

Act makes it more difficult for foreign entities to improperly influence our elections through online fundraising platforms.

Keeping foreign funding out of our elections helps restore confidence in our election system. Greater confidence in our elections leads to greater participation, which is a good thing for the whole country.

I thank Representatives STEPHANIE BICE, LAUREL LEE, ANTHONY D'ESPOSITO, GREG MURPHY, and KEN CALVERT for their work and support on this important legislation. I believe that keeping foreign influence out of our elections is an idea we can all get behind.

I also thank Ranking Member MORELLE, my Democratic colleagues on the Committee on House Administration, and the committee staff for working together on this important piece of legislation.

Americans deserve free, fair, and secure elections. The SHIELD Act will bring us one step closer to making sure that happens. We should pass the SHIELD Act to keep foreign funding out of our elections.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I also share my thoughts with the folks at Abundant Life Christian School, and certainly to the students, the faculty, the staff, and the parents, and keep them very close in our hearts and very much in our prayers.

Mr. Speaker, I speak this afternoon in support of H.R. 9488, as amended, the Secure Handling of Internet Electronic Donations Act, and I extend my thanks to Chairman STEIL and his entire staff for their collaborative, bipartisan work to reach consensus on this bill before us.

House Democrats care deeply about the integrity of our elections. That will always be our North Star. Preventing fraudulent fundraising practices is a critical endeavor.

This bill would provide additional privacy and security protections for Americans who choose to engage in our democratic process by donating to political campaigns online. We are grateful, again, to the chair and his staff for agreeing to a number of changes we suggested that we believe were important revisions to the bill.

I will just review those briefly for the record here. For example, it includes changes to continue allowing recipients of Social Security and veterans' benefits to participate in the political process through small money donations; changes that would allow donors to continue to simplify the political donation process by scheduling recurring contributions and using saved credit card information; changes that further security without hampering innovation in how we finance our campaigns by creating special rules for contributions through digital wallets;

and changes incorporating an FEC bipartisan legislative recommendation to prohibit aiding or abetting the making of a contribution in the name of another individual. This provision codifies a regulation first issued in 1989. It includes changes to give the FEC time to make appropriate regulations to ensure that payment processors and online platforms can continue to securely enable political donations.

At the same time, I will make sure Americans understand that our political contribution system is currently safe and secure. ActBlue, for example, which enables Americans to easily engage in our political process, is a platform that is already extremely secure and numerous safeguards are provided for donors.

ActBlue monitors activity on its platform to ensure that impermissible contributions are promptly identified and rejected. These existing measures prevent potential foreign contributions, protect donors from financial fraud, and identify fraudulent online behavior.

This bill supports the already safe online donation system. Americans can continue to trust that our elections, our political systems, generally speaking, are free, fair, and unaffected by fraud.

Providing credit and debit card CVVs in online contributions will help Americans feel secure in their contributions, but Americans should understand that the provision of CVVs this bill facilitates is in addition to numerous other antifraud security measures that already protect credit and debit card donors.

Regrettably, we have seen recent disinformation campaigns against the platform. Allegations of fraudulent donor schemes involving ActBlue, however, have been discredited and criticized by campaign finance experts.

These campaigns distort and often misunderstand campaign finance data.

I want all Americans to know our system is safe and that you should feel free to participate in it. That is what my support for this measure is all about today. We can further strengthen the security of our online donation systems and inspire donors who feel moved to participate.

I appreciate the work that has gone into this bill, the opportunity to ensure the record correctly reflects the secure reality of online donation systems, and I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

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

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

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, as I said, we support this bill strongly here. This is a critical priority for us to make sure Americans continue to have safety and feel confident in their system.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this bill. This is one step forward in making sure that online contribution platforms are secure from foreign interference, and I encourage passage of the bill.

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 Wisconsin (Mr. STEIL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9488, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require the disclosure of the card verification value as a condition of the acceptance of online contributions made through the use of credit or debit cards in elections for Federal office and to prohibit the acceptance of contributions made through the use of gift cards in such elections, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NO CONGRESSIONALLY OBLIGATED RECURRING REVENUE USED AS PENSIONS TO INCARCERATED OFFICIALS NOW ACT

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 932) to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the halt in pension payments for Members of Congress sentenced for certain offenses, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 932

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 "No Congressionally Obligated Recurring Revenue Used as Pensions To Incarcerated Officials Now Act" or the "No CORRUPTION Act".

SEC. 2. FORFEITURE OF PENSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8332(o) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (4), (5), and (6) as paragraphs (5), (6), and (7), respectively;

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

"(4)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), an individual convicted of an offense described in paragraph (2) shall not be eligible to receive any payment of an annuity pursuant to the retirement system under this subchapter or chapter 84, except that this sentence applies only to such payments based on service rendered as a Member (irrespective of when rendered).

"(B) If the conviction of an individual described in subparagraph (A) is overturned on appeal by a court of competent jurisdiction, the individual shall receive payments that the individual would have received but for the application of subparagraph (A).

"(C) This paragraph applies only to a conviction that occurs after the date of enactment of the No Congressionally Obligated

Recurring Revenue Used as Pensions To Incarcerated Officials Now Act.”;

(3) in paragraph (5)(B)(i), as so redesignated, by striking “paragraph (5)” and inserting “paragraph (6)”;

(4) in paragraph (6), as so redesignated, by striking “paragraph (4)(B)” and inserting “paragraph (5)(B)”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 719(e)(2) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “section 8332(o)(5)” and inserting “section 8332(o)(6)”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. STEIL) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MORELLE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and submit extraneous material on the bill, S. 932, the No CORRUPTION Act.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this measure will halt annuity payments for Members of Congress sentenced for public corruption charges. This includes charges of bribery of public officials and witnesses, acting as an agent of a foreign principal, or engaging in conspiracy to commit an offense to defraud the United States.

Under current law, a Member of Congress who is convicted on public corruption charges is prohibited from receiving their congressional pension. That said, Members may continue receiving pension payments while appealing their conviction.

The No CORRUPTION Act addresses this gap and will withhold pension payments immediately upon conviction. If the conviction is overturned on appeal, the pension will be restored. The Member will be able to receive any benefits withheld.

This is a commonsense measure for the House to consider and pass.

Let's be clear: A Member of Congress convicted of public corruption charges should not be paid at taxpayer expense. The bipartisan measure was introduced by Senators RICK SCOTT and JACKY ROSEN and passed the Senate this summer. I am pleased to bring the measure forward to ensure accountability for Members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of S. 932, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 932.

Passed with unanimous consent by the Senate, S. 932 will close loopholes and tighten an already existing prohibition on Members collecting retirement benefits that were accrued during their time in Congress if they are con-

victed of a crime of public corruption committed during congressional service.

Currently, convicted former Members can continue to collect their government pension while going through the judicial appeals process.

This bill ends that practice.

Public service is often referred to as a “higher calling,” and there is no greater professional privilege than to be elected to this body. By sending us here, our constituents place an enormous amount of trust in us, and it is our obligation to reward that trust by carrying out our constitutional responsibilities to them with honor and integrity.

That is the contract we agree to when we ask for someone's vote and they give it to us. That compact is the keystone of a legitimate government. It is what separates a democracy from a kleptocracy.

The overwhelming majority of our colleagues who serve do so with integrity. They are here for the right reasons. They honor the oath we all swear. They use the powers of the office to further the interests of their constituents, not to unjustly enrich themselves.

For those who don't, we must send a clear and unequivocal message that corruption will not be tolerated. For the sake of the country, it cannot be tolerated, and this bill sends that message.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN), my friend, for his leadership on this as well as all my colleagues. I certainly thank the chair for his bipartisan work on this.

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

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) to speak on the bill.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman STEIL and Congressman MORELLE for leading the charge on this.

Like many things, the public does not know the dollars that are going to politicians who corrupt the system, game the system, and then get paid for it, as Congressman STEIL and Congressman MORELLE mentioned.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Senate companion to my legislation, the No CORRUPTION Act. This legislation gives us an opportunity to rectify the abuse of taxpayer dollars.

Under current law, Members of Congress who have been convicted of various crimes related to public corruption remain eligible to receive a taxpayer-funded pension until all avenues have been exhausted. This can take years, and it has taken years. Even if the appeal is unsuccessful, there is no clawback on the funds that have been wrongly paid. It is in the hands of the politician who violated their oath when they came to Congress.

The No CORRUPTION Act fixes that loophole by immediately stripping a

Member's pension upon initial conviction rather than final conviction. If an appeal was successful, the money halted by this legislation would be paid back fully so the Member is not out the money.

With this simple reform, taxpayer money is not given to criminals, and the interest of taxpayers is balanced with the rights of the accused.

Americans would be outraged if they knew about the various perks that former Members of Congress, many who have been in the news recently, receive. Pension payments to those who have been convicted of a crime is yet another example of wasteful spending that needs to be terminated, and it needs to be terminated now.

It is time for Members of Congress to start acting like everyday Americans, not elite politicians sheltered by their own rules.

Those who serve in Congress—and it is such an honor to serve in this body—should be held to the highest of standards in order to instill trust and confidence in our government. Anyone who does not measure up should not receive a taxpayer-funded pension, which for some Members can surpass \$70,000 per year.

The Speaker pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Senators JACKY ROSEN and RICK SCOTT for their bipartisan work in getting this legislation passed by unanimous consent in the Senate, and I urge my colleagues to do the same and pass it.

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Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I again thank my friend, Mr. NORMAN, for doing this. I think most people watching this would find it hard to believe this wasn't already the law of the United States, but we are going to do that. I thank him for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I will simply say that this is important in building and rebuilding the trust that Americans, in some cases, have lost in this institution. I am grateful for this.

I thank my colleague and dear friend, the chairman of this committee, for bringing the bill forward. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate my colleague, Mr. NORMAN, for his work on this commonsense legislation. It is good to see, in the home stretch of the year, that we are still able to get some commonsense legislation across the floor of the House and, hopefully, signed into law in the near future, as this bill already passed the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage 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 Wisconsin (Mr. STEIL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 932.

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.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE RECORDS OF CONGRESS SUNSET ACT OF 2024

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9489) to sunset the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9489

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress Sunset Act of 2024”.

SEC. 2. MANAGEMENT AND PRESERVATION OF THE RECORDS OF CONGRESS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term “Archivist” means the Archivist of the United States;

(2) the term “Clerk” means the Clerk of the House of Representatives;

(3) the term “Director” means the Director of the Center for Legislative Archives of the National Archives, or any successor thereto;

(4) the term “Member of Congress” means a Member of the Senate or the House of Representatives, a Delegate to the House of Representatives, and the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico; and

(5) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Senate.

(b) REPORTING.—Not later than February 1 of the second calendar year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act, and every calendar year thereafter, the Director shall submit to the Archivist, the Secretary, and the Clerk a report on the management and preservation of the records of Congress during the previous year.

(c) REVIEW.—The Archivist, the Secretary, and the Clerk shall meet to review the management and preservation of the records of Congress and Members of Congress—

(1) not later than 60 days after the date on which the Director submits a report under subsection (b); and

(2) not later than 180 days after the date on which an individual is appointed to the position of Archivist, Secretary, or Clerk.

(d) SUNSET OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—Effective on the date that is 60 days after enactment, title 44 of the United States Code is amended—

(1) by striking chapter 27;

(2) by striking the table of sections relating to chapter 27; and

(3) in the table of chapters, by striking the item relating to chapter 27.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. STEIL) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MORELLE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and in-

clude extraneous material on the bill, H.R. 9489.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 9489, the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress Sunset Act. This measure will sunset an outdated advisory committee and replace it with meaningful reporting requirements.

The Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress was created in 1990 to assist with management and preservation. Since then, the advisory committee has released six detailed reports and continues to meet semiannually. This advisory committee has successfully met its purpose of advising Congress on records management and preservation.

Today, the House Clerk, Secretary of the Senate, and National Archives representatives regularly connect on records management. This close working relationship renders the regular convening of the advisory committee as a check-the-box exercise.

Based on feedback we received from House officers and advisory committee members, this legislation sunsets the advisory committee and replaces it with reporting requirements of the House, Senate, and Center of the Legislative Archives. This will ensure records management and preservation while saving taxpayer dollars on repetitive convenings.

I would like to take a moment to thank the House Clerk and their team for their work on this advisory committee.

I also would like to recognize the service of Danna Bell, the House Clerk's appointee to the advisory committee, who passed away earlier this year. Ms. Bell was a librarian, archivist, former president of the Society of American Archivists, and a helpful resource for our team as we learned more about this advisory committee. She was a dedicated public servant committed to service. I offer my condolences to her family, friends, and colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 9489, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9489. I also echo the words by my colleague and friend, Mr. STEIL, regarding the life of Danna Bell, who worked here in the House. She had a long record of many contributions to not only this institution but our country.

I rise in support of H.R. 9489, the bipartisan legislation that would sunset the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress, allowing us to allocate our limited resources more efficiently. The advisory committee, as my friend has indicated, was estab-

lished in 1990 and was tasked with reviewing and advising Congress and the National Archives on the management and preservation of congressional records.

The House Clerk, one of the committee's leaders, has suggested it sunset, as it has fulfilled its primary objectives and is no longer necessary for addressing the evolving challenges of preserving congressional records.

Over the past 34 years, advancements in technology and the increasing volume of materials to be preserved have dramatically changed, and the landscape of record preservation has changed with it.

By disbanding this advisory committee, we can redirect valuable resources toward enhancing modern archiving practices while saving taxpayer dollars. As we all know, congressional resources are finite—I think we know that all too well—and need to be used efficiently to ensure the continued success of this institution and its service on behalf of the American people.

I extend my thanks to the House Clerk, the Honorable Kevin McCumber, and his entire team for their leadership on this initiative.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I thank my colleagues and the staff for doing this and for the leadership of the Clerk's Office to find a way for us to end practices that are no longer useful and allow us to be able to focus more on the challenges we face moving forward.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Mr. MORELLE, for his work on this. As we all know, in the United States House of Representatives, actually sunset almost anything is one of the most challenging projects you can do, and I am proud to say that we have accomplished that with this piece of legislation.

The process involved a lot of work from the Clerk and others to make sure this was done. A little bit of efficiency in the House can go a long way. Take the wins where you get them.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of sunseting this advisory committee, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. STEIL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9489.

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.

HOUSE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL MODERNIZATION ACT

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9487) to amend the Legislative