

The committee has already voted to approve \$60 million for National Archives in an amendment offered by Representative KELLER to another bill.

Congress must take action to help our veterans, many of whom put their lives on hold waiting for records from the NPRC. I urge my colleagues to support the veterans by supporting this important legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, over 2 years ago, committee Republicans opened an investigation into the veterans' records requests backlog at the National Personnel Records Center.

Pennsylvania veterans and their families were frustrated and concerned with the lengthy delays they were experiencing as they tried to access their own documents outlining military service.

American veterans and families rely on these records to prove eligibility for medical care and the benefits they are entitled to.

What we found was deeply disturbing. The records at the NPRC are on paper. They cannot be accessed remotely.

When the NPRC shut down in-person operations and told its workforce to go home, the backlog piled up to more than 500,000 military service records requests.

Veterans put their lives on the line for our country. The least we can do for them is to ensure they have access to the care and benefits they have earned.

Based on our findings, we urged the chairwoman to hold hearings. We pressed the NPRC to get staff back to work in person. But under the current administration, the backlog has grown to over 600,000 pending requests, with more added daily.

That is why, in June of last year, I introduced the RECORDS Act to require the NPRC to get back to work in person. Finally, after significant pressure from congressional Republicans, the NPRC returned to full in-person staffing on March 7 of this year.

I am pleased that this legislation has finally reached the House floor.

The Access for Veterans to Records Act incorporates improvements Republicans made to ensure the backlog is fixed. This bipartisan legislation requires the NPRC to maintain in-person staffing levels.

The bill also authorizes the funds necessary to speed up the digital preservation of records, so we will not face this problem in the future.

Finally, the bill contains reporting requirements to ensure proper accountability for addressing the current backlog and preventing future issues.

The Access for Veterans to Records Act is a bipartisan bill that demonstrates how Congress can work together to advance legislative reforms that are truly responsive to the needs of the American people and those who have given so much for our country.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY), the distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on Government Operations.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairwoman and Mr. KELLER, my colleague and friend from Pennsylvania, for their leadership on H.R. 7337, the Access for Veterans to Records Act.

The Access for Veterans to Records Act will help provide the National Archives and Records Administration resources desperately needed to address veterans' records requests.

The records center houses records that are essential for veterans to receive the service-related benefits they need, including medical treatment, unemployment assistance, and emergency housing.

The records center was already behind the curve when it came to investing in records digitization, creating a massive backlog. The pandemic then exacerbated that problem.

Although NPRC has reduced the backlog to 515,000 from a peak of 603,000, it is still preventing veterans from receipt of the records they need. It can't be an acceptable standard.

The Access for Veterans to Records Act requires NARA to submit a detailed plan for eliminating the backlog and authorizes \$60 million to improve the situation.

This legislative effort works in lockstep with the National Archives and Records Administration's own efforts to secure funding from the Federal Technology Modernization Fund. At the urging of the chairwoman, myself, and others, the National Archives applied for and received a \$9.1 million award from the Technology Modernization Fund to do just that.

Projects like this one at the National Archives are precisely why we created the Technology Modernization Fund. Proactive investments in effective technologies make Federal programs work and will serve our veterans well.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the legislation.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7337 is a bipartisan bill directly addressing a current problem facing America's veterans. I am thankful that the chairwoman and her staff worked with me to bring this necessary legislation to the House floor.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 7337, 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. 7337, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

## QUANTUM COMPUTING CYBER-SECURITY PREPAREDNESS ACT

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7535) to encourage the migration of Federal Government information technology systems to quantum-resistant cryptography, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7535

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Quantum Computing Cybersecurity Preparedness Act".

### SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

(1) Cryptography is essential for the national security of the United States and the functioning of the economy of the United States.

(2) The most widespread encryption protocols today rely on computational limits of classical computers to provide cybersecurity.

(3) Quantum computers might one day have the ability to push computational boundaries, allowing us to solve problems that have been intractable thus far, such as integer factorization, which is important for encryption.

(4) The rapid progress of quantum computing suggests the potential for adversaries of the United States to steal sensitive encrypted data today using classical computers, and wait until sufficiently powerful quantum systems are available to decrypt it.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) a strategy for the migration of information technology systems of the Federal Government to post-quantum cryptography is needed; and

(2) the Governmentwide and industrywide approach to post-quantum cryptography should prioritize developing applications, hardware intellectual property, and software that can be easily updated to support cryptographic agility.

### SEC. 3. INVENTORY OF CRYPTOGRAPHIC SYSTEMS; MIGRATION TO POST-QUANTUM CRYPTOGRAPHY.

(a) INVENTORY.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of OMB shall establish, by rule or binding guidance, a requirement for each executive agency to establish and maintain an inventory of each cryptographic system in use by the agency.

(2) ADDITIONAL CONTENT IN RULE OR BINDING GUIDANCE.—In the rule or binding guidance established by paragraph (1), the Director of OMB shall include, in addition to the requirement described under such paragraph—

(A) a description of information technology to be prioritized for migration to post-quantum cryptography;

(B) a description of the information required to be reported pursuant to subsection (b); and

(C) a process for evaluating progress on migrating information technology to post-quantum cryptography, which shall be automated to the greatest extent practicable.

(3) PERIODIC UPDATES.—The Director of OMB shall update the rule or binding guidance established by paragraph (1) as the Director determines necessary.

(b) AGENCY REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and on an ongoing basis thereafter, the head of each executive agency shall provide to the Director of OMB, the Director of CISA, and the National Cyber Director an inventory of all information technology in use by the executive agency that is vulnerable to decryption by quantum computers.

(c) MIGRATION AND ASSESSMENT.—

(1) MIGRATION TO POST-QUANTUM CRYPTOGRAPHY.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Director of NIST has issued post-quantum cryptography standards, the Director of OMB shall issue guidance requiring each executive agency to develop a plan, including interim benchmarks, to migrate information technology of the agency to post-quantum cryptography.

(2) DESIGNATION OF SYSTEMS FOR MIGRATION.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the guidance required by paragraph (1) has been issued, the Director of OMB shall issue guidance for agencies to—

(A) designate information technology to be migrated to post-quantum cryptography; and

(B) prioritize information technology designated under subparagraph (A), on the basis of the amount of risk posed by decryption by quantum computers to such technology, for migration to post-quantum cryptography.

(d) INTEROPERABILITY.—The Director of OMB shall ensure that the designations and prioritizations made under subsection (c)(2) are assessed and coordinated to ensure interoperability.

(e) REPORT ON POST-QUANTUM CRYPTOGRAPHY.—Not later than 15 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of OMB shall submit to Congress a report on the following:

(1) A strategy to address the risk posed by the vulnerabilities of information technology systems of executive agencies to weakened encryption due to the potential and possible capability of a quantum computer to breach such encryption.

(2) The amount of funding needed by executive agencies to secure such information technology systems from the risk posed by an adversary of the United States using a quantum computer to breach the encryption of information technology systems.

(3) A description of Federal civilian executive branch coordination efforts led by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, including timelines, to develop standards for post-quantum cryptography, including any Federal Information Processing Standards developed under chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, as well as standards developed through voluntary, consensus standards bodies such as the International Organization for Standardization.

(f) REPORT ON MIGRATION TO POST-QUANTUM CRYPTOGRAPHY IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Director of OMB issues guidance under subsection (c)(2), and annu-

ally thereafter until the date that is 5 years after the date on which post-quantum cryptographic standards are issued, the Director of OMB shall submit to Congress, with the report submitted pursuant to section 3553(c) of title 44, United States Code, a report on the progress of executive agencies in adopting post-quantum cryptography standards.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

(1) CLASSICAL COMPUTER.—The term “classical computer” means a device that accepts digital data and manipulates the information based on a program or sequence of instructions for how data is to be processed and encodes information in binary bits that can either be 0s or 1s.

(2) DIRECTOR OF NIST.—The term “Director of NIST” means the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

(3) DIRECTOR OF OMB.—The term “Director of OMB” means the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(5) EXECUTIVE AGENCY.—The term “executive agency” has the meaning given the term “Executive agency” in section 105 of title 5, United States Code.

(6) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.—The term “information technology” has the meaning given that term in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code.

(7) POST-QUANTUM CRYPTOGRAPHY.—The term “post-quantum cryptography” means a cryptographic system that—

(A) is secure against decryption attempts using a quantum computer or classical computer; and

(B) can interoperate with existing communications protocols and networks.

(8) QUANTUM COMPUTER.—The term “quantum computer” means a computer that uses the collective properties of quantum states to perform calculations.

#### SEC. 4. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 7535, the Quantum Computing Cybersecurity Preparedness Act.

Today, the processes we use to encrypt data are incredibly reliable and can keep sensitive data secure from unauthorized users during storage

or transmission. But tomorrow, that may no longer be the case.

Researchers around the world are accelerating advances toward quantum computing, which refers to the application of quantum physics to computers. This will allow the computers of tomorrow to perform calculations many magnitudes faster and more powerfully than they do today.

While quantum computers have the potential to provide considerable benefits to society through unimaginable innovation, they could also equip our adversaries with the ability to break the best encryptions available today.

Capabilities of this magnitude are estimated to be a decade or more away, but China and other adversaries are expected to begin stealing sensitive encrypted data much sooner with the intent of unlocking it when they have the ability to do so. It is essential that the Federal Government prepare for this inevitability now while we still have time to protect data that is critical to our national and economic security.

The process of migrating all Federal IT systems to post-quantum cryptography will be complex and costly, but putting the right steps in place now will help us stay at the forefront of this frontier.

I applaud Representative RO KHANNA, as well as Representatives NANCY MACE and GERRY CONNOLLY, for introducing this thoughtful bipartisan bill to establish this process.

Within a year of enactment, the bill would require the Office of Management and Budget to submit a report to Congress containing a strategy for addressing the risk posed by quantum computing, the funding needed to secure Federal information technology systems from quantum computing threats, and a review of related coordination efforts. This will allow time for assessment of this strategy before the National Institute of Standards and Technology issues its post-quantum cryptographic standards, which are expected in 2024.

OMB would then be required to prioritize and designate Federal IT systems for migration to post-quantum cryptography using those standards and to submit an annual report to Congress on progress toward transitioning Federal agencies to the new standards.

The bill has been carefully aligned with the national security memorandum released by the Biden-Harris administration in May, which made important strides to advance U.S. leadership in quantum computing by strengthening collaboration and partnerships with private-sector leaders, securing critical capabilities, and making strategic investments.

I am grateful to Representative RO KHANNA for leading on this important issue and setting an ambitious but achievable framework to both maximize the benefits and minimize the threats of quantum computing for the U.S.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, as an emerging technology, quantum computing holds great promise and potential peril for our Nation. It has the potential to exponentially increase computing power and processing speeds, which will mean technological leaps for American research activities and business sectors.

While such major advances are likely decades away, there is a clear risk that foreign adversaries like China are using early developments in quantum computing technology for malicious purposes.

One immediate risk is that our foreign adversaries may use the first quantum computers to unlock data that has already been stolen from U.S. Federal agencies.

Current data encryption methods protect the privacy, security, and integrity of underlying data and are nearly impossible to decrypt with today's computing capabilities. The computations required to unlock encrypted data require computing resources that we do not currently possess. However, as quantum computing matures, so does the possibility that sensitive information could be unlocked. This is a clear national security threat.

The Quantum Computing Cybersecurity Preparedness Act will require a governmentwide strategy to better secure valuable government data.

While the Federal Government already has initiatives underway to address such emerging threats, including the development of post-quantum cryptography standards and a recent Presidential national security directive, H.R. 7535 makes this a clear congressional priority.

The bill requires a governmentwide review of vulnerable agency information systems and consistent guidance to Federal agencies, and it seeks to ensure proper congressional oversight.

Advancing a strategic approach to evaluating quantum computing risks to Federal IT and network cybersecurity is important given the significant potential risk to our public-sector data.

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And since this bill only requires centralized guidance and reporting, the Congressional Budget Office found it would cost American taxpayers less than \$1 million over 5 years. This is a reasonable investment.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my House Oversight and Reform Committee colleagues, Representatives RO KHANNA and NANCY MACE for their work on this important bill.

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. KHANNA).

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman MALONEY and Chairman CONNOLLY for their leadership, and I thank the bipartisan leadership with Representative MACE and the Republican committee.

This is the most significant legislation to address the challenge that quantum computing poses to our security. The reality is that quantum computing is going to be much faster and can do many more things than regular computing.

For example, if you have an iPhone and you have a pass code on the iPhone, now you have a computer that can do a billion different combinations to try your pass code in a matter of a few seconds. Chances are they can break through the pass code. The problem is that a lot of the bad actors—they have been stealing American data from our government in anticipation of having these quantum computers, these super-fast computers—try all the combinations to break through.

I am proud that this committee, in a bipartisan basis, came together, and said: We need to make sure that our security in our critical agencies do not suffer from these computers that can try all these codes. Let's design that security in a way that will be safe, even with quantum computing.

The bill directs the agencies to start having those algorithms now that are not vulnerable to these supercomputers. It is an example, with Representative MACE and the committee, of Congress actually working, of Congress being proactive, of Congress looking ahead on the horizon and anticipating problems to keep the American people safe.

Mr. Speaker, I also appreciate the bipartisan spirit. I acknowledge Geo Saba, my staff, and all of the staff on the Oversight and Reform Committee, both the majority and minority, for helping make this possible.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE).

Ms. MACE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7535, the Quantum Computing Cybersecurity Preparedness Act, a truly bipartisan piece of legislation.

I thank Congressman RO KHANNA from California for his leadership in this and Congressman CONNOLLY and Congresswoman MALONEY for working together across the aisle on an issue like this.

I could never imagine 20 years ago—or further than that, 40 years ago, 35 years ago—playing with an Apple IIe in the 1980s, and fast-forward to college as a cadet at the Citadel, learning and teaching myself how to code. We have seen leaps and bounds in technology and the advances over the last decades in technology.

We see the risks to our national security here and abroad, and we are working together in this environment today where many of us are attacked for working together but looking forward

and looking to the future and protecting our country and protecting our allies.

Quantum computing is without a doubt the next frontier in technology. It will take our civilization forward by leaps and bounds. In many ways, it will turn conventional understanding of computing on its head. I am here to tell you that the quantum computing era is upon us.

Just 3 years ago, an entry level quantum computer the size of a refrigerator was proven capable of outperforming a supercomputer the size of a football field. Imagine the advances in technology in that short a period of time and how quickly we are moving forward to the future.

We are looking at a world not unlike the last few days of the Manhattan Project, knowing what is to come will alter the security of the world forever. Fortunately, as with the development of the atomic bomb, America is at the forefront of pioneering this kind of technology—no doubt by leadership from Congressman KHANNA and others.

We must inevitably face the reality that one day soon this technology may, in fact, be used against us by China and others that are against us today. The most significant threat of quantum computing is its ability to break through encryption with unprecedented speed.

Currently, our sensitive data is usually encrypted and protected with a password. It might take a conventional computer years or even decades to try to break that password and eventually steal your data.

In the next few years or decades, a computer will be created which will crack the last 20 years of encryption—not in years or months, but in minutes or seconds. To prevent any illicit use of this technology, we want to ensure that we are transitioning to a post-quantum cryptography future, to ensure Federal agencies that their sensitive information remains secure from any prying eyes. And we know that in 2020 we had 11 Federal agencies that were hacked by those that aligned with China and with Russia—11 Federal agencies.

Our bill prompts the Federal Government to begin taking the necessary steps to future proof current sensitive information and its databases. It will ensure the Federal Government will study the specific risks, draft a report on strategies to address these risks, and estimate the costs associated with securing our agencies and their IT systems.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues across the aisle for their work and their leadership on this issue.

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

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill that addresses an emerging national security issue.

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 7535, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETERS). 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. 7535, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### IMPROVING GOVERNMENT FOR AMERICA'S TAXPAYERS ACT

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7331) to require the Comptroller General of the United States to provide certain information with respect to unimplemented priority recommendations as part of the Comptroller General's annual reporting to Congress, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7331

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Improving Government for America's Taxpayers Act".

#### SEC. 2. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE UNIMPLEMENTED PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS.

The Comptroller General of the United States shall, as part of the Comptroller General's annual reporting to committees of Congress—

(1) consolidate Matters for Congressional Consideration from the Government Accountability Office in one report organized by policy topic that includes the amount of time such Matters have been unimplemented and submit such report to congressional leadership and the oversight committees of each House;

(2) with respect to the annual letters sent by the Comptroller General to individual agency heads and relevant congressional committees on the status of unimplemented priority recommendations, identify any additional congressional oversight actions that can help agencies implement such priority recommendations and address any underlying issues relating to such implementation;

(3) make publicly available the information described in paragraphs (1) and (2); and

(4) publish any known costs of unimplemented priority recommendations, if applicable.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous

consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in strong support of H.R. 7331, the Improving Government for America's Taxpayers Act, which was introduced by Representatives DEREK KILMER and WILLIAM TIMMONS, chair and vice chair of the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress. I thank Ranking Member COMER, and Representatives CONNOLLY, MACE, KRISHNAMOORTHY, NORMAN, PORTER, and NORTON for cosponsoring this bill.

This is an important bipartisan bill that would help improve the implementation of recommendations made to Congress by the Government Accountability Office. GAO's work for Congress is invaluable and helps us to ensure a more effective and efficient government in serving the people and the needs of the American people.

The bill would direct GAO to consolidate recommendations to Congress in one succinct report. It would also direct GAO to identify any additional oversight actions Congress should take to assist agencies in implementing their open priority recommendations. Implementing GAO's recommendations to agencies and Congress would help improve government efficiency and save taxpayers' dollars.

As we seek greater transparency and accountability within our Federal Government, I appreciate the bipartisan approach that Chair KILMER and Vice Chair TIMMONS have taken on this bill. I commend my colleagues, Senator PORTMAN and Senator PETERS, for supporting this bill in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, the Government Accountability Office serves a vital role in examining agency spending and advising lawmakers and Federal agencies how to make government work better for the American people.

GAO makes many recommendations regarding specific actions executive branch agencies should take to save taxpayer dollars. It also suggests legislative actions Congress could take to improve government performance.

Despite GAO's successes, there are more than 100 actions executive branch agencies could take to be more effective and achieve greater efficiency.

H.R. 7331 will consolidate open GAO recommendations for review by congressional leadership and the appropriate committees of jurisdiction. It will annually highlight the congressional oversight and legislative actions

suggested to address these recommendations.

In doing so, the bill will help ensure that Congress has the tools it needs to pass needed legislation and spur executive agencies to implement needed reforms.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman from Pennsylvania does not have any further speakers, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7331 will help Congress address specific—but fixable—issues across our sprawling Federal Government which are causing waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement.

This bipartisan legislation will help improve the functioning of the American people's government and ultimately save taxpayer dollars.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 7331, 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. 7331, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### FIRST RESPONDER FAIR RETURN FOR EMPLOYEES ON THEIR INITIAL RETIREMENT EARNED ACT

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 521) to permit disabled law enforcement officers, customs and border protection officers, firefighters, air traffic controllers, nuclear materials couriers, members of the Capitol Police, members of the Supreme Court Police, employees of the Central Intelligence Agency performing intelligence activities abroad or having specialized security requirements, and diplomatic security special agents of the Department of State to receive retirement benefits in the same manner as if they had not been disabled, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 521

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "First Responder Fair Return for Employees on Their Initial Retirement Earned Act" or the "First Responder Fair RETIRE Act".