

It calls for the establishment of a National Shellfish Initiative, in partnership with commercial and restoration aquaculture communities, which includes pilot projects to explore the ecosystem benefits of shellfish aquaculture while increasing shellfish production in U.S. waters. That's so important for our economy. In fact, all oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes are critical components of our Nation's economy. U.S. coastal communities are home to more than half of all Americans. They generate an estimated \$8 trillion a year and they support 69 million jobs.

Declining ocean health and a lack of effective coordination is putting this great economic engine at risk. Comprehensive planning will ensure the stability of the Nation's seaports as additional users of ocean space evolve, including the responsible development of offshore energy resources.

But we must make no mistake: This attempt to defund and delay the National Ocean Policy is a dangerous political move that puts the health of our oceans, coastal communities, jobs, and our fishing industry at risk. We need to protect, maintain, and to restore the health of our oceans and coasts. Continuing to develop the National Ocean Policy offers our Nation the best path forward.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this misguided amendment and to do something that is very much needed for our economy, for our oceans and particularly for our coastal communities. Let's do the right thing. Let's get all these users organized and working together in pursuit of a streamlined consistent constructive policy. It's the right thing to do. This amendment is not. Let's defeat this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Colorado is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POLIS. I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. FATTAH. Again, this is a little bit different than the optimism in Chicago at the Coastal Zone Conference where the Ocean Policy just had such an enthusiastic response from constituencies all around the country and in other parts of the world.

The development of this is bipartisan: the Pew Foundation, headquartered in my home city of Philadelphia; the Lenfest Foundation, led by Gerry Lenfest, and their investments in studying the oceans. We've seen the work that has been done that's led to this.

I would hope that we would oppose this amendment and we would work to build a further consensus and hopefully have legislation come out of the Natural Resources Committee.

I thank the gentleman for yielding to me, and I hope that we vote this amendment down.

Mr. POLIS. Reclaiming my time, I would like to yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR).

Mr. FARR. Thank you very much for yielding.

I think you can note the passion I've had on this issue because we worked at it a long time. And I want to assure you—I'm ranking member of the Ag Appropriations Committee. I probably represent more productive agriculture than anybody in Congress. I have just one county I represent that has 85 crops in it. We do about \$4.2 billion of agriculture out of that county.

I can assure you that coastal States' agriculture is very much concerned about all of these issues that are coming up and really supports the ideas that we can have a coordinated effort. This is a long effort. We had the military involved in this. We've got FEMA involved in this. We've got the Department of Agriculture involved in this. We've got every other agency. And it's how you resolve conflicts that are there.

Yes, we in Congress have enacted an awful lot of laws. And I want to say there isn't anything the President has done or any of these agencies are doing that isn't authorized in law. We gave them those authorities. We just never required them to all sit down and talk about those conflicts and how to resolve those conflicts.

We have a huge responsibility here. This is a long effort to create a National Ocean Policy. It's the smart thing to do. It's got all the Federal agencies at the table, finally, and it's got all the user groups, both private and public.

□ 1800

So I just think that this is kind of a meat-ax approach. If you do have concerns, let's do it in the regular legislative order, not just say that we're going to eliminate that whole ability for them to resolve conflicts. You're going to end up with more lawsuits and a lot of concerns by people who are going to wonder what the future holds without a good, comprehensive plan.

So I again compassionately ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to reject this amendment. It would be a very dangerous thing for this country to do, to adopt this amendment.

Mr. POLIS. I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania and the gentleman from California for their hard work on this issue, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FLORES).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas will be postponed.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington) having assumed the chair, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5326) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

REPORT ON H.R. 4966, SEQUESTER REPLACEMENT ACT OF 2012

Mr. CHAFFETZ, from the Committee on the Budget, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 112 469, Part 1) on the bill (H.R. 4966) to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to replace the sequester established by the Budget Control Act of 2011, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON H.R. 5652, SEQUESTER REPLACEMENT RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2012

Mr. CHAFFETZ, from the Committee on the Budget, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 112 470) on the bill (H.R. 5652) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2013, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 643 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 5326.

Will the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE) kindly resume the chair.

□ 1803

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5326) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes, with Mr. PRICE of Georgia (Acting Chair) in the chair. The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, a request for a recorded vote on an amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FLORES) had been postponed and the bill had been read through page 101, line 10.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will