designee, to H.R. 1937, the National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act of 2015, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

32. The SPEAKER presented a petition of St. Charles Parish Council, relative to Resolution No. 6182, declaring the St. Charles Parish Council's and Parish President's support of and solidarity with all law enforcement personnel across these great United States, and to recognize and honor all of the men and women who currently serve or who have served as law enforcement officers, and in particular those who serve or have served in St. Charles Parish and the State of Louisiana; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.