

In 2017, NASA established a pilot program called the Commercial SmallSat Data Acquisition, CSDA, Program to identify and to evaluate commercial capabilities that could add value to NASA research. The program also established new processes to acquire and use such products.

The CSDA pilot program proved to be a great success, with participating scientists finding commercial datasets to be both reliable and highly valuable for a wide range of research applications.

The ASCEND Act seeks to build upon the success of the pilot program and to permanently authorize the CSDA Program within NASA, thus ensuring the program's continued growth and longevity.

This bill directs the NASA Administrator to establish a commercial satellite data acquisition program within NASA's Science Mission Directorate, allowing scientists and agencies to access cost-effective commercial satellite data products.

The bill also allows the Administrator to both obtain commercial Earth remote sensing imagery and data needed by agencies and scientists and to also encourage growth of private-sector space entities.

Additionally, this legislation requires the Administrator to submit a report to Congress describing the implementation of the program, including the types of data acquired, the sources of that data, its uses within NASA, and any impacts.

Not only does this program benefit NASA scientists, but it also supports federally funded and accredited researchers across various agencies, such as NOAA, USDA, or DOI, as well as Federal grantees, including the National Science Foundation and other agencies.

By utilizing a diverse set of capabilities and data sources, and leveraging advancements in the private sector, we are ensuring that America remains at the forefront of scientific discovery and technological advancements for generations to come.

Now is an important time for Congress to reaffirm our support for this program by enacting it into statute, thus ensuring its continued growth and success for the Federal scientific community.

Access to such timely, high-quality satellite data is essential for improving our understanding of natural disasters, enhancing response capabilities, and mitigating impacts, especially for flood-prone coastal areas like New Jersey. This data will help protect our communities by informing more accurate predictions and better preparation efforts.

The ASCEND Act demonstrates a strong commitment to advancing our scientific capabilities, such as by providing data that would enhance disaster preparedness and response efforts and by supporting commercial space efforts.

This bipartisan legislation reinforces our dedication to promoting sound re-

search and innovation in space exploration and ensuring NASA remains at the forefront of scientific discovery and public service.

□ 1830

Again, I thank the Speaker's Office, the majority leader, and Chairman LUCAS for helping advance this impactful legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mrs. FOUSHEE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers to speak on this bill, and I am prepared to close.

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

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

Again, I thank Representatives KEAN and BONAMICI for their bipartisan efforts.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6219, 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.

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:

S. 2228;
H.R. 8958; and
S. 3764.

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.

BUILDING CHIPS IN AMERICA 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 (S. 2228) to amend the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 to clarify the scope of a major Federal action under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 with respect to certain projects relating to the production of semiconductors, 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 Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 257, nays 125, not voting 49, as follows:

[Roll No. 440]

YEAS—257

Aderholt	Good (VA)	Norman
Aguilar	Gooden (TX)	Nunn (IA)
Alford	Graves (MO)	Oberholte
Allen	Green (TN)	Owens
Allred	Griffith	Palmer
Amodei	Grothman	Panetta
Arrington	Guthrie	Pappas
Babin	Harder (CA)	Pelosi
Bacon	Harris	Peltola
Baird	Harshbarger	Pence
Balderson	Hern	Perez
Banks	Higgins (LA)	Perry
Barr	Hill	Peters
Bentz	Himes	Pettersen
Bera	Hinson	Pfleger
Bergman	Horsford	Posey
Bice	Houchin	Quigley
Biggs	Houlihan	Reschenthaler
Bilirakis	Hoyer	Rogers (AL)
Bishop (GA)	Hudson	Rogers (KY)
Boebert	Huizenga	Rose
Bost	Hunt	Rouzer
Brecheen	Issa	Roy
Brown	Jackson (TX)	Ruiz
Bucshon	James	Rulli
Budzinski	Johnson (LA)	Rutherford
Burchett	Johnson (SD)	Ryan
Burgess	Jordan	Scalise
Burlison	Joyce (OH)	Schneider
Calvert	Joyce (PA)	Scholten
Cammack	Kaptur	Schrier
Caraveo	Kean (NJ)	Schweikert
Carbajal	Keating	Scott, Austin
Carey	Kelly (MS)	Scott, David
Carl	Kelly (PA)	Self
Carter (GA)	Kiggans (VA)	Sessions
Carter (TX)	Kildee	Sewell
Cartwright	Kiley	Sherrill
Cline	Kilmer	Simpson
Cloud	Kim (CA)	Slotkin
Clyde	Kim (NJ)	Smith (MO)
Cole	LaLota	Smith (NE)
Comer	LaMalfa	Smith (NJ)
Connolly	Landsman	Smith (WA)
Correa	Langworthy	Smucker
Courtney	Larsen (WA)	Sorensen
Craig	Larson (CT)	Soto
Crane	Latta	Spanberger
Crenshaw	LaTurner	Spartz
Crow	Lawler	Stanton
Cuellar	Lee (FL)	Steel
D'Esposito	Lee (NV)	Stefanik
Davids (KS)	Lesko	Steil
Davidson	Letlow	Steube
Davis (NC)	Lopez	Strickland
De La Cruz	Loudermilk	Strong
DelBene	Lucas	Suozy
Deluzio	Luna	Sykes
Diaz-Balart	Luttrell	Tiffany
Donalds	Lynch	Timmons
Duarte	Mace	Titus
Dunn (FL)	Malliotakis	Torres (CA)
Edwards	Mann	Trone
Ellzey	Manning	Turner
Emmer	Massie	Valadao
Estes	Mast	Van Drew
Ezell	Matsui	Van Dyne
Fallon	McBath	Van Orden
Feenstra	McCaul	Vargas
Ferguson	McClain	Vasquez
Finstad	McCormick	Veasey
Fitzpatrick	Meuser	Walberg
Fleischmann	Miller (OH)	Waltz
Fletcher	Miller (WV)	Wasserman
Flood	Miller-Meeks	Schultz
Fong	Mills	Weber (TX)
Fox	Molinaro	Webster (FL)
Franklin, Scott	Moolenaar	Wenstrup
Fulcher	Moore (AL)	Wild
Gaetz	Moore (UT)	Williams (NY)
Garamendi	Moran	Williams (TX)
Garcia, Mike	Moskowitz	Wilson (SC)
Golden (ME)	Moulton	Wittman
Gomez	Mrvan	Womack
Gonzales, Tony	Newhouse	Yakym
Gonzalez, V.	Nickel	Zinke

NAYS—125

Adams	Barragan	Blumenauer
Amo	Bean (FL)	Blunt Rochester
Auchincloss	Beatty	Bonamici
Balint	Beyer	Boyle (PA)

Brownley	Gosar	Neguse
Bush	Graves (LA)	Norcross
Cárdenas	Green, Al (TX)	Ocasio-Cortez
Carson	Hageman	Ogles
Carter (LA)	Hayes	Omar
Case	Hoyle (OR)	Pallone
Casten	Huffman	Pingree
Castor (FL)	Ivey	Pocan
Chu	Jackson (IL)	Pressley
Clark (MA)	Jacobs	Ramirez
Clarke (NY)	Jayapal	Raskin
Cleaver	Jeffries	Rosendale
Clyburn	Johnson (GA)	Ross
Cohen	Kamlager-Dove	Ruppersberger
Collins	Kelly (IL)	Salinas
Crockett	Kennedy	Sánchez
Davis (IL)	Khanna	Sarbanes
Dean (PA)	Krishnamoorthi	Scanlon
DeGette	Lee (CA)	Schakowsky
DeLauro	Lee (PA)	Schiff
DeSaulnier	Leger Fernandez	Scott (VA)
Dingell	Levin	Sherman
Doggett	Lieu	Staubert
Duncan	Lofgren	Stevens
Escobar	Magaziner	Takano
Eshoo	McClellan	Tenney
Espallat	McCollum	Thaneard
Fischbach	McGarvey	Thompson (CA)
Fitzgerald	McGovern	Thompson (MS)
Foster	Menendez	Tlaib
Foushee	Meng	Tokuda
Frankel, Lois	Mfume	Underwood
Frost	Moore (WI)	Velázquez
Fry	Morelle	Waters
Garcia (IL)	Mullin	Watson Coleman
Garcia (TX)	Nadler	Williams (GA)
Garcia, Robert	Napolitano	Wilson (FL)
Goldman (NY)	Neal	

NOT VOTING—49

Armstrong	Gienez	Mooney
Bishop (NC)	Gottheimer	Murphy
Bowman	Granger	Nehls
Buchanan	Greene (GA)	Phillips
Casas	Grijalva	Porter
Castro (TX)	Guest	Rodgers (WA)
Chavez-DeRemer	Jackson (NC)	Salazar
Cherfilus-	Kuster	Stansbury
McCormick	Kustoff	Swallow
Ciscomani	LaHood	Thompson (PA)
Costa	Lamborn	Tonko
Crawford	Luetkemeyer	Torres (NY)
Curtis	Maloy	Trahan
DesJarlais	McClintock	Wagner
Evans	McHenry	Westerman
Galleo	Meeks	Wexton
Garbarino	Miller (IL)	

□ 1853

Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Ms. SALINAS and VELÁZQUEZ changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Messrs. SOTO and ZINKE changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on roll call No. 440.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 440.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 20, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a letter received from Ms. Donna Barber, Acting Director of the New Jersey Division of Elections, indicating that, according to the unofficial results for the Special General Election held on September 18, 2024, the Honorable LaMonica McIver was elected Representative to Congress for the Tenth Congressional District of New Jersey.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Acting Clerk.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Trenton, NJ, September 19, 2024.

Hon. KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Acting Clerk, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. MCCUMBER: This is to advise you that the unofficial results of the Special Election held on Wednesday, September 18, 2024 for a Representative in Congress from the Tenth Congressional District of New Jersey, show that LaMonica McIver received 26,119 or 81% of the total number of votes cast for that office.

It would appear from these unofficial election results, of the ballots counted so far, that LaMonica McIver has received the highest number of votes for the office of Representative in Congress from the Tenth Congressional District.

To the best of our knowledge and belief at this time, there is no contest to this election. The deadline to file an election contest is October 20, 2024.

As soon as the official results are certified to this office by County Clerks involved, the Board of State Canvassers will meet to certify the Official Special General Election results. Furthermore, an official Certificate of Election will be prepared for transmittal as required by law after the State Board of Canvassers has certified the results of the election.

Sincerely,

DONNA BARBER,
Acting Director, NJ Division of Elections.

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE LAMONICA MCIVER, OF NEW JERSEY, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentlewoman from New Jersey, the Honorable LaMonica McIver, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

Her certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no question has been raised with regard to her election.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Will the Representative-elect and the members of the New Jersey delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representative-elect will please raise her right hand.

Mrs. McIVER appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear or affirm that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now a Member of the 118th Congress.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE LAMONICA MCIVER TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, especially from New Jersey, and I rise today to congratulate and welcome our newest colleague, LAMONICA MCIVER, from New Jersey's 10th Congressional District.

Mrs. MCIVER has served on the Newark City Council since 2018. She served as the council president, and I think, as many people know, Newark is the largest city in the State of New Jersey. It is also the same council where our good friend and distinguished former colleague, Donald Payne, Jr., had served with great distinction.

I point out that she excelled in the Newark public school system and graduated from Bloomfield College before going on to receive her master's degree from Seton Hall University, everything in New Jersey.

Before running for office, she worked in human resources across several public school districts, including personnel director for Montclair Public Schools. She also worked as a public affairs manager for PSE&G, one of New Jersey's major utility companies.

We offer, on both sides of the aisle, our warmest welcome to her and look forward to working with her in the coming days and weeks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE), my good friend.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I want all Members to know that Mrs. MCIVER has experienced a series of firsts.

First, she was the youngest person elected to the Newark City Council in 2018. She then was elected council president in 2022, and she is the youngest woman ever elected to Congress from the State of New Jersey.

We have her family up there, as my colleagues can see.

She has also been a tremendous mentor for young women, in particular. She founded an organization called the Newark G.A.L.S., Inc., which is an organization that has empowered over 3,000 young women throughout the State of New Jersey. We are so proud of her. She is really, more than anything