

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, personal circumstances kept me from voting on the following votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 592—21st Century Cures. "Yea" on rollcall No. 593—Intel Reauthorization.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY COMMITTEE ON RULES REGARDING AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR H.R. 5143, TRANSPARENT INSURANCE STANDARDS ACT OF 2016

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, this morning, the Rules Committee issued an announcement outlining the amendment process for H.R. 5143, the Transparent Insurance Standards Act of 2016.

The amendment deadline is set for Monday, December 5, at 10 a.m. Amendments should be drafted to the text of the Rules Committee Print 114-68, which contains the text of the bill, as reported by the Committee on Financial Services, with a modification, and can be found on the Rules Committee Web site.

Feel free to contact me or the staff if you have any questions.

ADOLFO "HARPO" CELAYA POST OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 6304) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 501 North Main Street in Florence, Arizona, as the "Adolfo 'Harpo' Celaya Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

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.

DIRECTING THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO MAKE A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 34

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a concurrent resolution and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 174

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That in the enrollment of

the bill (H.R. 34) to authorize and strengthen the tsunami detection, forecast, warning, research, and mitigation program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following correction: Amend the long title so as to read: "An Act to accelerate the discovery, development, and delivery of 21st century cures, and for other purposes."

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

END OF CUBA'S BRUTAL REGIME OF REPRESSION

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, Fidel Castro led a brutal regime of oppression that imprisoned an island nation. While he and his family live like kings, the people of Cuba are repressed, starved, and forbidden any outside information.

According to credible sources and The Wall Street Journal, his regime may have killed up to 100,000 people. Thousands of political prisoners and human rights activists were brutally tortured and killed over the years.

Castro was eager to see the Soviet Union and the United States engage in a nuclear war, and even Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev had to remind Castro that the point of putting the missiles in Cuba was to further Communist interests, not start Armageddon. "This is insane," Khrushchev said. "Fidel wants to drag us into the grave with him."

Under Castro, the Cuban Government refused to recognize the legitimacy of Cuban human rights organizations, alternative political parties, independent labor unions, or even a free press. He also denied international monitors, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross, to access the island to investigate human rights conditions.

With this vicious dictator finally dead, perhaps our close neighbor can finally be free. The people of Cuba can choose for themselves what they would like for their lives, rather than death squads and secret police imposing the will of a madman. I hope we can be supportive of a free Cuba and not further a bad regime.

PRESIDENT-ELECT TRUMP'S TREASURY NOMINATION

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight in alarm over the stacking of Wall Street insiders in top positions for the incoming administration.

During his campaign, President-elect Donald Trump said the system is rigged. He said hedge fund managers are "getting away with murder" and that he would "tax Wall Street" and

called Washington, D.C., corrupt and promised to "drain the swamp." President-elect Trump even closed his campaign with a political ad bashing Goldman Sachs.

Yet now, according to media reports, he has chosen a second-generation Goldman Sachs partner, Steven Mnuchin, to serve as Treasury Secretary. He will take the post most responsible for watching and regulating the dangerous, high-risk, high-stakes gambling behavior of Wall Street, which he has himself engaged in for decades. He worked at Goldman Sachs for 17 years. His father worked there. His brother still works there, and he frequently returns for alumni and social gatherings. He was named the "Foreclosure King" after buying up the remains of IndyMac, a California-based mortgage lender, and evicted approximately 36,000 people who could not keep up their mortgage payments.

The last three administrations have had Goldman executives at the helm inside the White House and Treasury. While President-elect Trump promises to drain the swamp, he is not doing it. He is enlarging it.

GUARDING AGAINST FOREIGN INTERFERENCE IN FUTURE ELECTIONS

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

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, on October 7, 2016, the Department of Homeland Security and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence on Election Security released a joint statement saying: "The U.S. Intelligence Community is confident that the Russian Government directed the recent compromises of emails from U.S. persons and institutions, including from U.S. political organizations."

The U.S. Intelligence Community went on to explicitly state that "these thefts and disclosures are intended to interfere with the U.S. election process . . . only Russia's senior-most officials could have authorized these activities."

Despite this certification, the majority in this body has demonstrated zero interest in examining the unprecedented attack on one of our most cherished institutions, democratic free elections.

I am here today to plead with the majority to take an interest, not because I seek to undermine the results of the recent Presidential election. That is not my intention. Rather, it is my sincere hope that we understand the nature of the foreign interference and how to guard against it in all future elections.

PRECISION MEDICINE INITIATIVE

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in celebratory support of H.R. 34, the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the 21st Century Cures Act. As a breast cancer survivor, I am celebrating. As a Representative from the City of Houston, I am celebrating.

Because of the Texas Medical Center, this plan will provide an ambitious action that called for \$6.3 billion in mandatory funding to be delivered over the next 10 years to the National Institutes of Health. It also provides and estimated that every \$1 of NIH funding generates about \$2.21 in local economic growth and 402,000 jobs. But most of all, it will deal with the curing of diseases and developing research that will help save lives.

In furtherance of this initiative, this legislation before us allows for the creation of an innovation fund through the National Institutes of Health so that we can design the most innovative ways of curing disease, of helping children, of helping seniors, of helping people who are dealing with incurable disease.

The Cures Act is an act of the 21st century. It moves forward on the President's Precision Medicine Initiative.

I thank Mr. UPTON, Ms. DEGETTE, and all the Members. I serve as an original cosponsor. I am excited about the legislation, for it will save lives.

□ 1900

COMMEMORATING AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MS. JACQUELINE ELLIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CARTER of Georgia). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before the House tonight to commemorate and celebrate the life of my former Chief of Staff, Ms. Jacqueline Ellis.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Ellis served well. In the sense of many, she was the 436th Member of Congress. She helped to educate not only new persons who were here in administrative capacities, but also Congresspersons. She helped us to understand what Congress was all about.

I am honored tonight to say some kind words about her and to acknowledge a colleague who is here and will be saying a word as well.

To my right is a photograph of my very dear friend and former coworker, Jacqueline Ellis. She was born in Mobile, Alabama. She was born at a time when persons of African ancestry could buy a hat, but they couldn't try it on; at a time when persons of African ancestry would have to step aside so that others could step forward; and at a time when persons of African ancestry were relegated to certain places in life, certain schools, and certain places of business. They had to go to the back

door for their food. They would drink from colored water fountains. She was born at a time when this country did not respect all of her rights.

Who could have known that when she was born in Mobile, Alabama, that she would make her way from Mobile to Capitol Hill?

There was no way to predict at the time of her birth that she would come to this Nation's Capitol and that she would serve three Members of Congress—one United States Senator and two U.S. Representatives: the Honorable Major Owens from New York's 11th Congressional District, the Honorable Senator Heflin. And, of course, she served in my office. No one could have known.

I think, quite frankly, that this speaks to the greatness of the country, that we have moved light years away from some of the circumstances that we had to endure earlier in the history of this country.

Notwithstanding all that has been done, there is still great work to be done. Tonight I want to say to you that this person born in Mobile during very difficult times has received an indication from the President of the United States of America that he was saddened to learn of her demise. I include in the RECORD a letter from the President.

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, September 28, 2016.

Mr. CHRIS ELLIS,
Bowie, Maryland.

DEAR CHRIS: I was deeply saddened to learn of the loss of your sister, Jacqueline. My heartfelt condolences are with you as you reflect upon her life.

May cherished memories help temper your grief, and may you find comfort in the support of loved ones. Please know you will remain in my thoughts.

Sincerely,

BARACK OBAMA.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. She has also been honored by a good many of my colleagues here on the Hill, including the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, who sent a letter to my office and expressed verbally her condolences and her sympathies. She has also been honored by the Honorable STENY HOYER, by the Honorable JIM CLYBURN, and by the Honorable XAVIER BECERRA. She has been honored by Members of Congress in many capacities. We have a resolution that has been filed. This resolution is one that pays tribute to her. It has been signed on to by a good many Members of Congress as well.

So tonight I am pleased to say that Jacqueline Ellis, born in Mobile, Alabama, and matriculated her way to and through the Halls of Congress is now resting in peace.

She was a person that lived every day of her life in the sense that she was busy doing something for someone every day of her adult life. She worked up until the moment she was hospitalized. Literally, I was the last person to speak to her. She and I were going to an event, the ALC dinner, the Congressional Black Caucus dinner as it is

called, and she was there to pick me up and take me to the dinner. She called me and said to me: I will be waiting for you. I am downstairs.

I said that I will be down in about 10 minutes.

Within that period of time, she called me back and informed me that she needed to go to the hospital. I rushed down to her, and when I got there, the emergency assistance was already there. She called them prior to calling me apparently. I immediately assisted them, and we went to the hospital together. She stayed in the hospital for some days and made her transition.

The important point to make is that she was working. Her work was her life. She lived to perform her duties. She was on her job in the sense that she was assisting that evening, and she was there all day long. She was ill, but she would not stop working. There were times when we would ask that she take some time off, but she always wanted to come to work.

Her work was her inspiration in a sense. Her work was the thing that gave her a reason to continue to go on, and she never, ever complained. There is a song that speaks to the kind of person that she was because there are many of us right here in Congress who can relate to this. When you see the great eagle flying, you assume that it is the wings. But there is a song that addresses how it is that the eagle can soar to these high heights. That song says that it is not the wings, but rather it is the wind beneath the wings. She was the wind beneath the wings of a lot of people who were able to soar to high heights, a lot of people who did not understand all of what was before them when they accepted the responsibility to become a part of a congressional staff or a Member of Congress. She became the wind beneath their wings and helped to guide them through Congress.

I am pleased to tell you that we have had several celebrations of her life. We had one in this area immediately after her untimely demise—untimely to me because I had hoped that she would be with us a lot longer than she was. We also had a celebration of her life in her hometown of Mobile, Alabama, attended by a good many dignitaries and staffers from the Hill; a celebration of her life in Houston, Texas, similarly attended. She has been recognized and honored by people that she came in contact with.

She made a difference. I will relate one brief vignette before I ask my colleague to come to the podium. When I was looking for my first chief of staff—and she was my first and only chief of staff, I might add. When I was looking for my chief of staff, I was a neophyte in Congress, and I brought her on board. You are always unsure about a new hire, especially a person who is going to be key to the office, a person that everything sort of evolves around. So I was unsure as to whether or not I had made the right decision.