

TITLE XII—EMERGENCY MEDICAL
SERVICE PROVIDERS PROTECTION ACT
DALE LONG EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
PROVIDERS PROTECTION ACT

H—/S1201,1211,1212,1213

House bill

No similar provision.

Senate bill

Section 1201 provides liability protection for volunteer pilots that fly for public benefit, including transportation at no cost to financially needy medical patients for medical treatment, evaluation and diagnosis; flights for humanitarian and charitable purposes; and other flights of compassion.

Section 1211 provides a title for the subtitle, the “Volunteer Pilot Protection Act of 2011.”

Section 1212 states findings of Congress on the necessity of protections for pilots who volunteer their services.

Section 1213 allows pilots who operate volunteer flights for most charitable institutions to receive reimbursement form those institutions for some operations costs including fuel.

Conference Substitute

No provision.

Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, no provision in this conference report or joint explanatory statement includes a congressional earmark, limited tax benefit, or limited tariff benefit.

From the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

JOHN L. MICA,
THOMAS E. PETRI,
JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.,
SAM GRAVES,
BILL SHUSTER,
JEAN SCHMIDT,
CHIP CRAVAACK,
NICK J. RAHALL II,
PETER A. DEFazio,
JERRY F. COSTELLO,
LEONARD L. BOSWELL,
RUSS CARNAHAN,

From the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for consideration of sections 102, 105, 201, 202, 204, 208, 209, 212, 220, 321, 324, 326, 812, title X, and title XIII of the House bill and sections 102, 103, 106, 216, 301, 302, 309, 320, 327, title VI, and section 732 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

RALPH M. HALL,
STEVEN M. PALAZZO,
EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON,

From the Committee on Ways and Means, for consideration of title XI of the House bill and titles VIII and XI of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

DAVE CAMP,
PATRICK J. TIBERI,
SANDER M. LEVIN,
Managers on the Part of the House.

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IV,
BARBARA BOXER,
BILL NELSON,
MARIA CANTWELL,
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON,
JOHNNY ISAKSON,

From the Committee on Finance:

MAX BAUCUS.

Managers on the Part of the Senate.

□ 1230

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan). 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 today.

TO EXTEND THE PAY LIMITATION
FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
AND FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Mr. ROSS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3835) to extend the pay limitation for Members of Congress and Federal employees.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3835

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF PAY LIMITATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 147 of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011 (Public Law 111-242; 5 U.S.C. 5303 note), as added by section 1(a) of the Continuing Appropriations and Surface Transportation Extensions Act, 2011 (Public Law 111-322; 124 Stat. 3518), is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “December 31, 2012” and inserting “December 31, 2013”; and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking “December 31, 2012” and inserting “December 31, 2013”.

(b) APPLICATION TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH.—

(1) MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—The extension of the pay limit for Federal employees through December 31, 2013, as established pursuant to the amendments made by subsection (a), shall apply to Members of Congress in accordance with section 601(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 31).

(2) OTHER LEGISLATIVE BRANCH EMPLOYEES.—

(A) LIMIT IN PAY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no cost of living adjustment required by statute with respect to a legislative branch employee which (but for this subparagraph) would otherwise take effect during the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and ending on December 31, 2013, shall be made.

(B) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the term “legislative branch employee” means—

(i) an employee of the Federal Government whose pay is disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate or the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives; and

(ii) an employee of any office of the legislative branch who is not described in clause (i).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. ROSS) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROSS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I ask unanimous consent that the Members may have 5 legislative days within which 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 gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. ROSS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3835, to extend the pay limitation for Members of Congress and Federal employees. Our Federal employees provide an essential work function for the Federal Government. They're good people. They do good work. And they do good work so long as it's essential government functions. We appreciate their service, and believe Federal employees should be compensated fairly.

Yet, current Federal salaries and benefits are not in line with the marketplace when compared to the private workforce. Federal civilian workers receive generous benefits, pay, and job security. In fact, there is a four times greater chance of losing your job in the private sector than there is with the Federal workforce.

Our Federal workforce performs essential functions. We appreciate their service, and believe Federal employees should be compensated fully.

On Monday, the Congressional Budget Office released a study which found that total compensation for Federal employees was 16 percent greater than for private sector workers. When they looked at the benefits of hardworking taxpayers, they take home 72 percent less in benefits than their government counterparts.

To top it off, these hardworking private sector taxpayers, with a high school diploma or some college, make 32 to 36 percent less than Federal employees with the same education level. Those who work the hardest to pay taxes are the ones bearing the burden of a bloated Federal government.

The contrast between the Federal Government and private sector is troubling. With 13 million Americans unemployed, why would we allow automatic raises to occur for a group of workers whose average compensation exceeds \$100,000, and for the Members of Congress, whose compensation is \$174,000?

The reality is that the Federal Government has no incentive or no obligation to reduce salaries in order to be competitive to stay in business. We simply raise taxes, or we go into more debt. And our government continues to borrow. Just yesterday, for example, the CBO released a report that our Federal budget deficit will top another \$1 trillion for a fourth straight year in a row. This is unprecedented. It is unsustainable.

The President's fiscal commission, a bipartisan commission, the Simpson-Bowles Commission, a commission which not only the President but this Congress should consider, has recommended a 3-year freeze on civilian payroll and Member pay. In its report, the Commissioners reminded us that “in time of budget shortfalls, all levels of government must trim back.” Following this advice, the President, to