

The Sergeant at Arms will ensure that the person or persons responsible are escorted from the gallery.

□ 1427

So the conference report was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING VETERANS IN STEM CAREERS ACT

The SPEAKER. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4323) to promote veteran involvement in STEM education, computer science, and scientific research, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DUNN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 420, nays 1, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 693]

YEAS—420

Abraham Cartwright Dingell
 Adams Castor (FL) Doggett
 Aderholt Castro (TX) Donovan
 Aguilar Chabot Doyle, Michael
 Allen Cheney F.
 Amodei Chu, Judy Duffy
 Babin Cicilline Duncan (SC)
 Bacon Clark (MA) Duncan (TN)
 Banks (IN) Clarke (NY) Dunn
 Barletta Clay Ellison
 Barr Cleaver Emmer
 Barragán Clyburn Engel
 Barton Coffman Eshoo
 Bass Cohen Espallat
 Beatty Cole Estes (KS)
 Bera Collins (GA) Esty (CT)
 Bergman Collins (NY) Evans
 Beyer Comer Farenthold
 Biggs Comstock Faso
 Billirakis Conaway Ferguson
 Bishop (GA) Connolly Fitzpatrick
 Bishop (UT) Cook Fleischmann
 Black Cooper Flores
 Blackburn Correa Fortenberry
 Blum Costa Foster
 Blumenauer Costello (PA) Foxx
 Blunt Rochester Courtney Frankel (FL)
 Bonamici Cramer Frelinghuysen
 Bost Crawford Fudge
 Boyle, Brendan Crist Gabbard
 F. Crowley Gallagher
 Brady (PA) Cuellar Gallego
 Brady (TX) Culberson Garamendi
 Brat Cummings Garrett
 Brooks (AL) Curbelo (FL) Gianforte
 Brooks (IN) Curtis Gibbs
 Brown (MD) Davidson Gohmert
 Brownley (CA) Davis (CA) Gomez
 Buchanan Davis, Danny Gonzalez (TX)
 Buck Davis, Rodney Goodlatte
 Bucshon DeFazio Gosar
 Budd DeGette Gottheimer
 Burgess Delaney Gowdy
 Bustos DeLauro Granger
 Butterfield DelBene Graves (GA)
 Byrne Demings Graves (LA)
 Calvert Denham Graves (MO)
 Capuano Dent Green, Al
 Carbajal DeSantis Green, Gene
 Cárdenas DeSaulnier Griffith
 Carson (IN) DesJarlais Grijalva
 Carter (GA) Deutch Grothman
 Carter (TX) Diaz-Balart Guthrie

Gutiérrez
 Hanabusa
 Handel
 Harper
 Harris
 Hartzler
 Hastings
 Heck
 Hensarling
 Herrera Beutler
 Hice, Jody B.
 Higgins (LA)
 Higgins (NY)
 Hill
 Himes
 Holding
 Hollingsworth
 Hoyer
 Hudson
 Huffman
 Huizenga
 Hultgren
 Hunter
 Hurd
 Issa
 Jackson Lee
 Jayapal
 Jeffries
 Jenkins (KS)
 Jenkins (WV)
 Johnson (GA)
 Johnson (LA)
 Johnson (OH)
 Johnson, E. B.
 Johnson, Sam
 Jones
 Jordan
 Joyce (OH)
 Kaptur
 Katko
 Kelly (IL)
 Kelly (MS)
 Kelly (PA)
 Khanna
 Kihuen
 Kildee
 Kilmer
 Kind
 King (IA)
 King (NY)
 Kinzinger
 Knight
 Krishnamoorthi
 Kuster (NH)
 Kustoff (TN)
 Labrador
 LaHood
 LaMalfa
 Lamborn
 Lance
 Langevin
 Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT)
 Latta
 Lawrence
 Lawson (FL)
 Lee
 Levin
 Lewis (MN)
 Lieu, Ted
 Lipinski
 Lobiundo
 Loeb sack
 Lofgren
 Long
 Love
 Lowenthal
 Lowey
 Lucas
 Luetkemeyer
 Lujan Grisham,
 M.
 Luján, Ben Ray
 Lynch
 MacArthur
 Maloney,
 Carolyn B.
 Maloney, Sean
 Marchant
 Marino

Marshall
 Massie
 Mast
 Matsui
 McCarthy
 McCaul
 McClintock
 McCollum
 McEachin
 McGovern
 McHenry
 McKinley
 McMorris
 Rodgers
 McNerney
 McSally
 Meadows
 Meehan
 Meeks
 Meng
 Messer
 Mitchell
 Moolenaar
 Mooney (WV)
 Moore
 Moulton
 Mullin
 Murphy (FL)
 Nadler
 Napolitano
 Neal
 Newhouse
 Noem
 Nolan
 Norcross
 Norman
 Nunes
 O'Halleran
 O'Rourke
 Olson
 Palazzo
 Pallone
 Palmer
 Panetta
 Pascrell
 Paulsen
 Payne
 Pearce
 Pelosi
 Perlmutter
 Perry
 Peters
 Peterson
 Pingree
 Pittenger
 Poe (TX)
 Poli quin
 Polis
 Posey
 Price (NC)
 Quigley
 Raskin
 Ratcliffe
 Reed
 Reichert
 Renacci
 Rice (NY)
 Rice (SC)
 Richmond
 Roby
 Roe (TN)
 Rogers (AL)
 Rogers (KY)
 Rohrabacher
 Rokita
 Rooney, Francis
 Rooney, Thomas
 J.
 Ros-Lehtinen
 Rosen
 Roskam
 Ross
 Rothfus
 Rouzer
 Roybal-Allard
 Royce (CA)
 Ruiz
 Ruppertsberger
 Rush
 Russell

Rutherford
 Ryan (OH)
 Sánchez
 Sanford
 Sarbanes
 Scalise
 Schakowsky
 Schiff
 Schneider
 Schrader
 Schweikert
 Scott (VA)
 Scott, Austin
 Scott, David
 Sensenbrenner
 Sessions
 Sewell (AL)
 Shea-Porter
 Sherman
 Shimkus
 Shuster
 Simpson
 Sinema
 Sires
 Slaughter
 Smith (MO)
 Smith (NE)
 Smith (NJ)
 Smith (TX)
 Smith (WA)
 Smucker
 Soto
 Speier
 Stefanik
 Stewart
 Stivers
 Suozzi
 Swalwell (CA)
 Takano
 Taylor
 Tenney
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Thompson (PA)
 Thornberry
 Tiberi
 Tipton
 Titus
 Tonko
 Torres
 Trott
 Tsongas
 Turner
 Upton
 Valadao
 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
 Williams
 Wilson (FL)
 Wilson (SC)
 Wittman
 Womack
 Woodall
 Yarmuth
 Yoder
 Yoho
 Young (AK)
 Young (IA)
 Zeldin

□ 1435

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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BYRNE). 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 votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 4 of rule XVI, I move that when the House adjourns this legislative day, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, December 20, 2017, for morning-hour debate and 10 a.m. for legislative business.

The motion was agreed to.

JOBS FOR OUR HEROES ACT

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1393) to streamline the process by which active duty military, reservists, and veterans receive commercial driver's licenses.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1393

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 "Jobs for Our Heroes Act".

SEC. 2. MEDICAL CERTIFICATE FOR VETERANS OPERATING COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES.

(a) QUALIFIED EXAMINERS.—Section 5403(d)(2) of the FAST Act (49 U.S.C. 31149 note; 129 Stat. 1548) is amended to read as follows:

"(2) QUALIFIED EXAMINER.—The term 'qualified examiner' means an individual who—

"(A) is employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs as an advanced practice nurse, doctor of chiropractic, doctor of medicine, doctor of osteopathy, physician assistant, or other medical professional;

"(B) is licensed, certified, or registered in a State to perform physical examinations;

"(C) is familiar with the standards for, and physical requirements of, an operator required to be medically certified under section 31149 of title 49, United States Code; and

"(D) has never, with respect to such section, been found to have acted fraudulently, including by fraudulently awarding a medical certificate."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 5403 of the FAST Act (49 U.S.C. 31149 note; 129 Stat. 1548) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking "physician-approved veteran operator, the qualified

NAYS—1

NOT VOTING—10

Amash
 Keating Pocan
 Kennedy Serrano
 Lewis (GA)
 Loudermilk

physician” and inserting “veteran operator approved by a qualified examiner, the qualified examiner”;

(2) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) by striking “the physician” and inserting “the examiner”; and

(B) by striking “qualified physician” and inserting “qualified examiner”;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking “qualified physicians” and inserting “qualified examiners”; and

(B) by striking “such physicians” and inserting “such examiners”; and

(4) in subsection (d)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) as paragraphs (3), (1), and (2), respectively, and by moving the text of paragraph (3), as redesignated, to appear after paragraph (2), as redesignated; and

(B) in paragraph (3), as redesignated—

(i) in the paragraph heading, by striking “PHYSICIAN-APPROVED VETERAN OPERATOR” and inserting “VETERAN OPERATOR APPROVED BY A QUALIFIED EXAMINER”; and

(ii) by striking “physician-approved veteran operator” and inserting “veteran operator approved by a qualified examiner”.

(c) RULEMAKING.—The amendments made by this section shall be incorporated into any rulemaking proceeding related to section 5403 of the FAST Act (49 U.S.C. 31149 note; 129 Stat. 1548) that is being conducted as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE STANDARDS FOR CURRENT AND FORMER MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

Section 31305(d) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking “VETERAN OPERATORS” and inserting “OPERATORS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES, RESERVISTS, OR VETERANS”;

(2) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking “subparagraph (A) during, at least,” and inserting “subparagraph (A)—

“(i) while serving in the armed forces or reserve components; and

“(ii) during”; and

(3) in paragraph (2)(B)—

(A) by inserting “current or” before “former” each place the term appears; and

(B) by inserting “one of” before “the reserve components”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 1393.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

S. 1393 would exempt current members of the armed services or reserve components from certain testing requirements for commercial driver's licenses if they had qualifying experience while serving in the armed services or reserve components.

This bill also expands the types of medical professionals at the Depart-

ment of Veterans Affairs who could certify that veterans meet the physical standards required to operate a commercial vehicle.

These commonsense changes will help remove barriers to employment for the men and women who have served our country in uniform.

This bill is a combination of H.R. 2547, the Veterans Expanded Trucking Opportunities Act of 2017, sponsored by Representative ROB WOODALL, and H.R. 2258, the ADVANCE Act, which is sponsored by Representative PETE AGUILAR. The House passed both bills under suspension on June 26, 2017. The bill we are considering today passed the Senate by unanimous consent on September 14, which means this will head to the President's desk once the House approves it.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend Mr. WOODALL and Mr. AGUILAR for their leadership on the House bills and Senator CORNYN for his work in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support S. 1393, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of S. 1393, the Jobs for Our Heroes Act.

This bill is a step in the right direction to help the Nation tackle the longstanding commercial driver's shortage—a shortage that I must say I have been working on ever since I have been on this committee and especially since becoming ranking member of the subcommittee—and, of course, at the same time, to support veterans in a successful transition from military to civilian life.

S. 1393 ensures that all qualified medical professionals employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs can perform commercial driver physical examinations for their veteran patients.

The medical professionals that this bill addresses are already eligible to become certified medical examiners. This bill simply allows these individuals to utilize an alternative certification process that is currently being finalized by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

The most recently available data shows that, of the 54,000 medical professionals listed in FMCSA's National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners, only 25 medical professionals are employed by the VA. The online training and testing system being developed by FMCSA and the VA should help remedy this situation. These two agencies have done a good job creating an alternative process that will eventually allow more VA doctors to become certified medical examiners, while maintaining the safety and integrity of the certification system.

Although the FAST Act provision authorizing this process referred to physicians, FMCSA should allow VA-employed nurse practitioners, chiropractors, physician assistants, and other

qualified medical professionals to participate. This bill ensures that these medical professionals are eligible to use this process.

The bill also ensures that current servicemembers who have military experience operating commercial motor vehicles will be able to more easily obtain a commercial driver's license. Congress included a provision in the FAST Act to allow States to waive the written CDL knowledge test for drivers with military commercial motor vehicle driving experience, but it restricts this waiver to “former members” of the military.

There are a significant number of current reservists and members of the National Guard with military commercial motor vehicle experience who could benefit from the waiver. These servicemen and -women receive what the FMCSA describes as “thorough and comprehensive training,” including many hours of behind-the-wheel training, something that I have long sought and advocated for as a requirement for civilian drivers. These military drivers already have it.

FMCSA has already taken action to make current servicemembers eligible for the knowledge test waiver on a temporary basis. Last year, FMCSA issued an exemption that allows States to waive the CDL knowledge test for trained military truck drivers, whether they are current members of the military or our veterans; however, FMCSA's temporary exemption expires October 2018.

□ 1445

This bill makes permanent the ability of current members of the military to utilize the FAST Act waiver. S. 1393 is nearly identical to two bills the House previously passed earlier this year, H.R. 2547 and H.R. 2258, both of which passed by votes of 409–0, or unanimously.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WOODALL).

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my chairman for yielding me the time. I want to thank him for his leadership. The ranking member, I appreciate her leadership as well.

She was exactly right. These are two House bills that the Senate combined that we passed unanimously here. This veterans trucking language was language that the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BROWNLEY) and I introduced together upon learning that of the more than 54,000 medical professionals that are allowed to certify folks for Federal trucking licenses, only 25 of those worked in the VA system. Of 54,000, only 25 were available to our veterans.

We said that is not right, so this House came together. We expanded. All the physicians of the VA became available to serve our veterans through

these trucking certifications. The bill went to the President's desk, and he signed it.

Then we had folks come back. We had advanced practice nurses, we had physicians' assistants, we had folks working throughout the VA healthcare system who said: You know what, we, too, are licensed to provide these physicals; and if you change the language, we, too, will be your partner in serving veterans.

Again, JULIA BROWNLEY on the Democrat side; I on this side; my ranking member; Ms. NORTON; my chairman here, Mr. GRAVES; we came together and now we have a further improvement to language that the rules are still being crafted for down at DOT.

Mr. Speaker, folks don't think there is cooperation in this Chamber. Folks don't think that we are able to work together in this Chamber. This is an example of what goes on every single day. Constituents raise problems. Republicans and Democrats get together to solve those problems.

I am so grateful to my friends on the committee for their leadership to get this done. To Ranking Member DEFazio and Chairman SHUSTER, I thank them as well for their leadership.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. AGUILAR).

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, far too often our brave servicemembers return to civilian life only to find that the skills they have gained in military service do not easily transfer to the job market. These brave men and women who have worked tirelessly to keep their country safe deserve to know that they can thrive here after their service is complete.

For that reason, Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Jobs for Our Heroes Act. Among other critical initiatives to help our servicemembers find civilian employment, this legislation contains my bill, the ADVANCE Act.

The ADVANCE Act will allow Active-Duty servicemembers, reservists, and National Guardsmen to access the same unique testing standards for commercial driver's licenses granted to veterans by the latest surface transportation bill.

This commonsense legislation will allow those serving our country to begin the process of finding civilian employment before they finish their term of service, allowing them to hit the ground running upon reentering civilian life. Our Nation's heroes deserve to know that the process of transitioning out of the military will be seamless, and this bipartisan legislation will help ensure that is the case.

I want to thank the ranking member, the chairman for their leadership. I also want to thank Senators WARREN, CORNYN, and TILLIS for guiding this bill through the Senate. I urge my colleagues here in the House to vote in favor of this today.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill marries two priorities: jobs for our veterans. So many come back, and they have had training, yet we are finding that we can't always find jobs for them. Here are jobs where there is a chronic problem, tough jobs, jobs which require people to be away from home, often for long hours, jobs that do not pay as well as some other jobs. So there has been a chronic shortage.

This bill serves both purposes, and it serves our Nation very well.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

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 Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1393.

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. GRAVES of Missouri. 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.

NO HUMAN TRAFFICKING ON OUR ROADS ACT

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1532) to disqualify from operating a commercial motor vehicle for life an individual who uses a commercial motor vehicle in committing a felony involving human trafficking.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1532

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 "No Human Trafficking on Our Roads Act".

SEC. 2. LIFETIME DISQUALIFICATION WITHOUT REINSTATEMENT.

Section 31310(d) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking "CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE VIOLATIONS" and inserting "LIFETIME DISQUALIFICATION WITHOUT REINSTATEMENT";

(2) by striking "The Secretary" and inserting "(1) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE VIOLATIONS.—The Secretary"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) HUMAN TRAFFICKING VIOLATIONS.—The Secretary shall disqualify from operating a commercial motor vehicle for life an individual who uses a commercial motor vehicle in committing a felony involving an act or

practice described in paragraph (9) of section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(9))."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on S. 1532.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, human trafficking is a terrible crime with an estimated 20 million victims worldwide. It is incumbent upon Congress to take the steps necessary to combat this crime whenever possible.

Just this past summer there was a case in San Antonio in which 10 people died while being illegally trafficked in a commercial motor vehicle. Drivers have been the first line of defense in helping identify and report these sorts of activities within the trucking community. We need these drivers to stay vigilant and we need to weed out the bad actors.

In addition to the criminal penalties, drivers who knowingly take part in human trafficking should never again be able to drive commercially. Current law prohibits an individual from operating a commercial motor vehicle if they are convicted of one of nine different crimes, including alcohol abuse, negligent manslaughter, and drug trafficking.

S. 1532 disqualifies individuals from operating a commercial vehicle for their lifetime if they ever use that commercial vehicle to commit a felony involving human trafficking.

This bipartisan bill passed the Senate with unanimous consent, and I would like to commend Mr. KATKO for his leadership on the House version of this bill, and I would urge my colleagues to support S. 1532.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of S. 1532. This legislation institutes a lifetime ban from operating a commercial motor vehicle for any individual who has used such a vehicle to commit human trafficking.

In the summer of 2017, 10 people died in San Antonio, Texas, in the process of being illegally trafficked in a truck at Walmart. That horrendous incident served as a stark reminder that the transportation sector can be exploited for heinous acts.