

from Michigan (Ms. STEVENS), a valued member of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I thank Ranking Member LOFGREN and my phenomenal colleague, Ms. DEBORAH ROSS, for their leadership in putting forth this piece of legislation in a bipartisan way alongside the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. MILLER). Ms. ROSS hails from Research Triangle Park, and there is no one better in this institution to understand and put forth the systems of our supercomputer technology, matching the Department of Energy alongside NOAA to get in front of these storms that are hitting us more ferociously and faster than ever before.

Every single Member of this body can talk about their experience with a storm in their State or in their district. This is very real, and we know that supercomputer technology puts forth the best and the fastest applications. The DOE technology along with NOAA and their capabilities to match these datasets will help us get in front of these storms.

Madam Speaker, I thank Ms. ROSS, a second-term member on the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, the ranking member, and the chair for their work on this bill. I urge all Members to join us in passing this bipartisan legislation, getting in front of storms, getting in front of climate change, and making people's lives better.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I am grateful to Representative ROSS for the expertise and diligence and hard work that she puts in on the Science Committee. Her knowledge is invaluable, but there is something else. In this body, we know there is sometimes acrimony and fighting. She is someone, along with Mr. MILLER, who wants to get things done, who put aside that kind of dissension and work together for the betterment of our country. I am grateful to both of them.

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

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I feel the same way and echo the sentiment, and I thank the gentlewoman for her comments.

As I mentioned in my opening remarks, H.R. 1715 is a good government bill that leverages existing Federal research dollars to advance weather and climate science that will protect American lives and property. It is bipartisan, commonsense legislation, which is why it recently passed unanimously through the committee.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill once again, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1715.

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. MILLER of Ohio. 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.

TESTING, RAPID ANALYSIS, AND NARCOTIC QUALITY RESEARCH ACT

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1734) to require coordinated National Institute of Standards and Technology science and research activities regarding illicit drugs containing xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, and other substances of concern, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1734

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 "Testing, Rapid Analysis, and Narcotic Quality Research Act" or the "TRANQ Research Act".

SEC. 2. XYLAZINE DETECTION AND ANALYSIS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall—

(1) support NIST intramural basic measurement science and research to advance—

(A) analytical methods to identify, understand, differentiate, and categorize illicit drugs containing xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, or other emerging substances of concern;

(B) measurement technologies to shorten analysis timelines and enhance narcotic and opioid detection and analysis capabilities in illicit drugs;

(C) new data tools, techniques, and processes to identify and publicly disclose relevant information concerning illicit drugs containing xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, or other emerging substances of concern; and

(D) all other areas determined by the Director to be critical to the development and deployment of technologies to measure and analyze the presence of xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, and other emerging substances of concern in illicit drugs;

(2) support activities to inform and expand the development of near-real time spectrometry capabilities regarding xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, and other emerging compounds in illicit drugs;

(3) convene the private sector, institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, Federal laboratories, and other Federal agencies engaged in the analysis of illicit drugs to develop coordinated strategies and voluntary best practices for the safe handling, transport, and analysis of illicit drugs containing xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, or other emerging substances of concern;

(4) establish or expand collaborative partnerships or consortia with other government agencies engaged in counternarcotic research and development, institutions of higher education, Federal laboratories, and the private sector to enhance narcotic and opioid detection and analysis capabilities regarding xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, and other emerging substances of concern in illicit drugs; and

(5) provide opportunities for graduate and postgraduate research on the detection and identification of xylazine, novel synthetic

opioids, and other emerging substances of concern in illicit drugs.

(b) CONTROLS.—In carrying out activities authorized under this section, the Director shall ensure proper security controls are implemented to protect sensitive information, as appropriate.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) DIRECTOR.—The term "Director" means the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

(2) FEDERAL LABORATORY.—The term "Federal laboratory" has the meaning given such term in section 4 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3703).

(3) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term "institution of higher education" has the meaning given such term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (19 U.S.C. 1001).

(4) NIST.—The term "NIST" means the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

(5) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term "nonprofit organization" means an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such code.

(6) XYLAZINE.—The term "xylazine" means the nonopioid tranquilizer methyl benzene compound frequently used in veterinary medicine as an emetic and sedative with analgesic and muscle relaxant properties.

SEC. 3. REPORT.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall submit to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report on the implementation of this Act. Such report may include legislative recommendations to improve the Director's ability to carry out section 2.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. MILLER) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1734, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1734, the TRANQ Research Act, led by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) and the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. CARAVEO).

Unfortunately, we are all too familiar with the destruction opioids like fentanyl are causing our communities. Now these drugs are being mixed with animal tranquilizers to create deadly new combinations.

Drugs like tranq are presenting new challenges for law enforcement, healthcare professionals, and first responders. Without a better understanding of this drug, we cannot slow

its spread, combat its effects, or ensure safe handling.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology, known as NIST, has already done extraordinary work on fentanyl detection, and this bill allows them to apply their resources and expertise to analyzing these new variants. With NIST's help, we will improve our ability to detect and identify these drugs and improve the tools available to keep first responders and law enforcement safe when dealing with them.

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

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1734, the TRANQ Research Act, a bill that I was proud to cosponsor, but I need to thank especially our colleagues, Representatives YADIRA CARAVEO and MIKE COLLINS, for leading this legislation, as well as Chairman FRANK LUCAS for his support.

Synthetic opioids, such as fentanyl, have taken a terrible toll on communities all across the country, including in my own district. Fentanyl is now involved in more deaths of Americans under 50 than any other cause of death.

□ 1815

As if the opioid epidemic wasn't bad enough already, our communities now have to deal with various chemicals being added to these drugs that "enhance" their effects and make them harder to detect.

One chemical that criminals have started to use is a common animal tranquilizer called xylazine. When added to fentanyl, this animal tranquilizer can have terrible side effects, including horrible wounds at the injection site.

These additives are also consequential to our first responders and to law enforcement as they deal with these drugs on the street. Drug mixtures usually contain a very small amount of synthetic opioids, which makes it difficult to detect and hard to identify new variants. Even small amounts of some drugs can be dangerous for law enforcement and public health officials to handle.

This bill would address these challenges by leveraging NIST's unique research capabilities to help develop technologies to quickly characterize and safely handle street drugs.

For decades, NIST, the Nation's measurement laboratory, has helped to provide safe and effective drug detection techniques and handling practices. NIST also collects and analyzes drug samples in circulation to help health authorities, as well as law enforcement, better respond to this crisis. This bill would codify, as well as enhance, those ongoing efforts.

This is a fantastic example of how we can activate the unique expertise in our government laboratories to benefit

communities across the country. We can use science to make law enforcement and first responders safer and help fight this drug epidemic.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) to speak on his bill.

Mr. COLLINS. Madam Speaker, I thank my fellow freshman colleague for yielding a few extra minutes, seeing as I am from Georgia and he is from Ohio, and I don't talk as fast.

Madam Speaker, I also thank Representative CARAVEO, Chairman LUCAS, Ranking Member LOFGREN, and the other members of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee who have joined 22 of their colleagues in cosponsoring this commonsense bill.

I rise to call on my colleagues to support H.R. 1734, the TRANQ Research Act. This bill directs the National Institute of Standards and Technology, NIST, to analyze and advance research on dangerous fentanyl additives that are putting our public safety officers' lives at risk, including those who are guarding our borders.

As we have seen, fentanyl has been entering our country at record levels over the past 2 years. Now, we are seeing even more harmful chemicals like tranq being added to an already deadly drug. You see, tranq is a deadly substance. It contains a veterinary tranquilizer, xylazine, which, when combined with fentanyl, becomes deadlier than the fentanyl itself.

These drug traffickers dealing in tranq are following the same playbook that they used when fentanyl first flooded the United States. It took us too long to recognize the dangers of fentanyl once it was first detected, putting the lives of first responders and everyday Americans at risk. These are mistakes we simply can't afford to make with this new drug.

As a matter of fact, the Drug Enforcement Administration reports that between 2020 and 2021, detections of tranq in fentanyl increased nearly 200 percent in the Southern United States. Those numbers continue to rise, and first responders are struggling to keep up.

This bill is one step in fighting dangerous fentanyl additives. By understanding what these additives are, how to test for them, and how to safely handle them, we can better protect our first responders.

NIST has a long history of partnering with State and local agencies to protect frontline workers from dangerous substances. The agency has developed new drug detection and identification tools that are used in the field today. It is also a frequent partner of law enforcement, providing analytical services when they come across new substances.

NIST has also helped create drug handling practices that have become the gold standard for keeping law en-

forcement officers safe when they have to handle fentanyl and other drugs. These are exactly the kind of efforts we should be making with tranq and other novel synthetic opioids that are hitting the market.

This is a commonsense bill that will allow NIST to focus its work on tranq and help us to better understand the rise of fentanyl additives plaguing our communities.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. CARAVEO) and recognize her leadership on this matter.

Ms. CARAVEO. Madam Speaker, I thank Ranking Member LOFGREN for yielding time.

Today, I am proud to stand in strong support of the Testing, Rapid Analysis, and Narcotic Quality Research Act that I introduced with my colleague from Georgia, Representative MIKE COLLINS.

In recent months, criminals have turned to xylazine, a common animal tranquilizer, to make fentanyl. If injected, this drug can have horrible side effects, including large wounds at the injection site.

As a doctor, I have seen firsthand the horrific impact of the drug crisis on our families and communities.

Addictive, dangerous substances like opioids have wreaked havoc in Colorado, where we are now losing approximately 2,000 Coloradans a year to fentanyl and meth overdoses. These numbers are likely to worsen with the emergence of xylazine.

Our bipartisan legislation directs the National Institute of Standards and Technology to make it easier and faster to detect drugs containing xylazine and novel synthetic opioids. It also supports the development of safe handling processes to protect law enforcement officers and forensic chemists from this dangerous substance.

This effort will ensure our first responders have the support that they need to detect, identify, and better understand synthetic opioids and ultimately help save American lives.

At a time of deep division in our country, I am encouraged by the bipartisan support to address this next wave of the drug crisis.

I thank Representative COLLINS for working with me to introduce this bill and Chairman LUCAS and Ranking Member LOFGREN for their help in bringing it to the House floor. I also thank Senators WELCH and CRUZ for spearheading this effort in the Senate.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. STEVENS), a valued member of our committee.

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, for everyone watching back at home, H.R.

1734 is bipartisan lawmaking at its best.

A new Member of Congress, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, the chair of the Subcommittee on Research and Technology of the House Science Committee, a subcommittee I was privileged to serve as the chair of for two terms, and the brilliant Ms. CARAVEO, another new Member of Congress from Colorado, came together to tackle an opioid epidemic plaguing the American people, plaguing youth, to get in front of tranq.

This is why the Science Committee, for everyone watching back at home, is so very important. We are utilizing NIST, the standards agency of the United States of America, to make sure that we can track and tackle these insidious drugs that are in our streets, that are in our neighborhoods, and that are in our homes.

Madam Speaker, I thank Ms. CARAVEO, Mr. COLLINS, and the leadership of this committee.

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I am ready to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close and yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, this is another example of how the Science Committee can successfully follow our history of bipartisan work for the well-being of our country—two freshmen coming together for something that is important.

Madam Speaker, I also will mention that Representative CARAVEO is not just Representative CARAVEO. She is Dr. Caraveo. She comes with significant expertise to this body and especially to the Science Committee. We are grateful to her constituents for sending her to us.

She, like Mr. COLLINS, has only been here several months, but she has already shown leadership, a focus on law enforcement and health, and a real willingness to work on a bipartisan basis to solve problems that face our country.

Madam Speaker, I thank Representatives Collins and Caraveo for their hard work, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, as we have heard today, this zombie drug has gruesome side effects and is leading to an alarming rate of overdose deaths.

Overdose deaths involving tranq have increased in all regions of the United States, according to the DEA. From 2020 to 2021, these deaths surged 100 percent in the Northeast, more than 500 percent in the Midwest, and 750 percent in the West, as well as skyrocketing by more than 1,100 percent in the South.

Our first responders need every tool they can get to identify and to fight this growing epidemic of synthetic drugs. H.R. 1734 will authorize NIST to

give them those tools by expanding real-time analysis capabilities to frontline workers like law enforcement and EMTs.

This legislation was favorably reported out of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee by a vote of 36–0. It is bipartisan and addresses a critical issue every district in the Nation is facing.

I thank Representatives COLLINS and CARAVEO for their leadership on this bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1734, 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. MILLER of Ohio. 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.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 26 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BICE) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 676,

H.R. 1715; and

Agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote.

Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

COASTAL COMMUNITIES OCEAN ACIDIFICATION ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 676) to amend the Federal

Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to collaborate with State and local governments and Indian Tribes on vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification, research planning, and similar activities, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 351, nays 58, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 203]

YEAS—351

Adams	Crenshaw	Houlahan
Aderholt	Crockett	Hoyer
Aguilar	Cuellar	Hoyle (OR)
Alford	Curtis	Hudson
Allen	D'Esposito	Huffman
Allred	Davids (KS)	Huizenga
Amodei	Davis (IL)	Issa
Armstrong	Davis (NC)	Ivey
Arrington	De La Cruz	Jackson (IL)
Bacon	Dean (PA)	Jackson (NC)
Baird	DeGette	Jacobs
Balderson	DeLauro	James
Balint	DelBene	Jayapal
Barr	Deluzio	Jeffries
Barragán	DeSaulnier	Johnson (GA)
Beatty	Diaz-Balart	Johnson (LA)
Bentz	Dingell	Johnson (OH)
Bera	Doggett	Johnson (SD)
Bergman	Donalds	Joyce (OH)
Beyer	Duarte	Joyce (PA)
Bice	Dunn (FL)	Kamlager-Dove
Bishop (GA)	Edwards	Kaptur
Blumenauer	Ellzey	Kean (NJ)
Blunt	Emmer	Keating
Bonamici	Escobar	Kelly (IL)
Bost	Eshoo	Kelly (PA)
Bowman	Espallat	Khanna
Boyle (PA)	Estes	Kiggans (VA)
Brown	Evans	Kildee
Brownley	Feenstra	Kiley
Buchanan	Finstad	Kilmer
Buchon	Fischbach	Kim (CA)
Budzinski	Fitzgerald	Kim (NJ)
Bush	Fitzpatrick	Krishnamoorthi
Calvert	Flood	Kuster
Cammack	Foster	Kustoff
Caraveo	Foushee	LaHood
Carbajal	Fox	LaLota
Cárdenas	Frankel, Lois	Lamborn
Carey	Franklin, C.	Langworthy
Carl	Scott	Larsen (WA)
Carson	Frost	Larson (CT)
Carter (GA)	Fry	Latta
Carter (LA)	Gaetz	LaTurner
Carter (TX)	Gallagher	Lawler
Casar	Gallego	Lee (CA)
Case	Garbarino	Lee (FL)
Casten	Garcia (IL)	Lee (NV)
Castor (FL)	Garcia, Mike	Lee (PA)
Castro (TX)	Garcia, Robert	Leger Fernandez
Chavez-DeRemer	Gimenez	Letlow
Cherfilus-	Golden (ME)	Levin
McCormick	Goldman (NY)	Lieu
Chu	Gomez	Lofgren
Cicilline	Gonzales, Tony	Lucas
Ciscomani	Gottheimer	Luetkemeyer
Clark (MA)	Granger	Luna
Clarke (NY)	Graves (LA)	Lynch
Cleaver	Graves (MO)	Mace
Clyburn	Green, Al (TX)	Magaziner
Cohen	Guthrie	Malliotakis
Cole	Harder (CA)	Mann
Collins	Hayes	Manning
Comer	Higgins (NY)	Mast
Connolly	Hill	Matsui
Correa	Himes	McBath
Courtney	Hinson	McCaul
Craig	Horsford	McClain
Crawford	Houchin	McClellan