

Such updates include striking the unnecessary authorization of \$20 million in appropriations and requiring better oversight of the industry costs associated with becoming FedRAMP certified. This will help ensure both small and large businesses can participate in the program.

In addition, this version also seeks to identify and avoid bottlenecks that slow approval. It also takes steps to secure the software supply chain from threats by foreign bad actors, the likely source of the 2020 SolarWinds attack that targeted numerous private sector companies and Federal agencies.

Codifying this successful program into law is an important step towards encouraging Federal agencies to take full advantage of this program and all the security benefits it offers.

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 5 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY), the distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on Government Operations and sponsor of this important bill, H.R. 8956.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY), the distinguished chairwoman of the committee and my friend, and I thank the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER), the distinguished ranking member and my friend for bringing this bill to the floor.

With respect to Mr. COMER's comments, I just say, "Hear, hear." He has succinctly explained both the process and the importance of this bill.

This is the sixth time the House will have passed this bill in some form. The Senate has yet to ever consider it on the floor. As Mr. COMER indicated, the time has now come for the Senate to accept a bill that has been worked out with the Senate in terms of the language so that we can get this important piece of Federal IT into law.

This bill would create a statutory framework for the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program, known as FedRAMP, originally established administratively back in 2011. This bill will codify FedRAMP and was the very first bill, as Mr. COMER indicated, to pass the House in the 117th Congress. It passed, I believe, unanimously.

If once again passed, this will be, as I said, I believe, the sixth time we have considered it here in the House of Representatives.

FedRAMP is a standardized approach that brings our government in line with our increasingly digital world to continually certify and assess the security of cloud computing technologies used across the Federal Government.

FedRAMP seeks to reduce the redundancies of Federal cloud migration by creating a "certify once, reuse many times" model for cloud products and services that provide cost-effective,

risk-based approaches to cloud adoption. FedRAMP saw a 50 percent increase in agencies reusing authorized cloud products in 2020.

This bill codifies FedRAMP and addresses many of the concerns raised by government and industry stakeholders in terms of both the time and cost associated with certification. The text reduces duplication of security assessments and other obstacles to agency adoption of cloud products by establishing a presumption of adequacy for cloud technologies that have already received FedRAMP certification, so companies aren't reinventing the wheel and spending millions of dollars they don't need to.

I support a strong cybersecurity framework that ensures whatever tool we use to support the infrastructure of our Federal critical systems is safe and secure. Again, referenced by Mr. COMER. However, those who have already diligently passed scrupulous security assessments shouldn't have to start from scratch, and this bill addresses that.

For more than 5 years, I have worked with administrations, both Democratic and Republican, Members on the other side of the aisle, industry stakeholders, and my friends in the U.S. Senate to ensure the legislative text makes needed improvements to the FedRAMP program and gives the program flexibility to grow and adapt to myriad future changes.

Since the coronavirus pandemic, the demand for cloud services has risen by 85 percent. Accordingly, FedRAMP use skyrocketed and enabled the government to continue working securely during the government's large-scale movement to telework.

In the first 4 years of FedRAMP, the program had only authorized 20 cloud service offerings, but by 2021 it had authorized 240. Today, there are over 280 cloud service providers to the U.S. Government participating in FedRAMP, and about 30 percent of FedRAMP authorized CSPs are small businesses. Over 180 agencies participate in FedRAMP and have initiated more than 3,000 agency reuses of authorized products.

Today, the Agency Liaison Program, which provides FedRAMP authorization, education, and training currently has 155 liaisons with 82 different Federal Government departments participating.

Ultimately, this program strives to have at least one representative from each Federal agency tied to the security authorization who can communicate to key stakeholders about their agency's internal processes as well as FedRAMP requirements.

The bill supports a critical need to support multistakeholder communication and keep our Nation's information secure in cloud environments.

Enabling the efficient and secure procurement of cloud computing technology is an important part of Federal IT modernization. Codifying FedRAMP

into law is very important because right now it exists as an orphan only by an executive action.

I thank the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER), the ranking member of the Oversight and Reform Committee, for being a steadfast partner, and I thank our chairwoman for her leadership.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Mr. Speaker, protecting our public's valuable information is something we can all agree on. I hope we can continue to do our job and work together on improving the Federal Government cybersecurity and adoption of modern technology.

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 yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 8956 and 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. 8956.

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. HICE of Georgia. 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.

CHAI SUTHAMMANONT HEALTHY FEDERAL WORKPLACES ACT OF 2022

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8466), to require the head of each agency to establish a plan relating to the safety of Federal employees and contractors physically present at certain worksites during a nationwide public health emergency declared for an infectious disease, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8466

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 "Chai Suthammanont Healthy Federal Workplaces Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. WORKSITE SAFETY FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES AND CONTRACTORS.

(a) ISSUANCE OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES BY AGENCIES.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the head of each agency, in consultation with the Chief Human Capital Officer of the agency and the Assistant Director of Administration of the agency (or any individual holding an equivalent position), shall—

(1) establish a plan containing procedures and policies for the safety of covered individuals physically present at worksites during a covered period that includes measures to ensure the continuity of operations of the agency, including how consistent agency mission and program performance and customer service levels will be sustained through the covered period;

(2) make such plan available to the public by including a prominent link to such plan on the home page of the website of the agency;

(3) provide a link to such plan to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget for inclusion on the web page of the Office in accordance with subsection (c); and

(4) communicate such plan to each covered individual in such a manner as to ensure that each such covered individual acknowledges receipt and understanding of the plan.

(b) PLAN.—The plan required under subsection (a) shall, at a minimum, include the following:

(1) A description of the efforts the agency plans to take with respect to mitigating a nationwide public health emergency declared for an infectious disease at worksites, including the following:

(A) A description of any personal protective equipment that is being or will be provided by the agency to any covered individual physically present at a worksite during a covered period.

(B) A description of any procedures established by the agency for—

(i) testing covered individuals at worksites for a covered condition;

(ii) identifying covered individuals potentially exposed to an individual who is diagnosed with a covered condition, and notifying such individuals of such potential exposure; and

(iii) addressing differences in data, such as the number of cases, hospitalizations, and deaths, in regions and localities if an agency has covered worksites in more than one region.

(2) Guidance on—

(A) any cleaning protocols to be implemented at covered worksites;

(B) occupancy limits for covered worksites; and

(C) the use of personal protective equipment, such as appropriate face coverings, by covered individuals while physically present at a worksite.

(3) A description of the actions the agency is or will be taking to protect employees of the agency who conduct activities in an official capacity while not physically present at a covered worksite, including employees—

(A) who are required to travel in an official capacity; or

(B) perform audits or inspections.

(4) A description of any requirements that members of the public are required to meet in order to enter a facility in which covered worksites are located.

(5) A description of any alternative option to being physically present at a covered worksite that is available for employees of the agency who—

(A) have a high risk of contracting a covered condition (as determined by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention); or

(B) live in a household with individuals who have a high risk of contracting a covered condition (as determined by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).

(6) Protocols that ensure the continuity of operations of the agency, including how consistent agency mission and program performance and customer service levels will be sustained through the covered period, to include if the agency adopts enhanced and temporary telework and remote work practices as a result of an increase in the severity of the nationwide public health emergency.

(7) The hotline website and hotline telephone number of the Inspector General of the agency for covered individuals to report to the Inspector General any instance in which the agency is not implementing the plan required by this section.

(8) The hotline website and hotline telephone number of the Office of Special Counsel to report a substantial and specific danger to public health and safety or whistleblower retaliation.

(c) PUBLICATION OF PLAN.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall make available to the public on a single web page of the Office—

(1) links to each plan provided to the Director pursuant to subsection (a)(3); and

(2) a list identifying any agency that has not provided a link pursuant to such subsection.

(d) COMMUNICATION OF PLAN TO NEW EMPLOYEES, CONTRACTORS, AND SUBCONTRACTORS.—Beginning on the date that is 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the head of an agency shall communicate the plan required by subsection (a), in the manner described under such subsection, to—

(1) any new employee of the agency, not later than 30 days after the date on which such employee is hired;

(2) any individual or entity that enters into a contract with the agency after such date, not later than 30 days after the contract is entered into; and

(3) any individual or entity that enters into a subcontract at any tier of a contract with the agency after such date, not later than 30 days after the subcontract is entered into.

(e) INSPECTORS GENERAL REPORTS.—

(1) REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of each agency shall submit to the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the implementation of this section, including whether each agency involved has published and communicated the plan required by subsection (a) in accordance with this section.

(2) REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN.—Not later than 60 days after the head of an agency begins to implement a plan required under subsection (a) with respect to a covered condition, the Inspector General of each agency shall submit to the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on—

(A) the extent to which each agency has implemented the plan, including identifying any concerns for the safety of covered individuals at covered worksites that the agency has not fully addressed; and

(B) the extent to which such plan incorporated best practices to contain the spread of such covered condition.

(f) GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on lessons learned by agencies and covered individuals during the COVID-19 pandemic to further improve the policies and procedures of such agencies with respect to—

(1) the health and safety of covered individuals during nationwide public health emergencies declared for infectious diseases; and

(2) communication to covered individuals during nationwide public health emergencies declared for infectious diseases.

(g) APPLICATION.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to alter or otherwise limit the rights and obligations afforded under chapter 71 of title 5, United States Code.

(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AGENCY.—The term “agency” has the meaning given that term in section 551 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) COVERED CONDITION.—The term “covered condition” means an infectious disease that is the subject of a nationwide public health emergency.

(3) COVERED PERIOD.—The term “covered period” means a period during which a nationwide public health emergency declared for an infectious disease is in effect.

(4) COVERED INDIVIDUAL.—The term “covered individual” means—

(A) employees of the agency; and

(B) contractors of the agency, and subcontractors thereof at any tier.

(5) COVERED WORKSITE.—The term “covered worksite” means a worksite at which a covered individual is required to be present during a covered period.

(6) EMPLOYEE.—The term “employee” means any employee occupying a position in the civil service (as that term is defined in section 2101 of title 5, United States Code) at an agency.

(7) NATIONWIDE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.—The term “nationwide public health emergency” means a nationwide public health emergency declared by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247), including any renewal thereof.

(8) WORKSITE.—The term “worksite” means—

(A) in the case of an employee of the agency, the location of the employee’s position of record where the employee regularly performs his or her duties, but does not include any location where the employee teleworks (as that term is defined in section 6501 of title 5, United States Code); and

(B) in the case of a contractor of the agency (or subcontractor thereof at any tier), the location in a facility of the agency where the contractor or subcontractor performs his or her duties under a contract with the agency, or a subcontract thereof at any tier, as applicable.

SEC. 3. 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 Kentucky (Mr. COMER) 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 in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H.R. 8466.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman 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 in support of H.R. 8466, the Chai Suthammanont Healthy Federal Workplaces Act of 2022, introduced by Government Operations Subcommittee Chair CONNOLLY.

The bill would require that all Federal agencies create detailed plans in preparation for a nationwide public health emergency declaration in response to an infectious disease to protect the health and safety of employees, contractors, and subcontractors.

The plan must include protocols to ensure workers have access to protective equipment, clean facilities, limited workspace occupancy, and on-site testing; that they are notified about exposures; and that accommodations are available to high-risk individuals.

Federal workers showed great resilience as the Federal Government adapted to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Living through the pandemic for more than 2 years should make it clear that we need to take precautions to prepare for the future, as COVID-19 is not the last public health emergency we are likely to face as a country, and government agencies need to be ready for that.

The plans required under this legislation would protect workers and prevent the spread of disease. The agency must also prioritize in its plan the continuity of operations and government services through a public health emergency. The bill requires that safety protocols are clearly communicated to all employees and publicly posted.

Holding agencies accountable for making these plans transparent to Federal employees and the public will help make everyone feel safer and better informed.

The bill also includes strong oversight measures. Inspectors general at Federal agencies would assess implementation of these plans and report to Congress.

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The Government Accountability Office would conduct a study of the lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic that can be applied to improve agency plans and improve communication with employees throughout an emergency.

I commend Chairman CONNOLLY for his forward-looking bill that would better prepare government agencies for future public health crises. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 8466.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to express sincere condolences to the family of Mr. Suthammanont. I appreciate the underlying intent of this legislation: To ensure the safety of Federal workers.

I also appreciate how this version of the bill has been improved from the prior versions the House has considered.

Thankfully, there are no longer vaccine requirements for Federal workers in the bill, and the bill is now future-looking, no longer tied specifically to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nevertheless, it makes sense to be prepared for any future public health emergencies. While the safety of the Federal workers is important, so is mission accomplishment and customer service.

In considering this new version, Committee on Oversight and Reform Republicans ensured the plans this bill requires would be made through the lens of continuity of operations. That is, continuing to provide Americans the services they need, regardless of the situation.

I am pleased to see my colleagues, Representative JODY HICE's amendment receive full support in the Committee on Oversight and Reform last week and be incorporated into the bill we are considering today.

H.R. 8466 now ensures that the next time America faces a public health emergency, Federal agencies will be required to balance their workforce safety measures with plans to accomplish their missions while minimizing impacts to customer service. Agencies will be required to make these plans public for Inspector General review and congressional scrutiny.

Americans who rely on Federal agency services, such as our veterans, should never again be forgotten when their government sends its workforce home.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. CONNOLLY for working with Mr. HICE to improve the bill, and I encourage my colleagues to support the bill.

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY), the distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on Government Operations and sponsor of H.R. 8466.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairwoman of our committee for yielding, and I thank Mr. COMER, the ranking member, and Mr. HICE, the ranking member of Government Operations Subcommittee, for their support and collaboration on an improved H.R. 8466, the Suthammanont Healthy Workforce Act of 2022.

On May 26, 2022, Chai Suthammanont, my constituent, a kitchen staff worker at a childcare facility at the Marine Corps Base in Quantico, Virginia, died from coronavirus-related complications. Chai was a loving father and husband and a proud naturalized American. Chai was known for his kindness and his patience. He had a unique handshake he shared with many of the kids at the childcare facility where he

worked. His death was a tragedy felt by so many.

Confusion and uncertainty emerged as two of the largest contributing factors to Chai's death. The Federal Government did not yet have any protocols in place—or guidance, for that matter—intended to protect him and others.

We are emerging from the pandemic, but new strains of infectious diseases and other potential health emergencies demand that the Federal Government prepare to adapt and continue operations and the mission across many challenges. Our government must embrace lessons learned from the pandemic; some of them learned through tragic losses such as Chai's.

Federal agencies must place the health and safety of Federal employees at the forefront of their plans and operations while continuing to provide vital services to the public, ensuring continuity of operations.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, our subcommittee has held three hearings focused on the future of Federal work, which include prioritizing the health and safety of our workforce.

Some simple truths emerged during these deliberations.

One, our Federal workforce is comprised of dedicated civil servants who didn't stop delivering mail, serving veterans, approving and distributing vaccines, and ensuring businesses received essential financial assistance.

Two, the Federal workforce needs agencies to invest in proper information technology, training, and protective equipment before another public health crisis occurs.

Three, agencies need clearly communicated, publicly available policies and guidance that let their employees and the public know how to ensure a safe and healthy continuity of operations.

Last year, this committee marked up a previous version of the bill that covered the COVID-19 pandemic. This new bill prepares the Federal workforce, as the distinguished ranking member indicated, for the potential nationwide public health emergencies of tomorrow.

The bill requires each Federal agency to establish a plan to describe public health protocols, including, but not limited to, testing, identification, notification of individuals who may have been exposed to the pathogen; cleaning; occupancy limits; use of personal protective equipment; protections for employees whose work requires them to travel offsite; and ensuring the continuity of operations for the agency.

The bill would also require each agency's Office of Inspector General to report on the extent each agency has, in fact, implemented the plan and the Government Accountability Office to report on the lessons learned from the pandemic.

This bill is endorsed by the American Federation of Government Employees, International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers, the

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, the National Federation of Federal Employees, the National Treasury Employees Union, the Professional Managers Association, the Senior Executives Association, among many other organizations.

Federal employees are a great asset for our Nation. We must work to ensure their well-being and protection in difficult times such as these.

Mr. Speaker, I again thank the chairwoman, who is the original cosponsor of this legislation, as well as my colleagues, especially Mr. COMER and Mr. HICE, for making this a strong bipartisan effort.

Mr. Speaker, I particularly salute Chai's widow, Christina, for her continued efforts in honoring her late husband's memory.

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, it is important that Federal agencies plan and prepare for future infectious disease outbreaks and do so in a transparent manner.

This bill is much improved and now also focuses on maintaining Federal agency services to the American people through a potential future public health emergency. Federal agencies exist to serve the American people. This is true during national public health emergencies, also.

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. 8466, 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 (CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8466, 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. HICE of Georgia. 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.

END HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS ACT OF 2022

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3470) to provide for the implementation of certain trafficking in contracting provisions, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3470

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 "End Human Trafficking in Government Contracts Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. IMPLEMENTATION OF TRAFFICKING IN CONTRACTING PROVISIONS.

(a) REQUIREMENT TO REFER VIOLATIONS TO AGENCY SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT OFFICIAL.—Section 1704(c)(1) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239; 22 U.S.C. 7104b(c)(1)) is amended—

(1) by inserting "refer the matter to the agency suspension and debarment official and" before "consider taking one of the following actions"; and

(2) by striking subparagraph (G).

(b) REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF TRAFFICKING IN CONTRACTING PROVISIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit to Congress a report on implementation of title XVII of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239; 126 Stat. 2092).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) 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 insert extraneous material on S. 3470.

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 in support of S. 3470, the End Human Trafficking in Government Contracts Act.

S. 3470 was introduced by Senator LANKFORD from Oklahoma and has passed the Senate by unanimous consent. The bill would require the head of an agency to make a referral for debarment of a Federal contractor in response to Inspector General verification that the company has engaged in any form of human trafficking, including labor and sex trafficking.

Under current law, the referral is merely an action that the agency head may consider. Putting stronger penalties on contractors creates stronger incentives for them to be vigilant about eliminating human trafficking from their business. This bill helps to ensure that we use the U.S. Government's enormous purchasing power to combat human trafficking.

Under this bill, the Office of Management and Budget would also submit a report to Congress on Federal Government actions to end trafficking in Federal contracts. Human trafficking is nothing short of modern-day slavery. It

is estimated that human trafficking is a \$150 billion global industry. It must be a priority to ensure that the U.S. is not contributing one dollar to perpetuate human trafficking through Federal contracts.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this straightforward legislation to further enforce zero tolerance for human trafficking in Federal contracts.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the End Human Trafficking in Government Contracts Act ensures that Federal agencies are not paying for or participating in human trafficking or human sex trafficking through grants or contracts. This is a particular concern for overseas contractors in which some unscrupulous companies may take advantage of vulnerable third-country workers.

Congress has acted before to address this problem. Unfortunately, both the Government Accountability Office and the Department of Defense Inspector General have found that trafficking by contractors and grantees continues. This bill moves to send a clear message: Trafficking will not be tolerated.

Under current law, agencies are already required to refer allegations of human or sex trafficking to the Inspector General for investigation. If found to be true, that agency has a number of options to deal with the situation, but this bill requires all substantiated cases be reported to the agency's suspension and debarment official.

In the contracting world, this is serious business. After due process, a contractor could be prohibited from receiving future government contracts or other government benefits. This bill ensures all current or would-be grantees or contractors take all measures necessary to stop human or sex trafficking.

Finally, the bill directs the Office of Management and Budget to report on enforcement of the laws so we in Congress could conduct the necessary oversight.

I thank Senators JAMES LANKFORD and JONI ERNST for sending this important bill to the House for final passage in Congress today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill and for the President to sign S. 3470 into law.

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers on this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, let me be clear. Not a single dime of taxpayer money should ever flow to anyone engaged in human or sex trafficking activities. This bill is an important step toward ensuring responsible stewardship of taxpayer money.

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