

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LUTTRELL), the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. LUTTRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to advocate for the passage of our bill, H.R. 5969, the Improving Travel for Families Act.

Global Entry has been a critical asset in expediting clearance for preapproved, low-risk travelers upon arrival in the United States. Reduced wait times and access to expedited entry into the United States are all the benefits of Global Entry membership.

Global Entry began as a small pilot program in 2008 with availability in just three airports. Today, the Global Entry program offers expedited preapproved travel clearance for millions of travelers and is available in over 60 U.S. airports.

Our bill would improve international travel for families by allowing children ages 10 and younger who are not currently enrolled in the Global Entry program to accompany their parents and guardians who are in the program in the designated precleared lanes upon arrival at international airports in the United States.

Additionally, the bill would streamline the Global Entry application process by permitting parents or guardians to schedule a single application appointment for up to four young children at a time, rather than having to book multiple individual appointments, thereby reducing the interview appointment backlog.

These small, but meaningful, advancements will be a marked improvement on the Global Entry program. Under current law, only preapproved Global Entry travelers, regardless of age, are permitted to utilize dedicated lanes and kiosks. This creates a major inconvenience for Global Entry-enrolled parents who are traveling with young children who are not currently enrolled.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman GREEN, Congressman GLENN IVEY, and the members and staff of the Homeland Security Committee for working with me and my staff on this important bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this sensible legislative measure that will afford law-abiding Americans the opportunity to travel with their children.

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. IVEY).

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5969, the Improving Travel for Families Act. I am proud to cosponsor this bipartisan legislation with my friend and Homeland Security Committee colleague from Texas, Representative MORGAN LUTTRELL.

This bill aims to make the CBP Global Entry program more friendly for family travel at our international airports by allowing children ages 10 or

under to accompany their parent or guardian through Global Entry when clearing customs in the United States.

The bill also makes it possible for parents to schedule interviews for Global Entry for their kids as a group. It will do all of this without risking the security of children, as Global Entry approval requires multiple steps, including a background check.

As a father of six, I know how difficult the logistics can be for families traveling with young children.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense, bipartisan legislation that will make travel more friendly for families without compromising security.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers. I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1515

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

Mr. Speaker, I commend the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LUTTRELL) for introducing this bill, and I commend the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. IVEY) for cosponsoring this bill aimed at improving the travel experience for families. I believe this bill will help families traveling with young children eliminate some of the difficulties that they may experience along the way.

I am happy to support this bill, and I urge all Members of the House to do the same.

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

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

I again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5969. I, of course, thank again Mr. LUTTRELL for his excellent work on 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 Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5969, 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.

ERADICATING NARCOTIC DRUGS AND FORMULATING EFFECTIVE NEW TOOLS TO ADDRESS NATIONAL YEARLY LOSSES OF LIFE ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 206) to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to regularly review and update policies and manuals related to inspections at ports of entry.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 206

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLES.

This Act may be cited as the “Eradicating Narcotic Drugs and Formulating Effective New Tools to Address National Yearly Losses of life Act” or the “END FENTANYL Act”.

SEC. 2. ENSURING TIMELY UPDATES TO U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION FIELD MANUALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than triennially, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall review and update, as necessary, the current policies and manuals of the Office of Field Operations related to inspections at ports of entry to ensure the uniform implementation of inspection practices that will effectively respond to technological and methodological changes designed to disguise illegal activity, such as the smuggling of drugs and humans, along the border.

(b) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Shortly after each update required under subsection (a), the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall submit a report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives that summarizes the policy and manual changes implemented by such update.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. 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. 206.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 206. In 2019, the Government Accountability Office issued a report which determined that U.S. Customs and Border Protection did not regularly update their inspection policies at ports of entry. In some cases, policies had not been updated in 20 years and did not accurately reflect current operating conditions, presently deployed technology, or adequately address how to handle things like fentanyl.

S. 206 would require CBP to review and update policies and manuals at least once every 3 years and also provide reports to Congress on changes made by those updates. This should ensure that CBP is employing the latest and most efficient methods to stop illegal activity at the ports of entry and prevent it from entering the United States.

I thank Senator SCOTT and Congressman GUEST for their important work

on this bill. I urge my colleagues to support S. 206, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This bill is a commonsense step to address the fentanyl crisis and save American lives. By requiring U.S. Customs and Border Protection to incorporate and continually update uniform policies and standards for their operations at ports of entry, we can be sure our officers continually adapt and implement their inspection practices to the changing dynamics of illicit activities along U.S. borders.

It is important that we continue supporting necessary improvements for our ports of entry, where approximately 90 percent of CBP's fentanyl seizures occur.

This bill complements the unprecedented progress that the Department of Homeland Security has made in recent years to stop fentanyl from entering our communities. DHS has launched new cross-government efforts to target smugglers and put more personnel, technology, infrastructure, and resources at our border. As a result, DHS has seized more fentanyl and arrested more criminals for fentanyl-related crimes in the last 2 years than over the last previous 5 years combined.

DHS has taken serious action to thwart human trafficking and human smuggling through ports of entry. The END FENTANYL Act builds on these efforts, as well.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST), the leader of the House companion bill to S. 206 and the vice chair of the Committee on Homeland Security.

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 206, the END FENTANYL Act. I am a proud sponsor of the House companion bill. I thank my friend, Senator RICK SCOTT, for leading this bipartisan effort in the United States Senate. I also thank Congressman DAVID TRONE for co-leading this legislation in the House.

This bill would require the United States Customs and Border Protection, CBP, to regularly review and update their inspection practices at ports of entry. It would also require them to respond to any new or innovative smuggling methods. This bill would require CBP to brief Congress on new inspection practices. The goal of this bill is to ensure that CBP is employing the most up-to-date methods to interdict and prevent illegal activities, such as the smuggling of deadly narcotics like fentanyl into our country.

As Chairman GREEN said, this bill was introduced in direct response to a 2019 Government Accountability Office report, which found that CBP's inspection techniques were not uniform across different ports of entry and in

some cases found that they were entirely outdated. The GAO report determined: "Because CBP has not updated many of its policies—in a few cases for almost 20 years—they do not always reflect changes in technology or processes, such as those for conducting searches and handling fentanyl."

Mr. Speaker, the END FENTANYL Act will be a valuable tool in our fight against the deadly scourge of fentanyl, which has devastated families and communities across our country. From May of 2022 to May of 2023, the U.S. suffered over 112,000 overdose deaths, with many of those deaths being attributed directly or indirectly to the use of fentanyl. Fentanyl poisoning is now the leading cause of death for Americans between the ages of 18 and 45.

As cartels continue to develop new methods to traffic these deadly drugs in the United States, this bill will ensure that CBP responds to any new smuggling techniques in a uniform manner, with the most up-to-date and effective practices.

In closing, this bill will save lives and is a first step to securing our border from those smuggling drugs into our communities. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting S. 206.

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

I thank the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) for introducing the END FENTANYL Act. It is a key step forward to ensure that we are better prepared to stop fentanyl smuggling. By regularly improving our strategies at our ports of entry, we can ensure that the Department of Homeland Security is keeping our communities safe.

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

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

I again urge my colleagues to support S. 206. I thank Mr. GUEST for his work in assisting Senator SCOTT, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 206.

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. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

DHS BORDER SERVICES CONTRACTS REVIEW ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4467) to direct the Under Secretary for Management of the Department of Homeland Security to assess contracts for covered services performed by contractor personnel along the United States land border with Mexico, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4467

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 "DHS Border Services Contracts Review Act".

SEC. 2. ASSESSMENT OF CONTRACTS FOR COVERED SERVICES BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

(a) REPORT.—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary for Management of the Department of Homeland Security, in consultation with appropriate officials of the Department, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report regarding active contracts for covered services of the Department awarded on or before—

(A) September 30, 2023, or

(B) the date of the enactment of this Act, whichever occurs later.

(2) *ELEMENTS.*—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) The criteria used by the Department of Homeland Security to determine whether contractor personnel were necessary to assist the Department in carrying out its mission along the United States land border with Mexico.

(B) An analysis of the purpose, quantity, and location of contractor personnel to perform covered services of the Department with respect to effectively—

(i) addressing mission needs along such border; and

(ii) enhancing the capability of Department personnel to perform primary mission responsibilities, including the number of Department personnel not removed from their primary mission responsibilities by reason of the performance of covered services by contractor personnel.

(C) An assessment with respect to the benefits of contractor personnel performing covered services, including whether the performance of such services by contractor personnel is more efficient or effective than the performance of such services by Department employees.

(D) An assessment of opportunities to increase the efficiency of the Department with respect to contracting, including whether Department-wide contract vehicles for covered services would be the most cost effective option for the performance of covered services.

(E) A strategy to improve the procurement and delivery of covered services through contracts during the five-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act to—

(i) achieve the best value for the Department through the use of full and open competition; and

(ii) ensure no lapse in the performance of such services.

(F) Recommendations based on findings resulting from the analysis and assessments required in subparagraphs (B) through (D).

(G) Any other information relating to contracts for covered services that the Under Secretary for Management determines appropriate.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The Under Secretary for Management shall submit with the report required under subsection (a) a plan to implement