

up to 15 years to rebuild the United States' rare earth supply chain. Delaying the seed money to begin this process only prolongs our dependency on China.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan plan to promote U.S. global competitiveness and to ensure our national defense technology is made in America.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY).

Mr. BILBRAY. Madam Speaker, I appreciate this bill on two points. I appreciate the fact that the chairman of the Science and Technology Committee has been willing to bring forth this bill, which is very critical at a very critical time. I also want to thank the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Mrs. DAHLKEMPER) for raising this issue.

From the Science and Technology Committee's point of view, this is an appropriate action to take. Sadly, Madam Speaker, we should have sitting on the podium next to our chairman the chairman of the Natural Resources Committee, because I think all of us will agree that all of the funding and all of the studies do not accomplish anything if we do not have access to the material to make it reality. One of the critical things we need to do is to bridge the gap between what we know we need to do and what we allow to be done.

One of the sad things right now is the fact that we keep talking about great breakthroughs. We have got to recognize that all of us are so excited about high-tech electrification of transportation systems, about the efficiency and energy saved there and about the reduction in the carbon footprint. If we want to drive our Priuses, then we have to be brave enough not only to support this bill but to tell our colleagues that we have to open up the public lands to allow the mining to be done so that we will have access to create these miracles. Too often we are willing to talk about spending money to do the kinds of things that need to be done, but we are not willing to say we need to reform our Federal regulations and our processes to make those things possible.

One hears all the time that what America needs for energy independence is a new Manhattan Project. Well, ladies and gentlemen, as somebody who has worked on environmental issues for over 30 years, the Manhattan Project would be illegal to do today. Federal regulation would not allow a Manhattan Project. As the committee that works on science, we need to understand that we can only do so much. The jurisdiction of the Natural Resources Committee needs to be partners in this effort. We need to tear down the barriers of government regulation which do not allow access to those important

components that are public property and public resources. The American people own these resources, and they should be able to have access to them.

I am very sensitive to the environmental impact of exploiting resources in an inappropriate way. Yet, as a former member of the Air Resources Board, I am very, very aware of the great environmental threat if we do not utilize our own native resources to address these issues.

So I want to thank the chairman. This is probably one of his last bills to be before this committee. It is a great, great bill at a critical time. I hope the committees of jurisdiction, such as the Natural Resources Committee, will be as strong and as brave to bring these items forward so the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania's bill can not only see the light of day here in this body but actually can see the implementation of one of the most important things that is facing us as an economy and as a free people, which is just making sure that we have the access to those items that make these miracles possible.

Thank you very much for this bill, and I support it.

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

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GORDON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6160, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1700

WIPA AND PABSS EXTENSION ACT
OF 2010

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6200) to amend part A of title XI of the Social Security Act to provide for a 1-year extension of the authorizations for the Work Incentives Planning and Assistance program and the Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security program.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6200

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 "WIPA and PABSS Extension Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATIONS FOR THE WORK INCENTIVES PLANNING AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND THE PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY FOR BENEFICIARIES OF SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAM.

(a) WORK INCENTIVES PLANNING AND ASSISTANCE.—Section 1149(d) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b-20(d)) is amended by striking "2010" and inserting "2011".

(b) PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY FOR BENEFICIARIES OF SOCIAL SECURITY.—Section 1150(h) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b-21(h)) is amended by striking "2010" and inserting "2011".

SEC. 3. CONFORMING CHANGES TO THE WORK INCENTIVES PLANNING AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

(a) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Section 1149 of the Social Security Act (as amended by section 2(a)) is further amended by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively, and by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

"(c) ANNUAL REPORT.—Each entity awarded a grant, cooperative agreement, or contract under this section shall submit an annual report to the Commissioner on the benefits planning and assistance provided to individuals under such grant, agreement, or contract."

(b) ONE-YEAR CARRYOVER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1149(b)(4) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b-20(b)(4)) is amended—

(A) by striking "(4) ALLOCATION OF COSTS.—The costs" and inserting the following:

"(4) FUNDING.—

"(A) ALLOCATION OF COSTS.—The costs"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(B) CARRYOVER.—An amount not in excess of 10 percent of the total amount obligated through a grant, cooperative agreement, or contract awarded under this section for a fiscal year to a State or a private agency or organization shall remain available for obligation to such State or private agency or organization until the end of the succeeding fiscal year. Any such amount remaining available for obligation during such succeeding fiscal year shall be available for providing benefits planning and assistance only for individuals who are within the caseload of the recipient of the grant, agreement, or contract as of immediately before the beginning of such fiscal year."

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to amounts allotted under section 1149 of the Social Security Act for payment for a fiscal year after fiscal year 2010.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. TANNER) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SAM JOHNSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

This bill is an extension of two very important provisions of the Ticket to Work Act of 1999 which basically helps disabled Americans return to work when, and if, they can. This has been a bipartisan team effort I was pleased to work on with Mr. JOHNSON some time ago. The bill has no direct spending and complies with pay-as-you-go rules.

I am pleased to support this important extension of two programs from the bipartisan Ticket to Work Act of 1999, which was introduced by my colleagues EARL POMEROY, JIM McDERMOTT, and SAM JOHNSON.

This has been a bipartisan, collaborative effort to ensure that two important programs that help disabled Americans return to work continue for another year, and I thank my colleagues for their good work on this issue.

The Work Incentives Planning and Assistance program (WIPA) provides \$23 million for community-based organizations to provide personalized assistance to help Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (DI) recipients understand Social Security's complex work incentive policies and the effect that working will have on their benefits. In 2009, WIPA assisted over 37,000 SSI and DI beneficiaries who wanted to return to work.

The Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) program provides \$7 million in grants to designated Protection and Advocacy Systems to provide legal advocacy services that beneficiaries need to secure, maintain, or regain employment. In 2009, PABSS served nearly 9,000 beneficiaries.

If Congress does not extend these programs by the end of October, the Social Security Administration has told us there may be a lapse in service to beneficiaries, so it's important that we act now.

The bill also includes two commonsense, good-government changes to increase accountability and make the WIPA program more efficient.

First, we add a requirement that all WIPA grantees report data to the Social Security Administration about the beneficiaries they serve and the kinds of help they provided, the same requirement that current PABSS grantees have.

Good data is critical to our efforts to make sure that taxpayer funds to WIPAs are well-spent.

It also helps us learn more about what kind of help disabled beneficiaries may need if they are able to return to work, which will allow us to make other improvements in future legislation.

Second, this legislation would allow all WIPA grantees to carry over 10 percent of their funding into the next year, a change originally proposed by the Obama Administration. This change will allow for better and more consistent budgeting instead of encouraging end-of-year spending.

By extending WIPA and PABSS for a year, we reaffirm our commitment to these important work support programs, while also acknowledging the need to consider policy and funding changes in the near future.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan, commonsense legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of the passage of this legislation, and I think the Supplemental Security Income and Social Security disability benefit programs provide an essential income safety net for people with disabilities.

Yet these programs face a real fiscal challenge. Waste, fraud and abuse continues to threaten public confidence. Most importantly the disability program will not be able to pay full benefits beginning just eight years from now in 2018.

Those who depend on these critical benefits are counting on us to act. They want answers and we must turn to these issues without delay.

With respect to the legislation we are considering today, just over 10 years ago Congress passed The Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act to help those with disabilities get back to work.

The two grant programs we would reauthorize today were created as part of that landmark legislation.

One of the grant programs, The Work Incentives Planning Assistance Program funds community-based organizations to assist those receiving benefits to find work as well as understand Social Security's complex rules and the effect of working on their benefits, their health care and on other public benefits they may receive.

Today there are a total of 103 community-based cooperative agreements in all 50 States. Last year these programs served over 37,000 people.

One example is The Work Incentive Planning Assistance Program of Easter Seals North Texas which serves 19 counties in the north Texas area, including my district. Thanks to their hard work, so far this year over 20 percent of their caseload has jobs.

The other grant program, The Protection and Advocacy Program for Beneficiaries of Social Security Program funds 57 grant programs covering all 50 States. These programs served almost 9,000 people last year, helping those working or trying to work by assisting in the resolution of potential disputes, including those with their employer.

The authorized funding level included in the bill for these two programs is \$30 million. This funding level has remained constant since these programs were created.

While I support a one-year extension of these two important programs, I am disappointed that our Subcommittee has not continued the work it began in May of last year when we learned that Social Security's Ticket to Work Program wasn't working as we would like.

Despite some signs of improvement since new rules were issued, now more than ever, we need to look at how every taxpayer dollar is spent. No matter how well intended these programs are, at the end of the day taxpayers deserve to know if they are getting their money's worth. Programs that don't work must be changed or must end.

I urge all my colleagues to vote yes.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TANNER. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. TANNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6200.

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.

REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANY MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2010

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4337) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify certain rules applicable to regulated investment companies, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4337

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE, ETC.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Regulated Investment Company Modernization Act of 2010”.

(b) REFERENCE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(c) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title, etc.

TITLE I—CAPITAL LOSS CARRYOVERS OF REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANIES

Sec. 101. Capital loss carryovers of regulated investment companies.

TITLE II—MODIFICATION OF GROSS INCOME AND ASSET TESTS OF REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANIES

Sec. 201. Income from commodities counted toward gross income test of regulated investment companies.

Sec. 202. Savings provisions for failures of regulated investment companies to satisfy gross income and asset tests.

TITLE III—MODIFICATION OF RULES RELATED TO DIVIDENDS AND OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS

Sec. 301. Modification of dividend designation requirements and allocation rules for regulated investment companies.

Sec. 302. Earnings and profits of regulated investment companies.

Sec. 303. Pass-thru of exempt-interest dividends and foreign tax credits in fund of funds structure.

Sec. 304. Modification of rules for spillover dividends of regulated investment companies.

Sec. 305. Return of capital distributions of regulated investment companies.