

manner, I look forward to its consideration in the Senate, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from the Second District of Florida (Mr. DUNN), who is the sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, it is imperative that the United States continues to lead in satellite communications technology and space exploration to ensure our global competitiveness.

In today's world, indispensable spectrum resources know no borders or boundaries, and they must be used to enhance space and satellite operations, provide broadband access to our fellow Americans, and enhance America's security capability.

As our private-sector partners continue to innovate, the Federal Government can play a collaborative role through the modernization of the launch spectrum licensing process.

This is why I joined my esteemed colleague from Florida (Mr. SOTO) in reintroducing the Launch Communications Act. This updates and simplifies an outdated regulatory process so the U.S. can maintain our competitiveness in space exploration.

Currently, commercial missions launching from the United States to space must use government-owned spectrum to communicate with the rockets during launch and reentry.

Additionally, these private companies must apply to the FCC who must then coordinate with the NTIA to receive special temporary authority to use such spectrum each time they launch.

The Launch Communications Act will lift the burden of obtaining many authorizations and enable the private companies to temporarily use certain spectrum bands for satellite launches when needed.

On multiple occasions this legislation requires the FCC to streamline the launch authorization process for commercial launches, eliminating the special temporary authority process, permitting multilaunch authorizations, and automating the frequency review process.

This is consistent with Space Policy Directive-2 issued by President Trump in May of 2018 to refine Federal spectrum regulations and minimize regulatory burdens.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO), the Democratic sponsor of this bill and a graduate of Rutgers University.

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 682, the Launch Communications Act.

In central Florida, the busiest spaceport in the world is right in our backyard in Cape Canaveral. We had a record year of 57 launches from the cape in 2022, and we are expecting a

total of 87 launches or more this year, so quite often we see 2 or more in a single week.

When we see bad weather, as you can imagine, some of these launches start to stack up, which is why having a lengthy FCC license process for each launch can be cumbersome and costly.

That is why I introduced this bill with my colleague and fellow Floridian, Dr. DUNN, to streamline the process and ensure our spaceports continue to be the most efficient in the world.

The Launch Communications Act allocates certain spectrum for commercial launches and reentries. It streamlines the process for authorization to said spectrum while also keeping it available to other users and ensuring coordination to prevent any interference with government systems.

As we continue to break launch records year after year, we need to streamline these processes to continue to ensure that America remains the world leader in space. This bill does exactly that.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee, Chair LATTA, Chair MCMORRIS RODGERS, Ranking Member PALLONE, Ranking Member MATSUI, and, of course, my fellow Floridian, Dr. DUNN, for passing this bill out of committee unanimously.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Launch Communications Act.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, this is a bipartisan bill coming out of the Energy and Commerce Committee. I urge support for this very important legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, this legislation would provide more certainty to our commercial satellite operators so that when they make the investment in satellite technologies, they will be able to launch them into space.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 682, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FULCHER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 682, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SECURING THE U.S. ORGAN PROCUREMENT AND TRANSPLANTATION NETWORK ACT

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2544) to improve the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2544

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 “Securing the U.S. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network Act”.

SEC. 2. ORGAN PROCUREMENT AND TRANSPLANTATION NETWORK.

Section 372 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “The Secretary shall by contract” and inserting “IN GENERAL—The Secretary shall”;

(B) by striking “establishment and” and inserting “continued”; and

(C) by striking the second and third sentences and inserting “The Secretary may award grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements, as the Secretary determines appropriate, for purposes of carrying out this section.”; and

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “(b)(1) The Organ Procurement” and all that follows through the end of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(b) COMPOSITION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network shall—

“(A) be operated through awards to public or private entities made by the Secretary that are distinct from the awards made to support the organization tasked with supporting the board of directors described in subparagraph (B); and”.

SEC. 3. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

Title III of the Public Health Service Act is amended—

(1) in section 371(b)(1)(H)(i)(III) (42 U.S.C. 273(b)(1)(H)(i)(III)), by striking “histocompatibility” and inserting “histocompatibility”;

(2) in section 374(c)(2) (42 U.S.C. 274b(c)(2)), by striking “section 371 or 373” each place it appears and inserting “section 371, 372, or 373”;

(3) in section 375 (42 U.S.C. 274c)—

(A) by striking the comma at the end of each of paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking “transplants, and” and inserting “transplants; and”; and

(C) in paragraph (4), by redesignating clauses (i) and (ii) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively; and

(4) in section 376 (42 U.S.C. 274d)—

(A) by striking “February 10 of 1991 and of each second year thereafter” and inserting “2 years after the date of enactment of the Securing the U.S. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network Act and every second year thereafter”; and

(B) by striking “Committee on Labor and Human Resources of the Senate.” and inserting “Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.”.

SEC. 4. GAO REVIEW.

Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) to the extent data are available, conduct a review of the historical financing of the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network described in section 372 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274), including the utilization of registration fees among entities that have previously been awarded contracts under such section 372; and

(2) submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the

Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report on the review under paragraph (1), including related recommendations, as applicable.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BUCSHON. 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 the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 2544, the Securing the U.S. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network Act, introduced in partnership with Representative KELLY of Illinois.

This critical legislation would improve the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network by allowing the Health Resources and Services Administration to make the OPTN contracting process competitive.

The same entity has operated the OPTN contract since it was established nearly 40 years ago. Recent reports and bipartisan congressional investigations have shed light on logistical and technological flaws within the OPTN that may have jeopardized patient safety and may have led to lifesaving organs not being transplanted.

We must pass H.R. 2544 to increase competition and make sure the best organization is selected to operate the OPTN. This will hopefully lead to more organs being transplanted and saving lives.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2544, the Securing the U.S. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network Act, seeks to improve the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network, or OPTN.

This network, which is operated by the Health Resources and Service Administration, or HRSA, is responsible for maintaining a national registry for organ matching, and it is operated by a private organization under Federal contract.

A number of investigations in the past few years have found that the OPTN struggles to obtain and distribute organs in a timely and efficient manner. In fact, more than 6,000 Americans die each year while waiting for organ transplants. This problem is even more pronounced for people of color and rural residents.

More than 100,000 Americans are currently on the transplant waiting list,

and 17 Americans die each day awaiting transplants. This is entirely unacceptable, and we need to do better for the many patients who rely on the OPTN. The OPTN needs to be improved and modernized in a number of ways.

HRSA has undertaken a number of efforts to modernize the OPTN, and this bill, H.R. 2544, complements those efforts. It would ensure that HRSA has the authority to award multiple contracts to carry out the many functions of the OPTN. It would also make the OPTN contracts more competitive in order to increase oversight and transparency and to enhance the performance of the program.

The organ transplantation network is a lifesaving system that is in desperate need of repair. This bill will go a long way to improve it, and it is a huge win for some of the most vulnerable patients in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives BUCSHON and KELLY for their bipartisan leadership on this bill. I am pleased that it is before us today, and I encourage all of my colleagues to vote "yes" on this important legislation.

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

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2544 allows HRSA to improve the OPTN program. It clarifies that HRSA does not have to implement a single contract for all aspects of the program and encourages a competitive process to choose the best contractors for each OPTN function. Nothing in this legislation precludes HRSA from awarding UNOS a contract for each function.

As a physician in Congress, my focus with this legislation is on ensuring that HRSA has the authority that it needs to act on behalf of patients and that the best innovators are able to compete and play their part in saving lives.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2544.

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.

SECURING SEMICONDUCTOR SUPPLY CHAINS ACT OF 2023

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 752) to require SelectUSA to coordinate with State-level economic development organizations to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 752

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 "Securing Semiconductor Supply Chains Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. SELECTUSA DEFINED.

In this Act, the term "SelectUSA" means the SelectUSA program of the Department of Commerce established by Executive Order 13577 (76 Fed. Reg. 35,715).

SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Semiconductors underpin the United States and global economies, including manufacturing sectors. Semiconductors are also essential to the national security of the United States.

(2) A shortage of semiconductors, brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and other complex factors impacting the overall supply chain, has threatened the economic recovery of the United States and industries that employ millions of United States citizens.

(3) Addressing current challenges and building resilience against future risks requires ensuring a secure and stable supply chain for semiconductors that will support the economic and national security needs of the United States and its allies.

(4) The supply chain for semiconductors is complex and global. While the United States plays a leading role in certain segments of the semiconductor industry, securing the supply chain requires onshoring, reshoring, or diversifying vulnerable segments, such as for—

(A) fabrication;
(B) advanced packaging; and
(C) materials and equipment used to manufacture semiconductor products.

(5) The Federal Government can leverage foreign direct investment and private dollars to grow the domestic manufacturing and production capacity of the United States for vulnerable segments of the semiconductor supply chain.

(6) The SelectUSA program of the Department of Commerce, in coordination with other Federal agencies and State-level economic development organizations, is positioned to boost foreign direct investment in domestic manufacturing and to help secure the semiconductor supply chain of the United States.

SEC. 4. COORDINATION WITH STATE-LEVEL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Executive Director of SelectUSA shall solicit comments from State-level economic development organizations—

(1) to review—

(A) what efforts the Federal Government can take to support increased foreign direct investment in any segment of semiconductor-related production;

(B) what barriers to such investment may exist and how to amplify State efforts to attract such investment;

(C) public opportunities those organizations have identified to attract foreign direct investment to help increase investment described in subparagraph (A);

(D) resource gaps or other challenges that prevent those organizations from increasing such investment; and

(2) to develop recommendations for—

(A) how SelectUSA can increase such investment independently or through partnership with those organizations; and

(B) working with countries that are allies or partners of the United States to ensure