

I also acknowledge Andrew Herscovitz—the USAID Power Africa’s coordinator—and his team, who are watching this debate right now in the gallery.

I think, as we look at the range of enthusiasm for this legislation, at the last count I took, we had letters of support from 35 African ambassadors, from the Chamber of Commerce, from the Corporate Council on Africa, from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, from the American Academy of Pediatrics, and, of course, from the ONE Campaign.

The United States has economic and national security interests in the continued development of the African continent. This bill sets out a comprehensive, sustainable, and market-based plan to bring 600 million Africans out of the dark and into the global economy, benefiting American businesses and workers at the same time and, frankly, saving lives at the same time.

So I urge all Members to support the Electrify Africa Act.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I stand in strong support of S. 2152 an important legislation.

I support S. 2152 because it seeks to establish a comprehensive United States policy that encourages the efforts of countries in Africa to develop an appropriate mix of electricity solutions, including renewable energy, for more broadly distributed electricity access in order to support poverty reduction, promote development outcomes, and drive economic growth, and for other purposes.

According to the World Bank, those living on \$1.25 day in Africa accounted for 48.5% of the population in that region in 2010.

Moreover, the U.S. Energy Information Administration statistics state that in 2011 the whole of Africa possessed only 78 gigawatts of installed generation capacity, of which South Africa accounted for 44 gigawatts.

By comparison, installed capacity in the United States alone was 1,053 gigawatts.

In other words, all of Africa has only 7% of the electric capacity of the United States.

This is why S. 2152 is important, as it can be instrumental in helping to facilitate higher energy capacities in Africa.

Furthermore, actual production capacity for Africa is likely to be substantially lower than the theoretical quantity because of inadequate maintenance, outmoded equipment and fuel shortages.

Using per-capita data, a US citizen on average uses 12,461 kilowatt hours of electricity per annum; a citizen of Ethiopia uses 52.

On average, only 30% of Africa’s citizens have any access to electric electricity, and even where electricity is available, provision can be sporadic, with frequent electricity cuts and “brown-outs.”

For now, the continent remains largely dependent on hydroelectricity with 13 countries utilizing hydroelectricity for 60% or more of their energy.

But, hydroelectricity relies on rain and Africa’s rain fall is sporadic at best.

The reliance on sporadic rainfall adversely impacts the effectiveness and accessibility to hydroelectricity sources.

Energy is a key life blood of every economy and community.

In addition to electricity in homes, the energy sector has been instrumental in creating millions of jobs, providing lighting to communities and healthcare centers, fueling our vehicles, increasing literacy and life expectancy.

As an advocate for energy empowerment in Africa, I have championed energy brain trusts that are convened to serve as a platform for all relevant stakeholders from the energy sectors including coal, electric, natural gas, nuclear, oil and emerging energy sources such as wind, solar, hydroelectricity and turbine energy.

I support the Electrify Africa Act as it will address the energy issues of the day.

As you all may know, with enthusiasm, optimism and a collaborative spirit I partnered with my colleagues here in Congress and experts in other U.S. agencies such as USAID, which has been spearheading innovative energy initiatives through its inter-agency efforts.

This legislation is important because it will increase the number of people with new access to electricity and electricity services.

This legislation will improve and expand the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity.

I support this legislation because it provides reliable electricity to people and businesses in urban and rural communities.

It will address the energy needs of citizens living in areas where there is little or no access to electricity grids.

It is also important because it will help develop plans to systemically increase coverage in rural areas.

It will facilitate the reduction in transmission and distribution losses and improve end-use efficiency and demand-side management as well as end energy-related impediments to business productivity and investment.

Additionally, this legislation will facilitate the capacity of countries in Africa to monitor appropriately and transparently the regulation of the power sector.

It will also serve as an economic stimulator because it will encourage private investment in energy production and distribution.

Overall, this legislation is important because it makes accessible a human necessity: electricity, which will dramatically improve the quality of life of children, women and men.

Access to electricity will aid the mid-wife in successfully delivering a healthy child, while insuring the mother’s successful recovery.

Access to electricity, taken for granted in some parts of the world is critical in Africa because it will provide the light for a child to do his or her homework.

Electricity gives Africa’s future innovator, politician and teacher access to the internet: opening countless doors.

I support this legislation because it will promote first-time access to electricity and electricity services for at least 50,000,000 people in Africa.

This legislation will facilitate the installation of at least 20,000 additional megawatts of electricity in Africa by 2020 in both urban and rural areas.

When Africa succeeds the world succeeds and this is why I support this legislation and I thank my colleagues for their bipartisan support across both chambers of the House.

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

the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2152.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AGREEMENT ON SOCIAL SECURITY BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF HUNGARY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 114-95)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Pursuant to section 233(e)(1) of the Social Security Act, as amended by the Social Security Amendments of 1977 (Public Law 95-216, 42 U.S.C. 433(e)(1)), I transmit herewith a social security totalization agreement with Hungary, titled, “Agreement on Social Security between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Hungary,” and a related agreement titled, “Administrative Arrangement for the Implementation of the Agreement on Social Security between the United States of America and the Government of Hungary” (collectively the “Agreements”). The Agreements were signed in Budapest, Hungary, on February 3, 2015.

The Agreements are similar in objective to the social security agreements already in force with most European Union countries, Australia, Canada, Chile, Japan, Norway, the Republic of Korea, and Switzerland. Such bilateral agreements provide for limited coordination between the United States and foreign social security systems to eliminate dual social security coverage and taxation, and to help prevent the lost benefit protection that can occur when workers divide their careers between two countries.

The Agreements contain all provisions mandated by section 233 of the Social Security Act and the provisions that I deem appropriate to carry out the purposes of section 233, pursuant to section 233(c)(4) of the Social Security Act.

I also transmit for the information of the Congress a report required by section 233(e)(1) of the Social Security Act on the estimated number of individuals who will be affected by the Agreements and the estimated cost effect. The Department of State and the Social Security Administration have recommended the Agreements to me.

I commend the Agreements and related documents.

BARACK OBAMA.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, February 1, 2016.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 24 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1829

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of New York) at 6 o'clock and 29 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3700, HOUSING OPPORTUNITY THROUGH MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2015

Mr. STIVERS from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114-411) on the resolution (H. Res. 594) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3700) to provide housing opportunities in the United States through modernization of various housing programs, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 2187, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 4168, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The second electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

FAIR INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROFESSIONAL EXPERTS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2187) to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to revise its regulations regarding the qualifications of natural persons as accredited investors, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 347, nays 8, not voting 78, as follows:

[Roll No. 46]

YEAS—347

Abraham  
Adams  
Aguilar  
Amash  
Ashford  
Babin  
Barletta  
Barr  
Barton  
Bass  
Beatty  
Becerra  
Benishok  
Bera  
Beyer  
Bishop (MI)  
Blackburn  
Blum  
Blumenauer  
Bonamici  
Bost  
Boustany  
Boyle, Brendan F.  
Brady (PA)  
Brady (TX)  
Brat  
Bridenstine  
Brownley (CA)  
Buchanan  
Buck  
Bucshon  
Burgess  
Bustos  
Byrne  
Calvert  
Capps  
Cárdenas  
Carney  
Carson (IN)  
Carter (TX)  
Cartwright  
Castor (FL)  
Chabot  
Chaffetz  
Chu, Judy  
Cicilline  
Clawson (FL)  
Cleaver  
Clyburn  
Coffman  
Cohen  
Cole  
Collins (GA)  
Collins (NY)  
Comstock  
Conaway  
Connolly  
Cook  
Cooper  
Costa  
Costello (PA)  
Courtney  
Cramer  
Crawford  
Crenshaw  
Cuellar  
Culberson  
Curbelo (FL)  
Davis (CA)  
Davis, Danny  
DeFazio  
DeGette  
Delaney  
DeLauro  
DelBene  
Denham  
Dent  
DeSantis  
DeSaulnier  
DesJarlais  
Deutch  
Diaz-Balart  
Dingell  
Dold  
Donovan  
Doyle, Michael F.  
Duckworth  
Duffy  
Duncan (SC)  
Duncan (TN)  
Ellison  
Ellmers (NC)  
Emmer (MN)  
Eshoo

Esty  
Farenthold  
Farr  
Fincher  
Fitzpatrick  
Fleischmann  
Fleming  
Forbes  
Fortenberry  
Foster  
Fox  
Frankel (FL)  
Frelinghuysen  
Fudge  
Gabbard  
Gallego  
Garamendi  
Garrett  
Gibbs  
Gibson  
Gohmert  
Goodlatte  
Gosar  
Gowdy  
Graham  
Granger  
Graves (GA)  
Graves (LA)  
Graves (MO)  
Green, Al  
Green, Gene  
Griffith  
Grothman  
Guinta  
Guthrie  
Hahn  
Hanna  
Hardy  
Harper  
Harris  
Hartzler  
Hastings  
Heck (NV)  
Heck (WA)  
Hensarling  
Higgins  
Hill  
Himes  
Hinojosa  
Holding  
Honda  
Hoyer  
Hudson  
Huelskamp  
Huffman  
Hultgren  
Hunter  
Hurd (TX)  
Hurt (VA)  
Israel  
Jeffries  
Jenkins (KS)  
Jenkins (WV)  
Johnson (OH)  
Johnson, E. B.  
Johnson, Sam  
Jolly  
Jones  
Jordan  
Keating  
Kelly (IL)  
Kelly (MS)  
Kelly (PA)  
Kilmer  
Kind  
King (NY)  
Kinzinger (IL)  
Kline  
Knight  
Kuster  
Labrador  
LaHood  
Lamborn  
Lance  
Langevin  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Latta  
Lawrence  
Lee  
Levin  
Lieu, Ted  
LoBiondo  
Loftgren  
Long  
Loudermilk

Schakowsky  
Schrader  
Schweikert  
Scott (VA)  
Scott, David  
Sessions  
Sewell (AL)  
Sherman  
Shimkus  
Shuster  
Simpson  
Sinema  
Slaughter  
Smith (NE)  
Smith (TX)  
Stewart  
Stivers  
Stutzman  
Swalwell (CA)  
Takai  
Takano  
Thompson (CA)  
Thompson (MS)

Thompson (PA)  
Thornberry  
Titus  
Tonko  
Torres  
Trott  
Turner  
Upton  
Van Hollen  
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  
Whitfield  
Williams  
Wilson (SC)  
Wittman  
Womack  
Woodall  
Yarmuth  
Yoder  
Yoho  
Young (AK)  
Young (IA)  
Young (IN)  
Zeldin  
Zinke

NAYS—8

Capuano  
Clark (MA)  
Lynch

McGovern  
Ryan (OH)  
Sarbanes

Sensenbrenner  
Tsongas

NOT VOTING—78

Aderholt  
Allen  
Amodei  
Bilirakis  
Bishop (GA)  
Bishop (UT)  
Black  
Brooks (AL)  
Brooks (IN)  
Brown (FL)  
Butterfield  
Carter (GA)  
Castro (TX)  
Clarke (NY)  
Clay  
Conyers  
Crowley  
Cummings  
Davis, Rodney  
Doggett  
Edwards  
Engel  
Fattah  
Flores  
Franks (AZ)  
Grayson

Grijalva  
Gutiérrez  
Herrera Beutler  
Hice, Jody B.  
Huizenga (MI)  
Issa  
Jackson Lee  
Johnson (GA)  
Joyce  
Kaptur  
Katko  
Kennedy  
Kildee  
King (IA)  
Kirkpatrick  
LaMalfa  
Lewis  
Lipinski  
Loeb sack  
Maloney, Sean  
Massie  
Messer  
Moonenar  
Mooney (WV)  
Mullin  
Nadler

Noem  
Nunes  
Palazzo  
Peterson  
Pompeo  
Ribble  
Richmond  
Rohrabacher  
Rokita  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Rush  
Sanchez, Loretta  
Schiff  
Scott, Austin  
Serrano  
Sires  
Smith (MO)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (WA)  
Speier  
Stefanik  
Tiberi  
Valadao  
Westerman  
Westmoreland  
Wilson (FL)

□ 1847

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.

Stated for:

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 46, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 46, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 46, I was meeting with constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. JOYCE. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 46, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall no. 46, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 46, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."