

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. ROSENDALE. Madam 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.

AMENDING THE BILL EMERSON GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD DONATION ACT

Mrs. PELTOLA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 5329) to amend the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act to improve the program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 5329

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

SECTION 1. BILL EMERSON GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD DONATION ACT.

The Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act (42 U.S.C. 1791) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (3), by inserting “or is charged a good Samaritan reduced price” before the period at the end;

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (6) through (10) as paragraphs (7) through (11), respectively;

(C) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

“(6) GOOD SAMARITAN REDUCED PRICE.—The term ‘good Samaritan reduced price’ means, with respect to the price of an apparently wholesome food or apparently fit grocery product, a price that is an amount not greater than the cost of handling, administering, harvesting, processing, packaging, transporting, and distributing the apparently wholesome food or apparently fit grocery product.”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(12) QUALIFIED DIRECT DONOR.—The term ‘qualified direct donor’ means a retail grocer, wholesaler, agricultural producer, agricultural processor, agricultural distributor, restaurant, caterer, school food authority, or institution of higher education (as defined in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)).”;

and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraphs (1) and (2), by inserting “at zero cost or at a good Samaritan reduced price” after “needy individuals” each place it appears;

(B) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4);

(C) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) DIRECT DONATIONS TO NEEDY INDIVIDUALS.—A qualified direct donor shall not be subject to civil or criminal liability arising from the nature, age, packaging, or condition of apparently wholesome food or an apparently fit grocery product that the qualified direct donor donates in good faith to a needy individual at zero cost.”; and

(D) in paragraph (4) (as so redesignated), by striking “and (2)” and inserting “, (2), and (3)”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Alaska (Mrs. PELTOLA) and the gentle-

woman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Alaska.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. PELTOLA. Madam 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 S. 5329, a bill to amend the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act to improve the program, and for other purposes.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. PELTOLA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 5329, the Food Donation Improvement Act of 2021, championed by Mr. MCGOVERN of Massachusetts, Mr. NEWHOUSE of Washington, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, and the late Mrs. Walorski of Indiana.

Nearly 40 percent of the food in the United States is wasted, and the U.S. spends over \$408 billion each year disposing of food that has never even been eaten.

Meanwhile, in 2021 more than 10 percent of households in America struggled with food insecurity. The Food Donation Improvement Act of 2021 addresses food insecurity by tackling food waste.

Specifically, the bill makes improvements to the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act by expanding liability protections that will encourage food donation, including by protecting direct donation to needy individuals.

Madam Speaker, simply put, the Food Donation Improvement Act of 2021 makes it easier to donate food that might otherwise go to waste.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in tackling food waste and insecurity and vote “yes” on S. 5329.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1630

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of S. 5329, the Food Donation Improvement Act. This bipartisan, bicameral bill will help expand the donation of food to those most in need. This is the perfect bill to pass during the holiday season, a time when we are reminded that it is better to give than to receive.

Specifically, this commonsense legislation extends liability protections to those who donate food, either directly to a person in need or to those selling food at a deeply reduced cost. In other words, it is another avenue to help disadvantaged Americans get the food they need to thrive.

Helping nonprofits, farmers, schools, restaurants, and others to assist the

hungry in their neighborhoods without increasing costs to taxpayers is legislating at its best.

This bill ensures generous Americans can give food to those in need without facing unnecessary liability. Our country is one of the most generous in the world. It is time to unleash that generosity.

S. 5329 will help reduce food waste, while also increasing support from Americans most in need. According to Forbes: “Approximately 40 percent of food in the U.S. is wasted, and the U.S. spends \$408 billion each year processing, transporting, storing, and disposing of food that is never eaten.”

This is an unnecessary waste, especially when so many Americans could use this food to feed their families. That is why I support this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to vote “yes.”

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. PELTOLA. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN).

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, if you go out behind almost any restaurant, hotel, grocery store, catering company, or even at some farms in America, you will find a dirty little secret that is as offensive as it is solvable; food waste.

This bill, the Food Donation Improvement Act, has a simple goal: Make it easier for people with extra food to donate it to people in need.

It has been a long and winding road to get here today. This was supposed to be a part of the omnibus bill. We have very broad bipartisan support from Democratic and Republican leaders on both sides of the Capitol. All four corners on the committees of jurisdiction, Senators BOOZMAN and STABENOW, and our colleagues, Representatives VIRGINIA FOXX and BOBBY SCOTT signed off on this.

Due to a clerical error, the text of the bill was left out, so we are trying to pass this as a freestanding bill. All we are doing here is making sure this truly bipartisan bill moves forward and gets to the President’s desk.

Hunger is not inevitable. We live in a land of abundance. There is plenty of food for everyone; so much so, in fact, that close to 40 percent of food that is perfectly good gets wasted in America. We don’t have a shortage of food, we have a mismatch between abundance and need, a mismatch we can solve by passing this commonsense, bipartisan bill.

This bill is so bipartisan because it is very clear that ambiguous, outdated laws are preventing people who have extra food from donating it to people who need extra food. All we are doing here is expanding protections to increase the quantity and efficiency of food donation efforts.

Madam Speaker, after decades of work, we are moving in the right direction on hunger. The Biden administration has released a National Strategy

on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health, identifying the need to reduce barriers to food recovery as part of their whole-of-government response. The Food Donation Improvement Act is an important step toward making that goal a reality.

Again, I thank Leader SCHUMER, Senator BLUMENTHAL, Senator BOOZMAN, Chairwoman STABENOW, Speaker PELOSI, Chairman BOBBY SCOTT, and my good friend, Ranking Member VIRGINIA FOXX.

I also thank Representatives DAN NEWHOUSE, CHELLIE PINGREE, and the late Jackie Walorski, for their support of this effort.

I specifically recognize Alex Urry, Dick Meltzer, and Keith Stern, in the Speaker's Office; Carrie Hughes and Andre Lindsay of the Education and Labor Committee; and Caitlin Hodgkins and Jenn Chandler on my own team.

I thank all the anti-hunger and environmental advocacy organizations, industry leaders, retailers, and food companies who fought so hard to pass this bill.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote for this bipartisan bill that will prevent food from going to waste and get us closer to the goal of ending hunger in America once and for all.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I thank my colleague and friend, JIM MCGOVERN, also for calling this bill to my attention last week. He pointed this out to me, and I say that Republicans support good government solutions that prevent waste, while also providing for those most in need.

Today's legislation is the embodiment of commonsense solutions. It provides the assurance many Americans need to guarantee they are protected when giving to those in need.

Our laws should be promoting charity and generosity, not curtailing it. There is no reason to let food go to waste when we can get it to those families most in need.

This bipartisan, bicameral legislation will get food to the hungry, and it does so without adding to the taxpayers' tab. This is a win-win.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes," and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. PELTOLA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, food waste is unacceptable as millions of children and families face food insecurity. By encouraging retailers and organizations to donate food, the Food Donation Improvement Act of 2021 will make it easier to donate food and, ultimately, crack down on food waste.

While we have more work to do to ensure every American has consistent access to nutritious meals, this bill offers us the opportunity to send a message to Americans that improving food security is a clear priority for every Member of Congress.

I thank Mr. MCGOVERN of Massachusetts, Mr. NEWHOUSE of Washington,

Ms. PINGREE of Maine, and the late Mrs. Walorski of Indiana for their leadership on this bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Alaska (Mrs. PELTOLA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 5329.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COLONEL MARY LOUISE RASMUSON CAMPUS OF THE ALASKA VA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM ACT OF 2022

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 5016) to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs located in Anchorage, Alaska, as the "Colonel Mary Louise Rasmuson Campus of the Alaska VA Healthcare System", and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 5016

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 "Colonel Mary Louise Rasmuson Campus of the Alaska VA Healthcare System Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Mary Louise (Milligan) Rasmuson was born April 11, 1911, in East Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

(2) Mary Louise received a Bachelor of Science degree from the Carnegie Institute of Technology and a Master of Education degree from the University of Pittsburgh.

(3) Mary Louise was one of the first two women to receive an Honorary Doctorate of Laws degree from the Carnegie Institute of Technology.

(4) In 1942, Mary Louise joined the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps as a Private and was in the first graduating class.

(5) Mary Louise worked up the ranks, and in 1957, President Dwight Eisenhower appointed Mary Louise as the Fifth Director of the Women's Army Corps and she was reappointed to this position by President John F. Kennedy in 1961.

(6) In 1962, Colonel Rasmuson retired from the Army.

(7) Colonel Rasmuson was recognized for her outstanding service in the Women's Army Corps with the Legion of Merit award with two Oak Leaf Clusters for her work in expanding the roles and duties of women in the Army, as well as her role in integrating Black women in the Women's Army Corps.

(8) Colonel Rasmuson became Director of the Women's Army Corps during tumultuous times and is credited with enhancing the image and recruitment of women into the Women's Army Corps during her years as the Director.

(9) Colonel Rasmuson expanded opportunities for women to serve in assignments previously reserved only for men, starting with the assignments of 12 enlisted women into

the First Missile Master Unit at Fort Meade, Maryland.

(10) Colonel Rasmuson was instrumental in enabling women to be promoted above the grade of E-7 into the highest enlisted ranks of the Army, E-8 and E-9.

(11) During her time in the Women's Army Corps, Colonel Rasmuson was the guiding force behind the Army opening up the college enlistment option to women under the self-enhancement programs and witnessed the first female enlisted member attend college under those programs.

(12) The career of Colonel Rasmuson also laid the groundwork for women to be fully integrated into the United States Army when the Women's Army Corps was disbanded in 1978.

(13) In 1961, Mary Louise married a prominent leader in Alaska, Elmer E. Rasmuson, and she was the first Director of the Women's Army Corps to be married while serving in that position.

(14) After her retirement from military service in 1962, Mary Louise moved to Alaska where she continued her leadership as a veteran in her community in Alaska.

(15) Mary Louise served as First Lady of Anchorage after the devastating magnitude 9.2 earthquake in 1964, after her husband, Elmer, was elected as mayor, serving from 1964 to 1967.

(16) Mary Louise was an advocate of social justice, education, and the arts during her 45 years of work on the Board of the Rasmuson Foundation.

(17) Mary Louise served as the Honorary Chair and was a major founder to renovate the Anchorage Veterans Memorial on the Delaney Parkstrip in downtown Anchorage.

(18) Mary Louise also contributed to the Army Women's Museum, the National Museum of the American Indian, and the National Museum of the United States Army.

(19) Mary Louise was the Chair of the Anchorage Museum Foundation and helped establish the museum in Anchorage, serving as its Chair for 21 years.

(20) On July 30, 2012, Mary Louise died at her home in Anchorage, at the age of 101, but her legacy of character and leadership will endure as an example to all who serve in the United States military.

SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF COLONEL MARY LOUISE RASMUSON CAMPUS OF THE ALASKA VA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Anchorage, Alaska, shall, after the date of the enactment of this Act, be known and designated as the "Colonel Mary Louise Rasmuson Campus of the Alaska VA Healthcare System".

(b) REFERENCE.—Any reference in any law, regulation, map, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the medical center referred to in subsection (a) shall be considered to be a reference to the Colonel Mary Louise Rasmuson Campus of the Alaska VA Healthcare System.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on S. 5016.

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