

On the day after Israel officially declared independence back in 1948, they were attacked immediately by five surrounding Arab countries. We see that Israel's existence is not an easy one. It is one that requires our alliance, as they are a loyal friend to this country as we are to them.

It is my understanding that President Issac Herzog is actually the first native-born Israeli President since the creation of the State, so it is only fitting that we welcome his address to the House this week.

## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. SALAZAR). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1630

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WITTMAN) at 4 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

## PROVIDING ACCOUNTABILITY THROUGH TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2023

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 111) to require each agency, in providing notice of a rulemaking, to include a link to a 100-word plain language summary of the proposed rule.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 111

*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 "Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2023".

### SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT TO POST A 100-WORD SUMMARY TO REGULATIONS.GOV.

Section 553(b) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

"(4) the Internet address of a summary of not more than 100 words in length of the proposed rule, in plain language, that shall be posted on the Internet website under section

206(d) of the E-Government Act of 2002 (44 U.S.C. 3501 note) (commonly known as regulations.gov)."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. VAN DREW) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. VAN DREW. 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 S. 111.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 111, the Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2023.

We have already spent a lot of time in this Congress exposing the problems of the administrative state. Agencies impose rules on the American people that lack popular support and would never get through the House and Senate to become law.

One of the major problems is that agencies are less transparent and have much less accountability than we do here in Congress.

The Administrative Procedure Act requires agencies to make certain disclosures when they propose those rules. Some of these explanations can be dense and bureaucratic and may not always help Americans quickly grasp what agencies plan to do.

This bill is a commonsense approach to increasing agency transparency and accountability. It requires agencies to provide a link to a plain language summary of 100 words or less for proposed rules.

This requirement is a simple, easy way to help the American people better understand what the rules are that agencies may impose. I urge Members to support this bill. It is good, it is strong, it is simple, and it is bipartisan.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 111, the Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2023.

This simple but important legislation would require our regulatory agencies to provide a summary in no more than 100 words and in plain language of proposed rules on Regulations.gov, thus providing the American public with more transparency and easy understanding of new rules and regulations.

The Administrative Procedure Act already requires that the public be informed and have the chance to provide feedback to our agencies on the rules that they are contemplating.

This bill, though, would bring a new level of transparency to our agencies'

hard work by giving the public a simple and easy-to-understand summary of possible new rules that might affect them or their business.

I also commend this bill's sponsors for requiring that the summary is made available online. Transparency and accessibility must go hand in hand.

This legislation has already passed the Senate. I urge my colleagues to support it and send it to the President for his signature.

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

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this is good legislation that will provide transparency to the regulatory process. I urge all Members to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I reiterate my strong support for S. 111, the Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act.

The rules that agencies impose have real-world consequences. Americans should be easily able to understand what a proposed rule does. Instead, they are often left trying to interpret pages of technical and bureaucratic jargon.

This bill is a simple measure that will make Americans' lives easier.

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

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 111, the Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act which the House will be voting on today.

This commonsense bill has been a bicameral effort for several years and I'm hopeful it will pass the House today so it can finally be sent to the President's desk for signature and become law.

Since the creation of the Administrative Procedure Act in 1946, federal agencies have been required to keep the public informed of their respective rulemaking processes. All rules and regulations are also published in the Federal Register, so there's a lot to keep up with.

The federal government produces hundreds of rules, regulations, and laws every year. And most of these government agencies unfortunately have a habit of creating long-winded and convoluted rules that frankly don't make sense unless you're an expert in that field.

American small businesses have enough to worry about—especially in this economy. They don't have the time or resources to keep track of the latest in government red tape or figure out if they need to abide by agency suggestions that are often confused for laws. And that regulatory burden shouldn't be on them.

In my capacity as Vice Chair of the House Small Business Committee, I'm constantly hearing from small business owners who have run into issues like this. And I'm sure many of my colleagues have also heard from constituents who need help navigating the American regulatory maze.

The Providing Transparency Through Accountability Act is a straightforward, commonsense solution to this problem.

This bill would simply require agencies to create a short, plain language summary and a website link to make it easily accessible so that all Americans can easily find and understand the rules being proposed by the administration.

Giving Americans—and especially small businesses—a one-hundred-word, plain language summary for an otherwise convoluted government rulemaking provides much needed streamlining and transparency.

I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will vote for this bill to help the small business owners who create jobs and economic growth nationwide focus on running their businesses, not sifting through long-winded government documents.

I thank Senator LANKFORD for getting this bill across the finish line in the Senate. I encourage my colleagues to vote in favor of the Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 111, the Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act.

S. 111 would require each agency, in providing notice of a rulemaking, to include a link to a 100-word plain language summary of the proposed rule, to be made available on the website regulations.gov.

Our job here is public service—not for our benefit, but the enrichment of our communities, state, and Nation.

The bills we pass here directly affect the lives of everyday Americans.

Therefore, the public must be able to access and provide their input regarding rules.

For those who may not be experts in the subject matter of the rule, S. 111 provides that a plain-language summary of 100 words or less be made available by agencies at regulations.gov.

Having this clear and simplistic summary will give members of the public the opportunity to provide specific and useful comments to those of us who serve them.

Plain language makes it easier for the public to read, understand, and use government communications.

As a result, Americans understand documents more quickly, call less often for explanations, and make fewer errors filling out forms.

All in all, Americans comply more accurately and quickly with requirements when written in plain language.

Ultimately, this helps improve government transparency and empower greater participation in the democratic process.

Through plain language, Americans are broadly better able to understand their options and the policies their government is pursuing.

Simply put, Americans are better able to participate in the debate once they understand their choices.

In addition, the Congressional Budget Office expects that preparing this short summary of proposed rules would not significantly increase agencies' administrative costs.

Further, this remains true when the costs of implementation are assessed over a five year period, with the Congressional Budget Office estimating no significant costs accruing through implementation of this policy from 2023 through 2028.

In fact, such a measure is likely to save federal government dollars in the long run.

Because Americans understand more immediately, file documents with greater accuracy,

and have less need to seek explanations from bureaucrats, plain language saves government employees time and allows them to work more effectively and efficiently.

Multiple studies have shown that plain language improves bottom lines by saving time, personnel resources, and money, all while providing better service to Americans.

I urge my colleagues to support this common-sense measure that improves transparency, accessibility of information, and the ability of Americans to thoughtfully participate in the democratic process.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. VAN DREW) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 111.

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. VAN DREW. 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.

#### ANIMAL DRUG AND ANIMAL GENERIC DRUG USER FEE AMENDMENTS OF 2023

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1418) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to reauthorize user fee programs relating to new animal drugs and generic new animal drugs, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1418

*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 “Animal Drug and Animal Generic Drug User Fee Amendments of 2023”.*

#### SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

*The table of contents for this Act is the following:*

*Sec. 1. Short title.*

*Sec. 2. Table of contents.*

#### TITLE I—FEES RELATING TO ANIMAL DRUGS

*Sec. 101. Short title; finding.*

*Sec. 102. Definitions.*

*Sec. 103. Authority to assess and use animal drug fees.*

*Sec. 104. Reauthorization; reporting requirements.*

*Sec. 105. Savings clause.*

*Sec. 106. Effective date.*

*Sec. 107. Sunset dates.*

#### TITLE II—FEES RELATING TO GENERIC ANIMAL DRUGS

*Sec. 201. Short title; finding.*

*Sec. 202. Authority to assess and use generic new animal drug fees.*

*Sec. 203. Reauthorization; reporting requirements.*

*Sec. 204. Savings clause.*

*Sec. 205. Effective date.*

*Sec. 206. Sunset dates.*

#### TITLE III—SUPPORTING ANIMAL AND HUMAN HEALTH

*Sec. 301. Reporting requirements.*

*Sec. 302. Definition of major species.*

*Sec. 303. Antimicrobial resistance.*

#### TITLE I—FEES RELATING TO ANIMAL DRUGS

##### SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE; FINDING.

(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This title may be cited as the “Animal Drug User Fee Amendments of 2023”.

(b) *FINDING.*—Congress finds that the fees authorized by the amendments made in this title will be dedicated toward expediting the animal drug development process and the review of new and supplemental animal drug applications and investigational animal drug submissions as set forth in the goals identified for purposes of part 4 of subchapter C of chapter VII of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–11 et seq.), in the letters from the Secretary of Health and Human Services to the Chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Chairman of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate as set forth in the Congressional Record.

##### SEC. 102. DEFINITIONS.

*Section 739 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–11) is amended—*

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking “national drug code” and inserting “National Drug Code”; and

(2) by amending paragraph (8)(I) to read as follows:

“(I) The activities necessary for implementation of the United States and European Union Mutual Recognition Agreement for Pharmaceutical Good Manufacturing Practice Inspections, and the United States and United Kingdom Mutual Recognition Agreement Sectoral Annex for Pharmaceutical Good Manufacturing Practices, and other mutual recognition agreements, with respect to animal drug products subject to review, including implementation activities prior to and following product approval.”.

##### SEC. 103. AUTHORITY TO ASSESS AND USE ANIMAL DRUG FEES.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 740(a)(1)(A)(ii) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–12(a)(1)(A)(ii)) is amended—

(1) in subclause (I), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subclause (II), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(III) an application for conditional approval under section 571 of a new animal drug for which an animal drug application submitted under section 512(b)(1) has been previously approved under section 512(d)(1) for another intended use.”.

(b) *FEE REVENUE AMOUNTS.*—Section 740(b)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–12(b)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Subject to subsections (c), (d), (f), and (g), for each of fiscal years 2024 through 2028, the fees required under subsection (a) shall be established to generate a total revenue amount of \$33,500,000.”.

(c) *ANNUAL FEE SETTING; ADJUSTMENTS.*—

(1) *ANNUAL FEE SETTING.*—Section 740(c)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–12(c)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) *ANNUAL FEE SETTING.*—Not later than 60 days before the start of each fiscal year beginning after September 30, 2023, the Secretary shall—

“(A) establish for that fiscal year animal drug application fees, supplemental animal drug application fees, animal drug sponsor fees, animal drug establishment fees, and animal drug product fees based on the revenue amounts established under subsection (b) and the adjustments provided under this subsection; and

“(B) publish such fee revenue amounts and fees in the Federal Register.”.