It encourages research by improving and streamlining the registration process for marijuana. It also ensures the availability of verified cannabis products necessary for legitimate research by allowing approved institutions of higher education, practitioners, and manufacturers to manufacture and distribute marijuana for the purpose of conducting research.

As someone who has advocated for this legislation for years, I appreciate the work that has been done to get us here today.

Whatever position you may have on marijuana use, you need to know that this bill will allow us to come together and support more scientific research so that we can make informed decisions as we move forward as legislators.

I have to tell you, being here live as a legislator is also important, because the genesis of this bill was several conversations that took place on the floor of this House when people who disagree on the underlying issue would argue about what research showed. It finally became clear to Representative BLUMENAUER, to Representative HARRIS, to myself, and to others, that we had to have more research in order to get the right answers for the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I urge everyone to support H.R. 8454.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would encourage my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, again, I think this is a great way of dealing with this issue overall and getting the Senate on board.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 8454, the Medical Marijuana and Cannabidiol Research Expansion Act. I advanced a precursor to this bipartisan bill through my Health Subcommittee and I'm proud to support it on the Floor today.

According to the Department of Health and Human Services National Survey on Drug Use, over 48 million Americans reported using cannabis in the past year. Thirty-seven states now allow the medicinal use of cannabis and 19 states and the District of Columbia have legalized cannabis for adult use.

But state laws and federal policy are a thousand miles apart. As more states allow cannabis, the federal government still strictly controls and prohibits it, even restricting legitimate medical research.

The Medical Marijuana Research Act addresses these restrictions on research and alleviates a burdensome, out-of-date process for scientific researchers. First, it creates a new, less cumbersome registration process specifically for marijuana, reducing approval wait times and costly security measures. Second, this bill makes it easier for researchers to obtain the cannabis they need for their studies through reforms in production and distribution regulations.

Under this bill scientists will no longer be forced to wait more than a year to become federally-approved to conduct cannabis research. They will also not be forced to use the cannabis grown by a government-authorized farm at the University of Mississippi. This cannabis lacks the properties and potency of commercially-available cannabis and leads to inadequate research.

This is a commonsense bill that will update federal policy to advance research on cannabis and its compounds. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I will vote to pass the Medical Marijuana and Cannabidiol Research Expansion Act. This legislation would remove barriers for research into cannabis and facilitate access to an increased supply of cannabis for research purposes.

The cannabis laws in this country are broken, including our laws that govern cannabis research. Because cannabis is a Schedule I substance, researchers must jump through hoops and comply with onerous requirements just to do basic research on the medical potential of the plant.

The Medical Marijuana and Cannabidiol Research Expansion Act amends the Controlled Substances Act to streamline the registration process and expands opportunity for our researchers to investigate the potential and impacts of cannabis.

My partners in the House and Senate and I worked closely with experts in Congress and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to ensure this legislation will expand cannabis research, not restrict it. Specifically, the use of "practitioners" includes "NIH-funded researchers," according to feedback from HHS. This ensures that this legislation will not restrict researchers already considered entities eligible to conduct research under the Controlled Substances Act. H.R. 8454 is designed to streamline and broaden access to researching marijuana.

Enacting this legislation will be an important step forward in making the federal government a real partner in the path forward on cannabis. In addition to this legislation, we must continue to advance banking access for cannabis businesses; prioritize expungements, clemencies, and resentencing for cannabis convictions; make robust investments in cannabis research; develop accurate tests for impairment; ensure our veterans can access medical cannabis; and invest in communities targeted in the failed war on drugs.

The Medical Marijuana and Cannabidiol Research Expansion Act demonstrates the power of good faith bipartisan engagement on cannabis policy and the opportunity of this moment to enact laws our communities need.

I look forward to working with Senators DIANNE FEINSTEIN, BRIAN SCHATZ, and CHUCK GRASSLEY and my co-lead Representative ANDY HARRIS to enact this legislation and expand our Nation's cannabis research capabilities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8454, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GABRIELLA MILLER KIDS FIRST RESEARCH ACT 2.0

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 623) to require certain civil penalties to be transferred to a fund through which amounts are made available for the Gabriella Miller Kids First Pediatric Research Program at the National Institutes of Health, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 623

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 ''Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act 2.0''.

SEC. 2. FUNDING FOR THE PEDIATRIC RESEARCH INITIATIVE.

The Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 201 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 402A(a)(2) (42 U.S.C. 282a(a)(2))—

(A) in the heading—

(i) by striking ''10-YEAR''; and

(ii) by striking ''THROUGH COMMON FUND'';

(B) by striking ''to the Common Fund'' and inserting ''to the Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives'';

(C) by striking ''10-Year'';

(D) by striking ''and reserved under subsection (c)(1)(B)(i) of this section''; and

(E) by inserting before the period the following: '', and $25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2027'';

(2) in each of paragraphs (1)(A) and (2)(C) of section 402A(c) (42 U.S.C. 282a(c)), by striking ''section 402(b)(7)(B)'' and inserting ''section 402(b)(7)(B)(i)''; and

(3) in section 402(b)(7)(B)(ii) (42 U.S.C. 282(b)(7)(B)(ii)), by striking ''the Common Fund'' and inserting ''the Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives''.

SEC. 3. COORDINATION OF NIH FUNDING FOR PEDIATRIC RESEARCH.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of the Congress that the Director of the National Institutes of Health should continue to oversee and coordinate research that is conducted or supported by the National Institutes of Health for research on pediatric cancer and other pediatric diseases and conditions, including through the Pediatric Research Initiative Fund.

(b) AVOIDING DUPLICATION.—Section 402(b)(7)(B)(ii) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 282(b)(7)(B)(ii)) is amended by inserting ''and shall prioritize, as appropriate, such pediatric research that does not duplicate existing research activities of the National Institutes of Health'' before ''; and''.

SEC. 4. REPORT ON PROGRESS AND INVESTMENTS IN PEDIATRIC RESEARCH.

Not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that—

(1) details pediatric research projects and initiatives receiving funds allocated pursuant to section 402(b)(7)(B)(ii) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 282(b)(7)(B)(ii)); and

(2) summarizes advancements made in pediatric research with funds allocated pursuant to section 402(b)(7)(B)(ii) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 282(b)(7)(B)(ii)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 623.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 623, the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act 2.0.

We are considering this bill in the memory of Gabriella Miller, who was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor and sadly passed at the age of 10 in 2013.

Mr. Speaker, cancer is one of the leading causes of death in American children, but only 4 percent of the National Cancer Institute's budget is dedicated to pediatric cancer research.

The Kids First program was first established at the National Institutes of Health in 2014 after Congress passed the original Gabriella Miller Kids First Research bill. The goal of this program is to enhance collaborative research on childhood cancer and structural birth defects, including the development of a large-scale database of clinical and genetic data to discover shared genetic pathways between the disorders.

Since its creation, the Kids First program has recruited over 40 pediatric cancer and structural birth defect cohorts for whole genome sequencing, representing 20,000 pediatric patients and 48,000 genomes. The database developed and maintained by the Kids First program has become a critical tool for pediatric cancer researchers and practitioners across the country.

Mr. Speaker, the bill before us reauthorizes and transfers the Kids First program from the NIH Common Fund to the Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives, which will give the program more stability and allow for appropriate planning. The legislation also increases the funding authorization to $25 million annually for 5 years.

I thank Representative WEXTON for her leadership on this issue and Ranking Members RODGERS and GUTHRIE for working with us on this important bill.

Finally, I thank Ellyn and Mark Miller for their relentless advocacy in honor of their daughter. The Kids First program may lead to the next big medical breakthrough for some of the rarest cancers, and those breakthroughs simply would not be possible without their longtime commitment to this effort.

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

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for H.R. 623, the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act 2.0.

This bill, which is supported by a large bipartisan group of cosponsors, including my Energy and Commerce Committee colleagues BILIRAKIS, MULLIN, and MCKINLEY, would reauthorize the Gabriella Miller Kids First Pediatric Cancer Research Initiative at the National Institutes of Health.

Cancer remains the leading cause of death from disease among children. According to the National Cancer Institute, an estimated 10,500 new cases of cancer will be diagnosed among children from birth to 14 years, and over 1,000 children are expected to die from the disease.

Children are not just little adults, and childhood cancer is not always treated like adult cancers. That is why it remains important to continue to support a robust pediatric oncology portfolio at the National Institutes of Health.

This legislation further prioritizes pediatric research and complements existing research activities of the National Institutes of Health.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support this reauthorization honoring the courage and life of Gabriella Miller, and I urge a ''yes'' vote on this legislation.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. WEXTON), the sponsor of the bill.

Ms. WEXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act 2.0, transformative legislation that would vastly increase funding for lifesaving research of treatments and cures for childhood cancer and rare diseases.

This legislation would reauthorize the Gabriella Miller Kids First Pediatric Research program, which is set to expire next year, for an additional 5 years and increase funding to $25 million annually, which is nearly double the current amount. I am proud that this bill has broad bipartisan support, with over 110 cosponsors. It also passed through committee unanimously.

I am proud to carry this legislation in honor of Gabriella, who is from Virginia's 10th Congressional District. Gabriella was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor and passed away in 2013 at age 10.

She was a fierce fighter not only in her own battle with cancer but as an advocate on behalf of the millions of other children who have suffered from this terrible disease. In the months following her terminal diagnosis, Gabriella became a national force for change, urging Congress to ''stop talking, start doing'' and increase funding to discover better treatments and cures.

Her heroic efforts delivered a successful push to pass the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act in 2014, bipartisan legislation named in her honor. Gabriella's family joined sponsor Representative Eric Cantor of Virginia and President Barack Obama in the Oval Office for the bill signing.

The Kids First program has done remarkable work these past few years, sequencing more than 20,000 samples from childhood cancer and structural birth defect cohorts and starting the Gabriella Miller Kids First Data Resource Center, a comprehensive data resource for research and patient communities meant to advance discoveries.

It has been almost 9 years since we lost Gabriella, and there is still a long fight ahead to better understand, treat, and ultimately cure childhood cancer.

Tragically, cancer is the number one cause of disease-related death in children aged 14 and younger. This year alone, it is estimated that over 10,000 children in the U.S. under the age of 15 will be diagnosed with cancer. Yet, despite these staggering statistics, the tools we have to treat these diseases are woefully inadequate.

Many of the treatments available today for kids battling cancer haven't seen significant advances in decades. In fact, Gabriella Miller died from the same brain cancer that Neil Armstrong's daughter died from in 1962. Fifty years later, she was receiving the same kind of treatment. That is outrageous. We are failing our kids, and we can, and we must do better.

My bipartisan Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act 2.0 nearly doubles funding for the Kids First program. With this major boost in Federal funding, we will unlock the full potential of Kids First and enable the hardworking doctors, scientists, and researchers to step up their work to find ways we can help these children suffering from cancer and rare diseases.

Mr. Speaker, this is a lifesaving bill. For the Millers, who are here in the Capitol watching us advance this bill today, and the millions of American families who have had to go through the torment of hearing a doctor deliver a cancer diagnosis for their child, I urge all of my colleagues to heed Gabriella's call to ''stop talking, start doing'' and pass this bipartisan bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 623, the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act 2.0. As many people know, I try to be fairly conservative when it comes to spending Federal dollars or authorizing Federal dollars to be spent. But, Mr. Speaker, if we are going to spend money at the Federal level on all kinds of things, near the top of that list ought to be research for cures for cancer. And even higher on that list should be research for children who

have cancer and for diseases that affect specifically the young people of this Nation.

I don't think that anyone is going to oppose this. I am sure that I will be proven wrong in a floor vote later. But for me, this one reaches the bar that we ought to have unanimous or near unanimous support on the floor, as we did in the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, again, I think this is a very important bill, and I thank Representative WEXTON for her leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Members on both sides of the aisle support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 623, the "Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act 2.0." As Chairwoman of the House Health Subcommittee, I'm proud to have advanced this bipartisan bill and I'm pleased to support it on the Floor today.

Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act 2.0 reauthorizes the Gabriella Miller Kids First Pediatric Research Program and nearly doubles critical funding for pediatric cancer research to $25 million each year for the next five years.

Pediatric cancer is the number one disease killer for children in the U.S., claiming roughly 1,800 lives every year. Children with certain birth defects have an increased risk of pediatric cancer, yet the genetic relationship between these conditions is still poorly understood.

First launched in 2014, the Gabriella Miller Kids First Pediatric Research Program connects the dots between birth defects and childhood cancers, with the hope of fostering data-driven solutions for personalized treatments. This program is named in honor of Gabriella Miller, a fierce advocate for childhood cancer research who died of brain cancer at the young age of 10. Ellyn Miller, Gabriella's mother, when testifying at my Subcommittee last year, said that Gabriella told her that she wanted elected officials to "stop talking and start doing."

I urge my colleagues to stop talking and start doing by passing this important bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 623, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

TIMELY DELIVERY OF BANK SECRECY ACT REPORTS ACT

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7734) to amend title 31, United States Code, to require the timely production of reports to Congress under the Bank Secrecy Act, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7734

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 ''Timely Delivery of Bank Secrecy Act Reports Act''.

SEC. 2. TIMELY PRODUCTION OF BANK SECRECY ACT REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

Section 5319 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''The Secretary of the Treasury'' and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) TIMELY PRODUCTION OF REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

''(1) PRODUCTION BY THE SECRETARY.—Upon the request of the congressional committees or subcommittees of appropriate jurisdiction for any report filed under this subchapter, the Secretary of the Treasury shall deliver the requested report to the committee or subcommittee not later than 30 days after such request is made.

''(2) PRODUCTION BY A FINANCIAL INSTITUTION PURSUANT TO A SUBPOENA.—Upon subpoena by the congressional committees or subcommittees of appropriate jurisdiction, a financial institution shall deliver a report filed under this subchapter by the financial institution, and any information on which such report is based, to the committee or subcommittee not later than the return date specified for such report in the subpoena.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

□ 1715

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, suspicious activity reports and other materials, collectively known as ''BSA reports,'' are held by Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, or FinCEN, and can be critical to congressional investigations. For example, this committee has requested documents related to our ongoing investigation into the flow of illicit funds from the former Soviet states into the United States.

There is a long history of cooperation on the proper exchange of these records, but in response to a recent Treasury-initiated reversal of decades-long practice, I have found it necessary to introduce this bill, H.R. 7734.

Unfortunately, Treasury has severely restricted congressional access to suspicious activity reports, or SARs, by requiring congressional staff to review all material in a reading room, prohibiting the copying of materials, and restricting information collection to notetaking alone. These limitations are not placed upon the Federal, State, and local agencies that have been granted access to review SARs.

Treasury has no statutory basis for imposing restrictions on congressional authority to obtain SARs. Neither legislative language, statutory provision, nor case law prohibits government personnel or the financial institutions from providing these materials to Congress.

I am very concerned that these restrictions and similar alternatives offered by Treasury will severely impede effective congressional oversight and investigations. In response to my committee's recent request to review SARs related to the flow of illicit funds from former Soviet states into the United States, FinCEN has informed the committee that it is withholding thousands of pages of responsive documents containing technical, detailed information about multiple transactions involving numerous parties. Given the restrictions imposed by Treasury, it is not possible for my staff to effectively capture and analyze needed information in such complex documents. It will be even more difficult for Members to review such materials.

Treasury's refusal to produce the documents in the manner requested has severely obstructed the committee's investigation of this important matter. To ensure that Congress can conduct effective oversight moving forward, I have introduced this bill, and I am pleased to say that it passed our committee on a bipartisan basis.

H.R. 7734 requires the Secretary of the Treasury to deliver BSA reports to a congressional committee or subcommittee of appropriate jurisdiction within 30 days of its request for such documents. The bill further requires a financial institution to deliver BSA reports by the return date specified in a subpoena issued by a committee or subcommittee of appropriate jurisdiction.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill to ensure that Congress can obtain access to BSA reports without cumbersome restrictions and can do so in a timely manner to support its investigatory work.

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

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

I rise in support of H.R. 7734, which increases transparency and restores a strong record of cooperation with the Treasury Department.

H.R. 7734 would require prompt delivery of certain Bank Secrecy Act reports to the committees of Congress that rely on those records for oversight and legislative work.