

today, H.R. 24, the Federal Reserve Transparency Act.

As the creator of U.S. monetary policy, the Federal Reserve is one of the most influential institutions in our government. Unfortunately, it is also mentioned as one of the most secretive institutions of government. This act would require the Federal Reserve System to submit itself to a full, fair, and open audit process.

President Harry Truman, from the great Show-Me State, once said that "secrecy and a free democratic government don't mix." In all of government, including the Federal Reserve, openness, transparency, and accountability are absolutely required. Hundreds of my fellow Missourians have contacted me asking to fully audit the Federal Reserve in just the first 15 months that I have been in office.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to audit the Fed.

ISIS

(Mr. MORAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, we are about to begin a very important and difficult debate. Both sides have strong, credible arguments. But I would urge those who are opposed to what the President has suggested to offer their own alternative. Because it does seem as though, while the President has chosen a bad option, it is the best of all the alternatives, and that is the difficulty.

ISIS is expanding exponentially in terms of the size of its force, its financial and military wherewithal. If ISIS was, for example, to be able to lay siege to Baghdad, where we have a substantial presence of American personnel, what do we do then? Clearly we would have to be militarily engaged.

This is a difficult debate, but I would urge those who chose any of the credible reasons for voting against it to tell us what they would do instead.

PAUL AND MARGARET McNAMARA

(Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Paul and Margaret McNamara of Champaign, Illinois, for recently being recognized as Angels in Adoption by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institution.

Dr. McNamara and Margaret are parents of six children, four of whom they have adopted. They made the decision to adopt because they understood that countless children across the globe are without a permanent family. After the births of their first two children, Daniel and Annie, they began looking into adopting children with special needs.

They adopted their son, Joseph, from South Korea, and then Jonathan from

India. When they learned that Joseph's sibling, David, was in foster care in South Korea, they adopted him as well.

The McNamaras have been extremely active in their community, as well as their church, in providing information and support to families considering adoption.

Adoption is a selfless act of kindness, and it is truly an honor to have the McNamaras in my district. Their dedication and continued community support are unprecedented, and we should take a moment to appreciate those who adopt both at home and abroad.

PANCREATIC CANCER

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of pancreatic cancer awareness. There are no early detection methods for pancreatic cancer, and treatment options are limited.

Over 130 million Americans suffer from a chronic condition or rare disease. Like pancreatic cancer, many have no cures and limited treatment options.

The 21st Century Cures initiative is a bipartisan effort to get cures and treatments to patients more quickly. Millions of Americans who suffer from cancer, including the nearly 50,000 with pancreatic cancer, will benefit from this initiative.

I held two 21st Century Cures roundtables in my district in August to hear from patients, patient advocates, researchers, clinicians, and representatives from medical device companies. Pancreatic cancer advocates participated as well.

Together, we can raise awareness and find cures and treatments for chronic and deadly diseases like pancreatic cancer.

RECOGNIZING CORNERSTONE'S SUSAN NEIS

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate and recognize Susan Neis and the 29 years of service to our community she has provided as executive director for Cornerstone Advocacy Service.

Susan's hard work began in 1985, when Cornerstone was just a few staff members and volunteers working together in one room out of a church in Bloomington. Under her leadership and her vision for preventing domestic abuse, Cornerstone has now grown to 80 employees who provide around-the-clock crisis counseling, emergency shelter services, and transitional housing to ten cities across Hennepin County.

I have spent time at Cornerstone myself, and I have seen firsthand the serv-

ices they provide in our community for adults and children who have been traumatized by domestic violence, by sexual violence, and human trafficking.

Mr. Speaker, the impact of Cornerstone's success is a reflection of Susan's hard work, her dedication, and her passion.

I would like to thank Susan for helping save lives, for serving our community, and I congratulate her on her successful tenure at Cornerstone, and I wish her the best in her retirement.

EXPANDING EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM

(Mr. MESSER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I have a radical idea: let's let parents choose where to send their kids to school, let's make it easier for them to save for their children's education, let's give every kid in America access to a great school. Our current education system works for many, but it is failing too many others.

Today, I introduced a bill to change that. My bill, H.R. 5477, lets Federal education dollars follow students. It lets parents use 529 education savings accounts on pre-K to 12 education expenses. It eliminates the cap on contributions to Coverdell education savings accounts and allows those funds to be used for home schooling.

Some may say our current system is the best we can do. But deep down we all know we must do better.

Let's give all students a chance no matter where they live. Let's pass the Enhancing Educational Opportunities for All Students Act and make that dream a reality for every child.

RECOGNIZING CASE MANAGEMENT

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize our Nation's case managers and the role that case management plays in our health care and our social services sectors.

October 12-18 marks National Case Management Week. During this time, we recognize the contributions case managers make each and every day and the role that they play in educating individuals about their health care options across the continuum of care.

While all too often overlooked, case managers are critical in improving health care outcomes for individuals across the country, promoting quality health care for patients.

As we continue to look at ways to improve health care delivery in America, let us not forget the role case managers play in cost-effective outcomes for patients.

Today, I offer my thanks and praise for our Nation's case managers. During

this upcoming National Case Management Week, let us all recognize the value that case management brings to the health care arena.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 16, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, U.S. Capitol,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on September 16, 2014 at 11:09 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5134.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

□ 1230

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.J. RES. 124, CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION,
2015

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 722 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 722

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 124) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the joint resolution are waived. The amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution shall be considered as adopted. The joint resolution, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the joint resolution, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; (2) the further amendment printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules, if offered by Representative McKeon of California or his designee, which shall be in order without intervention of any point of order, shall be considered as read, shall be separately debatable for six hours equally divided and controlled by Representative McKeon of California and Representative Smith of Washington or their respective designees, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question; and (3) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. Section 4(c) of House Resolution 567 is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

“(7) The provisions of paragraphs (f)(1) through (f)(12) of clause 4 of rule XI shall be

considered to be written rules adopted by the Select Committee as though pursuant to such clause.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Oklahoma is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), my good friend, pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Rules Committee met and reported a rule for consideration of H.J. Res. 124, the Continuing Appropriations Resolution for fiscal year 2015. The rule is a structured rule which provides for the consideration of a short-term continuing resolution keeping the government funded until December 11, 2014.

The rule provides for 1 hour of debate equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, this rule provides for the adoption of a technical amendment by Chairman ROGERS and makes in order an amendment by Chairman MCKEON. That amendment provides the authority for the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, to train and equip appropriately vetted elements of the Syrian opposition and other appropriately vetted Syrian groups or individuals.

For this amendment, the rule provides 6 hours of debate equally divided between Chairman MCKEON and Ranking Member SMITH. The rule also provides for one motion to recommit.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the rule corrects a technical error and puts in place the base rules of the House regarding media access to the hearings and meetings of the Benghazi Select Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend my friend Chairman ROGERS for bringing a bill to avoid a government shutdown to the House. As a member of the Appropriations Committee, it is frustrating that we are forced into acting on a short-term continuing resolution when we spent much of this year, both in committee and on the floor, updating congressional funding priorities for fiscal year 2015.

This House has done its work. I wish I could say the same for the other body. While the Senate has chosen not to pass even one appropriations bill on the floor, this House has passed seven.

While the Senate Appropriations Committee has passed eight of the 12

appropriations bills out of committee, the House Appropriations Committee has approved all but one. If the Senate would work with us, I believe we could pass all of our bills on time.

The CR we are considering today is a clean bill continuing the funding of government operations at last year's levels. It includes only 36 so-called anomalies all within the total level of funding.

These changes are necessary to address current immediate needs like addressing the Ebola crisis, funding programs to counter regional aggression toward Ukraine and other former Soviet Union countries, and funding to ensure appropriate treatment of veterans and continued oversight of the VA.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, this bill extends the Export-Import Bank through June 30, 2015. I know some of my friends will disagree with me; however, I believe the Export-Import Bank provides a vital service. In an era when foreign governments are directly subsidizing industries, our companies are in need of a level playing field. I believe the Export-Import Bank does that.

In my home State of Oklahoma, since 2007, financing provided by the Export-Import Bank has supported over \$1.1 billion in sales by U.S. companies that would not have existed otherwise; in addition, the Export-Import Bank has returned over \$2.6 billion to the United States Treasury since 2008.

Finally, and most significantly, the McKeon amendment would provide the President with the authority he has requested to train and equip appropriately vetted elements of the Syrian opposition. The amendment ensures congressional oversight by requiring detailed progress reports on a plan, a vetting process, and procedures for monitoring unauthorized end use of provided training and equipment. It would also require the President to report on how this authority fits within a larger regional strategy.

Mr. Speaker, when we look back on what brought us to this point, there are at least three significant failures that we can point to: first, former Iraqi Prime Minister al-Maliki was given the opportunity to create a multiethnic, multisectarian, inclusive State of Iraq, but, instead, he squandered it; secondly, President Obama didn't insist forcefully enough to keep a residual American presence in Iraq; and, third, Mr. Speaker, when ISIL expanded out of Syria and into Iraq, both Prime Minister al-Maliki and President Obama were slow to respond.

When Ramadi and Fallujah fell to ISIL, their indecisive leadership allowed and encouraged this terrorist organization to assert itself in the Middle East. Mr. Speaker, the salient discussion is not about the past and how we got here but about the future and what we must do now.

I agree with the President that ISIL represents a clear and present danger