Abraham

Tsongas

agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

Eshoo

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 252, noes 145, answered "present" 2, not voting 32, as follows:

[Roll No. 507] AYES-252

McClintock

Aderholt Esty McCollum McHenry McMorris Allen Farenthold Babin Farr Fleischmann Rodgers Forbes Fortenberry Barton McNerney McSally Beatty Becerra Foster Meadows Bera. Frankel (FL) Meehan Bilirakis Franks (AZ) Meeks Bishop (MI) Frelinghuysen Meng Bishop (UT) Garamendi Messer Garrett Black Mica Miller (FL) Blackburn Gibbs Blum Goodlatte Miller (MI) Blumenauer Gosar Moolenaar Mooney (WV) Bonamici Gowdy Boustany Graham Moore Moulton Brady (TX) Grayson Brat Griffith Mullin Bridenstine Murphy (PA) Guthrie Brooks (AL) Hahn Napolitano Brooks (IN) Hardy Neugebauer Brown (FL) Harper Newhouse Buchanan Harris Noem Bustos Hastings Nugent Butterfield Heck (WA) Nunes Hensarling O'Rourke Byrne Calvert Higgins Olson Capps Himes Palmer Carney Hinojosa Pascrell Carter (TX) Honda. Perlmutter Castro (TX) Huffman Pingree Huizenga (MI) Chabot Chu Judy Hultgren Polis Cicilline Hunter Pompeo Clark (MA) Posey Price (NC) Clawson (FL) Johnson (GA) Clay Jolly Quigley Kaptur Cole Rangel Collins (NY) Katko Reichert Comstock Keating Ribble Conaway Kelly (MS) Rigell Kelly (PA) Convers Robv Cook Kennedy Rogers (AL) Cooper Kildee Rogers (KY) King (IA) Rohrabacher Courtney Cramer King (NY) Rokita Rooney (FL) Crawford Kline Crenshaw Kuster Roskam Crowley Labrador RossCuellar LaMalfa. Rothfus Lamborn Culberson Rovce Davidson Langevin Ruppersberger Davis (CA) Larsen (WA) Davis, Danny Latta Russell Lipinski DeGette Salmon DeLauro Long Sanford Loudermilk DelBene Scalise Schiff Denham Love Schweikert Dent Lowey Diaz-Balart Lucas Scott (VA) Dingell Luetkemeyer Scott, Austin Luian Grisham Doggett Scott, David Donovan (NM) Sensenbrenner Duckworth Luján, Ben Ray Serrano Duffy (NM) Sessions Duncan (SC) Lummis Sherman Duncan (TN) Maloney, Shimkus Edwards Carolyn Shuster Ellmers (NC) Massie Simpson Emmer (MN) McCarthy Sinema McCaul Slaughter Engel

Smith (NE) Smith (NJ) Smith (TX) Smith (WA) Speier Stefanik Stewart Stivers Stutzman Takano Thornberry Tiberi Trott

Upton Van Hollen Wagner Walker Walorski Walters, Mimi Walz Wasserman Schultz Waters, Maxine Webster (FL) Wenstrup

Westerman Westmoreland Williams Wilson (SC) Wittman Womack Yarmuth Yoho Young (IA) Young (IN) Zeldin Zinke

Nolan

NOES-145

Green, Gene

Adams Grothman Aguilar Pallone Guinta Amash Paulsen Ashford Gutiérrez Pearce Bass Hanna Perry Hartzler Benishek Peters Bishop (GA) Heck (NV) Peterson Bost Herrera Beutler Pittenger Boyle, Brendan Hice, Jody B. Poe (TX) F. Hill Poliquin Brady (PA) Holding Price, Tom Brownley (CA) Hoyer Ratcliffe Buck Hudson Reed Bucshon Huelskamp Renacci Burgess Hurd (TX) Rice (NY) Capuano Israel Richmond Carson (IN) Jackson Lee Roe (TN) Carter (GA) Jenkins (KS) Ros-Lehtinen Cartwright Jenkins (WV) Rouzer Castor (FL) Johnson (OH) Roybal-Allard Chaffetz Johnson, E. B. Clarke (NY) Ryan (OH) Jones Clyburn Jordan Sánchez, Linda Т. Coffman Jovce Sanchez, Loretta Cohen Kilmer Collins (GA) Sarbanes Kind Kinzinger (II.) Connolly Schrader Costa Kirkpatrick Sewell (AL) Costello (PA) Knight Sires Cummings LaHood Smith (MO) Curbelo (FL) Lance Swalwell (CA) Davis, Rodney Larson (CT) Thompson (MS) DeFazio Lawrence Thompson (PA) Delaney Lee Tipton DeSantis Lewis Torres Lieu, Ted DeSaulnier Turner LoBiondo Dold Valadao Doyle, Michael Loebsack Vargas F. Lofgren Veasey Ellison Lowenthal Vela. Fitzpatrick Lvnch MacArthur Velázquez Fleming Walberg Flores Maloney, Sean Walden Foxx Marchant Watson Coleman Fudge Marino McGovern Weber (TX) Gibson Wilson (FL) Graves (GA) McKinley Graves (LA) Mulvaney Woodall Graves (MO) Murphy (FL) Yoder

ANSWERED "PRESENT"-2

Young (AK)

Rice (SC) Tonko

Neal

NOT VOTING-32

Amodei Granger Palazzo Barletta Grijalva Payne Hurt (VA) Beyer Pelosi Cárdenas Jeffries Pitts Cleaver Johnson, Sam Rush DesJarlais Kelly (IL) Schakowsky Deutch Levin Thompson (CA) Fincher Matsui Titus McDermott Gabbard Visclosky Gallego Nadler Welch Gohmert Norcross

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remain-

ing.

Green, Al

□ 1416

So the Journal was approved. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on rollcall 505, 506, and 507. I would have voted "no" on rollcall 505 and 506, and "aye" on rollcall 507 had I been there.

TERMINATION of**EMERGENCY** WITH RESPECT TO THE SITUA-TION IN OR IN RELATION TO CÔTE D'IVOIRE—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 114-163)

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 Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with subsection 204(b) of International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(b), I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order that terminates the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13396 of February 7, 2006, and revokes that Executive Order.

The President issued Executive Order 13396 to deal with the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States constituted by the situation in or in relation to Côte d'Ivoire, which had resulted in the massacre of large numbers of civilians, widespread human rights abuses, significant political violence and unrest, and attacks against international peacekeeping forces leading to fatalities. In Executive Order 13396, the President addressed that threat by blocking the property and interests in property of, among others, persons determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, after consultation with the Secretary of State, to constitute a threat to the peace and national reconciliation process in Côte d'Ivoire, to be responsible for serious violations of international law in Côte d'Ivoire, or to have supplied arms to Côte d'Ivoire. Executive Order 13396 also implemented United sanctions obligations States under United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1572 and subsequent resolutions.

I have determined that the situation in or in relation to Côte d'Ivoire that gave rise to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13396 has improved significantly as a result of the progress achieved in the stabilization of Côte d'Ivoire, including the successful conduct of the October 2015 presidential election, progress on the management of arms and related materiel, and the combating of illicit trafficking of natural resources. With these advancements, and with the United Nations Security Council's termination of sanctions obligations on April 28, 2016, in UNSCR 2283, there is no further need for the blocking of assets and other sanctions measures imposed by Executive Order 13396. For these reasons I have determined that it is necessary to terminate the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13396 and revoke that order.

I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued.

BARACK OBAMA THE WHITE HOUSE, September 14, 2016. ENDING THE SUSPENSION OF PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT FOR BURMA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 114–164)

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:

I am writing to inform you of my intent to end the suspension of preferential treatment for Burma as a beneficiary developing country under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program, and to designate Burma as a least-developed beneficiary developing country for purposes of the GSP program. I have carefully considered the criteria set forth in sections 501 and 502(c) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2461, 2462(c)). After considering the criteria set forth in section 502(c), I have determined that it is appropriate to add Burma to the list of GSP beneficiary developing countries in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) of the United States. After considering the criteria set forth in sections 501 and 502(c), I have determined that it is appropriate to add Burma to the list of GSP least-developed beneficiary developing countries in the HTS.

I submit this notice in accordance with section 502(f)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2462(f)(1)).

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 2 o'clock and 21 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

\Box 1500

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker protempore (Mr. HOLDING) at 3 p.m.

VA ACCOUNTABILITY FIRST AND APPEALS MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2016

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 859 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 5620.

Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ROTHFUS) kindly take the chair.

□ 1501

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole

House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5620) to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the removal or demotion of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs based on performance or misconduct, and for other purposes, with Mr. ROTHFUS (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Tuesday, September 13, 2016, amendment No. 13 printed in House Report 114–742 offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. LOWENTHAL) had been disposed of.

AMENDMENT NO. 14 OFFERED BY MR. BEN RAY LUJÁN OF NEW MEXICO

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 14 printed in House Report 114–742.

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 54, after line 2, insert the following:
SEC. 11. IDENTIFICATION OF MATTERS RELATING

TO PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES WHO ARE PHYSICIANS.

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall identify—

- (1) the number of members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty who are physicians employed at a Department of Veterans Affairs medical facility on a part-time basis;
- (2) the process by which the Department hires such physicians on a part-time basis; and
- (3) the process by which the Department hires civilian physicians on a part-time basis; and
- (4) the steps the Department is taking to recruit members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty who are physicians for employment at Department medical facilities on a part-time basis.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 859, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. Ben Ray Luján) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Chairman, my amendment directs the VA to produce a report related to the part-time employment of Active Duty military positions at VA health facilities.

In 2014, Congress passed the Veterans Choice Act to help address the access to care crisis facing our Nation's veterans. As part of those reforms, the legislation called for a Commission on Care to examine how best to strategically organize the Veterans Health Administration, locate healthcare resources, and deliver health care to veterans over the next 20 years. The report was released on July 15 of this year.

The report's very first recommendation highlights VHA's provider shortages and suggests the VHA should expand their provider networks. They specify: "These providers must be fully

credentialed with appropriate education, training, and experience, provide veterans access that meets VHA standards, demonstrate high-quality clinical and utilization outcomes, and demonstrate military cultural competency."

Recently, it came to my attention that Active Duty military physicians are confronting a number of hurdles when seeking part-time positions at our VA facilities and that these hurdles are preventing an entire group of physicians who exceed these standards from caring for our veterans.

The Department of Defense employs over 11,000 Active Duty military physicians. For many reasons, a number of these physicians choose to seek parttime employment in civilian hospitals. In fact, physician moonlighting is encouraged by the Department of Defense

Yet, despite these military doctors exceeding all of the VA's employment standards, longstanding red tape seems to be preventing the VA from hiring them. At a time when VA facilities across the country are struggling to hire enough physicians, we cannot afford to turn away qualified doctors.

Recently, my office raised this issue with the Veterans Health Administration, and I appreciate the VHA's willingness to work with me on this issue. However, we need to get these facts on the record in order to continue the conversation and address this issue.

I would also like to thank Chairman MILLER for giving me the opportunity to raise this issue, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to do what we can to help soldiers treat our vets.

While I greatly appreciate all physicians who choose to use their training, skills, and time to serve our Nation's veterans, there is no one more naturally equipped to care for our vets than our military physicians.

Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the chairman and the committee staff on both sides of the aisle for their work here.

At this time, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO).

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Chair, I thank my colleague, Representative BEN RAY LUJÁN from New Mexico, for yielding.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to ensure our veterans are fully taken care of.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time in opposition, even though I am not opposed.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I do support this amendment. It does require a report on DOD physicians who are part-time VA employees, and