

SMALL BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION EXTENSION

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 3614) to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:
Strike sections 2 and 3.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

The legislation before us will ensure that a number of Small Business Administration programs can continue operating through the end of October. The House and the Senate have been working diligently on a comprehensive reauthorization of the SBA's programs. However, as we approach the deadline for when these programs will otherwise expire, this bill is necessary to keep the agency's programs running.

Some minor changes to the programs, which were contained in the extension that the House passed last week, are not in this measure. Although the Senate chose not to address these matters at this time, there is widespread support for these measures. I am hopeful that we can revisit those changes soon in future legislation.

In coming weeks the Small Business Committee will continue working with our Senate counterparts to modernize the SBA's programs, some of which have not been updated in 10 years. While we continue our work, this bill will allow the SBA's programs to continue operating and serving entrepreneurs.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes."

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

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

I rise today in support of the chairwoman's request to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3614, as amended. The bill extends until October 31, 2009, the authorization of all programs authorized by the Small Business Act, the Small Business Investment Act, and

any program operated by the Small Business Administration for which Congress has already appropriated funds.

While the goal is to pass comprehensive legislation reauthorizing the SBA for a longer period, this short-term extension ensures that these programs will remain available to small businesses across the country.

Without enactment of this extension, a number of essential programs that the SBA operates would cease to function. Given the importance that small businesses play and will continue to play in the revitalization of the American economy, we cannot allow the SBA authorizations to run out.

Enactment of this legislation will enable the House and Senate to continue to work in a diligent manner to address necessary changes to SBA programs.

I urge all of my colleagues to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3614.

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

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WU).

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3614 and specifically those provisions which extend the SBIR and STTR programs.

Small businesses grow our economy and they innovate. The SBIR and STTR programs help small companies develop cutting-edge technologies for the marketplace.

However, these programs will expire at the end of this month, and H.R. 3614 temporarily extends the authorization of these programs while we work to finalize reauthorization efforts.

Both the House and the Senate passed legislation earlier this year to reauthorize SBIR and STTR. We have been working to find those areas of common ground on areas where we disagree, and while we have yet to reach a final agreement, we all have the same goal: to reauthorize important programs which drive our economy and drive job creation.

SBIR is a program for small business, and it is also an innovation program. It can and should serve both policy purposes. It should not be a stalking horse for Big Business nor should it become the preserve of only some small businesses while shutting out other small businesses who are frequently very good innovators in and of themselves.

We need to find the common ground that serves these policy objectives and serve them well for the good of our Nation, our economy, and job creation.

With that, I want to recognize the very good work of Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ in this arena.

Mr. TURNER. Again, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 3614.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 3614.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 56 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1802

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BLUMENAUER) at 6 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES
ON H.R. 2997, AGRICULTURE,
RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD
AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPRO-
PRIATIONS ACT, 2010

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1 of rule XXII and by direction of the Committee on Appropriations, I move to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2997) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to instruct conferees.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Kingston moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 2997 be instructed to not record their approval of the final conference agreement (within the meaning of clause 12(a)(4) of House rule XXII) unless the text of such agreement has been available to the managers in an electronic, searchable, and downloadable form for at least 72 hours prior to the time described in such clause.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XXII, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON) and the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

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