

dates on which the settlement agreements were agreed to.

The information about the settlement agreements would remain public until 5 years after the termination of the agreements. The information in the agreements would remain subject to the Freedom of Information Act; but if the head of the agency decided to keep an entire agreement confidential, he or she would be required to provide an explanation of that action.

This bill would improve the transparency surrounding settlement agreements, which in the past have been difficult for the public to access.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 27, the Settlement Agreement Information Database Act. Transparency and public participation are vital to ensure the public's continued trust in our government. Increasingly, Federal agencies are using legally binding settlement agreements to resolve litigation without going through lengthy public trials.

However, it is impossible for Congress and the public to determine the comprehensive impact of these settlement agreements on the State and local governments and private sector entities, which must continue to follow the mandated requirements. Such secret negotiations and agreements essentially prevent the public from participating in important policy decisions.

The burden of Federal settlement agreements can be difficult to see and understand, but State and local governments, industry stakeholders, and taxpayers can be directly affected by the settlements for years, and yet they are unable to provide input. This legislation seeks to correct that problem.

The Settlement Agreement Information Database Act, or SAID Act, requires Federal agencies to submit information regarding consent decrees and settlement agreements to a public electronic database. This public resource, to be overseen by the Office of Management and Budget, would include dates, payments, attorney fees awards, and a list of State and local governments and entities impacted by the settlement.

Currently, agencies release information about settlements at their discretion and will only publicize the facts that reflect favorably upon the agency. Furthermore, the terms of settlement agreements are often deemed confidential.

Under the requirements of the SAID Act, if the agency believes that the information regarding an agreement should remain confidential, the agency head must publish an explanation of why it is confidential. This will increase the transparency of the Federal Government and shine a much-needed light on settlement agreements.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Representatives JIM COOPER, GERRY

CONNOLLY, and VAN TAYLOR, for supporting this important legislation. I am happy we could expedite its consideration again in the House after passing this bill unanimously in the 116th Congress. I thank the chairman for bringing this bill and making it part of this first legislative day package.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this commonsense legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman has no further speakers, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALMER. Mr. Speaker, I hope we can continue to find bipartisan ways to increase transparency of the Federal Government. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 27. I am strongly in support of this bipartisan legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 27.

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.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATION TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 22) to amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, to require the budget justifications and appropriation requests of agencies be made publicly available, 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 gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 412, nays 2, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 9]

YEAS—412

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin

Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer

Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux

Bowman
Boyle, Brendan
F.
Brooks
Brown
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael
F.
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Fortenberry
Foster
Fox
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C.
Scott
Fudge
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi

Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez
Vicente
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Haaland
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahale
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko

Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney
Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCauley
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascarell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rice (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roy
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford

Ryan	Stauber	Veasey
Sánchez	Steel	Vela
Sarbanes	Stefanik	Velázquez
Scalise	Steil	Wagner
Scanlon	Steube	Walberg
Schakowsky	Stevens	Walorski
Schiff	Stewart	Waltz
Schneider	Stivers	Wasserman
Schrader	Strickland	Schultz
Schrier	Suozzi	Waters
Schweikert	Swalwell	Watson Coleman
Scott (VA)	Takano	Weber (TX)
Scott, Austin	Taylor	Webster (FL)
Scott, David	Thompson (CA)	Welch
Sessions	Thompson (MS)	Wenstrup
Sewell	Thompson (PA)	Westerman
Sherman	Tiffany	Wexton
Sherrill	Timmons	Wild
Sires	Titus	Williams (GA)
Slotkin	Tlaib	Williams (TX)
Smith (MO)	Tonko	Wilson (FL)
Smith (NE)	Torres (CA)	Wilson (SC)
Smith (NJ)	Torres (NY)	Wittman
Smith (WA)	Trahan	Womack
Smucker	Turner	Wright
Soto	Underwood	Yarmuth
Spanberger	Upton	Young
Spartz	Van Drew	Zeldin
Speier	Van Duyne	
Stanton	Vargas	

NAYS—2

Davidson

Posey

NOT VOTING—16

Beatty	Hastings	Raskin
Brady	Larson (CT)	Richmond
Brownley	Lowenthal	Simpson
Clark (MA)	McEachin	Trone
DeSaulnier	Nadler	
Granger	Napolitano	

□ 1343

Messrs. RESCHENTHALER, BABIN, and TAYLOR changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes due to circumstances beyond my control. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 9.

Mr. BRADY. Mr. Speaker, I was unexpectedly withheld. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 9, H.R. 22.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(B) of House Resolution 8, the House stands adjourned until noon tomorrow.

Thereupon (at 1 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, January 6, 2021, at noon.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 22, the Congressional Budget Justification Transparency Act of 2021, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YAR-

MUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 26, the Construction Consensus Procurement Improvement Act of 2021, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 27, the Settlement Agreement Information Database Act of 2021, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. CLOUD (for himself, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. BANKS, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. BUDD, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. LATTA, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mrs. HINSON, and Mr. WRIGHT):

H.R. 188. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow for greater State flexibility with respect to excluding providers who are involved in abortions; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. BARRAGAN (for herself, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, and Mr. TAYLOR):

H.R. 189. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide that the authority of the Director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities to make certain research endowments applies with respect to both current and former centers of excellence, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 190. A bill to repeal certain amendments to the Clean Air Act relating to the expansion of the renewable fuel program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 191. A bill to repeal Federal energy conservation standards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 192. A bill to provide that certain bad faith communications in connection with the assertion of a United States patent are unfair or deceptive acts or practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 193. A bill to reduce the amount of foreign assistance to El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras based on the number of unaccompanied alien children who are nationals or citizens of such countries and who in the preceding fiscal year are placed in Federal custody by reason of their immigration status; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 194. A bill to require the Inspector General, Department of Justice, to submit a report to the Congress on the number of firearm transaction denials issued by the National Instant Criminal Background Check System that are referred to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives for investigation, the number of prosecutions resulting from such investigations, and the number of firearms recovered by the Bureau in cases in which such a denial was issued after the firearm was transferred; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 195. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the dollar limitation on employer-provided group term life insurance that can be excluded from the gross income of the employee; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 196. A bill to prohibit the Central Intelligence Agency from using an unmanned aerial vehicle to carry out a weapons strike or other deliberately lethal action and to transfer the authority to conduct such strikes or lethal action to the Department of Defense; to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CALVERT (for himself, Mr. MAST, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. BUCHANAN, Ms. BROWNLEY, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 197. A bill to amend the ICCVAM Authorization Act of 2000 to improve reporting about animal testing and alternative test method use by Federal agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 198. A bill to waive certain prohibitions with respect to nationals of Cuba coming to the United States to play organized professional baseball; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DELGADO (for himself, Mr. ZELDIN, and Mr. KATKO):

H.R. 199. A bill to provide funding for cities, counties, and other units of general local government to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. EMMER:

H.R. 200. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a national intersection and interchange safety construction program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. EMMER:

H.R. 201. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a national bridge replacement and improvement program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GARCIA of California:

H.R. 202. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the limitation on deduction for State and local taxes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.