

unions do what they do best, which is to service their communities.

As you heard, this has been passed in the 117th and 118th Congresses. I think it is time to bring this home, and let's get this done this Congress.

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

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, credit unions are vital to our economy and to our communities. I urge my colleagues to support this bill and the consumers and small businesses that they serve.

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

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 975. I appreciate Mr. VARGAS sponsoring this good bill and Mrs. KIM speaking on it. They represent the State of California, and the State of California has some of the largest Federal credit unions active and headquartered in their State.

This will be a great service to those credit unions particularly and their home State of California to be able to focus on their members and have a few less meetings. I thank the gentleman from California for his sponsorship.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 975.

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.

HOUSING UNHOUSED DISABLED VETERANS ACT

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 965) to amend section 3(b)(4) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 to exclude certain disability benefits from income for the purposes of determining eligibility for the supported housing program under section 8(o)(19), and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 965

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 "Housing Unhoused Disabled Veterans Act".

SEC. 2. EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN DISABILITY BENEFITS.

Section 3(b)(4)(B) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(4)(B)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating clauses (iv) and (v) as clauses (vi) and (vii), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after clause (iii) the following:

"(iv) with respect to the supported housing program under section 8(o)(19), any disability benefits received under chapter 11 or chapter 15 of title 38, United States Code, received by a veteran, except that this exclusion may

not apply to the definition of adjusted income;

"(v) with respect to any household receiving rental assistance under the supported housing program under section 8(o)(19) as it relates to eligibility for other types of housing assistance, any disability benefits received under chapter 11 or chapter 15 of title 38, United States Code, received by a veteran, except that this exclusion may not apply to the definition of adjusted income;"

SEC. 3. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN DISABILITY BENEFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—When determining the eligibility of a veteran to rent a residential dwelling unit constructed on Department property on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, for which assistance is provided as part of a housing assistance program administered by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and not yet in existence at the time of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall exclude from income any disability benefits received under chapter 11 or chapter 15 of title 38, United States Code by such person.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(2) DEPARTMENT PROPERTY.—The term "Department property" has the meaning given the term in section 901 of title 38, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) and the gentleman from California (Mr. VARGAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. 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 this bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 965, the Housing Unhoused Disabled Veterans Act introduced by my colleague on the Financial Services Committee, Congressman BRAD SHERMAN of California.

Much like the bill that we just considered a few minutes ago from our friend from Texas (Ms. DE LA CRUZ), I want to start out by commending our colleague from California for his work on this related issue that once again speaks to the fairness in HUD programs on behalf of our Nation's veterans.

The Housing and Urban Development-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing, or HUD-VASH, program was created back in 1992. The purpose was to assist homeless veterans with psychiatric and substance abuse disorders.

The VASH program is an important Federal tool that provides housing assistance and supportive services for low-income veterans experiencing homelessness. Of course, it might seem

redundant to some that a program to help homeless veterans would be geared towards those who are low-income, but sometimes with HUD nothing is ever simple.

Much like how HUD treats service-connected disability compensation of veterans as income in its CDBG program, HUD treats any disability benefits a veteran receives under chapter 11 or chapter 15 of title 38 of the U.S. Code as income under HUD-VASH.

A predictable result is some disabled homeless veterans are blocked from using a program to help all homeless veterans because HUD has decided that those low-income veterans that are disabled are too wealthy to qualify. Sound familiar? This is exactly the debate we had a few minutes ago.

Mr. Speaker, someone always has to explain these government bureaucratic messes to me because they never make any common sense.

The reform we are talking about today offered by Mr. SHERMAN fixes this problem. It reforms the HUD income calculation used in the HUD-VASH program to ensure that the disability payments of a low-income veteran do not exclude them from accessing this housing support.

The bill goes on to say that HUD needs to adopt the same income calculation standard for any future veteran housing program it might create using HUD-owned property. I applaud my colleague for calling attention to this problem and for his bipartisan work to find a solution.

While this may seem like an easy fix, this is Washington. There are no easy fixes, and HUD has consistently placed bureaucratic obstacles in the way of program efficiency time and time again.

In fact, when Representative SHERMAN brought this up last year to the Secretary of HUD, he got the same answer that Representative DE LA CRUZ got on her veterans CDBG income question: Hey, that is Congress' job to fix it, not HUD's.

Fix it, indeed we will. The approach the gentleman has taken in crafting this bill is a good one. It is one that will make a big difference in the HUD-VASH program, as well as: How about making a difference for the veterans who are eligible to use it? That is why we are on this House floor.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative SHERMAN for his hard work to honor the promises that we have made to our veterans. I urge bipartisan support of this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 965, the Housing Unhoused Disabled Veterans Act sponsored by Representative SHERMAN. I thank Mr. SHERMAN for his work on this bipartisan bill which ensure homeless veterans, including those who may have higher incomes due to their disability benefits, can access supportive housing through the HUD-VASH program.

However, an important distinction in this bill will expand access to housing for more disabled veterans who are experiencing homelessness, while preserving limited rental assistance for those with the lowest incomes.

□ 1730

I also want to take this opportunity to talk about the importance of preserving the HUD-VASH program as the Trump administration threatens to trample on Congress' constitutional powers of the purse by freezing Federal funds that have already been designed and designated for the American people.

HUD-VASH is arguably the most successful Federal homeless program to date. In fact, under the Biden administration, Democrats were successful in lowering veteran homelessness to its lowest level ever on record. That is what we can get done when we prioritize housing for people, not profit.

HUD-VASH is the only Federal program that is built to end veteran homelessness through the Housing First approach, which Republicans have time and time again tried to discredit. Housing First works because it solves the root of the homelessness crisis, which is a lack of affordable housing.

Specifically, the program ensures people who are experiencing homelessness can first get off the street and into stable housing where they are then supported with wraparound services, such as case management, job training, healthcare services, and more. If Housing First works to help end veteran homelessness, it can work for everyone else, too.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and look forward to a more bipartisan effort to scale up proven Housing First solutions to end homelessness nationwide.

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

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. DE LA CRUZ), who has done so much to advance these reforms in HUD and our committee. We are grateful for her leadership.

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding.

I rise in support of H.R. 965, the bipartisan Housing Unhoused Disabled Veterans Act, which I am proud to co-lead.

Our veterans, particularly disabled veterans, have sacrificed immensely for our Nation. Unfortunately, when they return home, they are met with unnecessary bureaucracy and government overregulation.

Though we can never repay them for their sacrifice, we can show gratitude by ensuring that bureaucratic obstacles do not stand in the way of veterans receiving the support they need.

H.R. 965 will make certain that disability benefits received by a veteran are not counted against a veteran seek-

ing housing assistance under the HUD-VASH program.

These programs are intended to help veterans, so let us ensure that we do all we can to ensure they achieve that mission by enacting commonsense measures.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan solution to ensure those that sacrificed so much for this great country are not penalized for benefits they have earned through their selfless service.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN), who is the ranking member on the Subcommittee on Capital Markets, who is the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, these are two companion bills. It has been good working with her. My hope is that we not only pass both these bills today unanimously but that we actually get the Senate to act.

There is nothing more shameful than a homeless, disabled American veteran, one who has lost a limb defending us and now living on the streets.

There are two programs to focus on that are designed to provide housing for the unhoused. The De La Cruz bill, which I was proud to be the chief Democratic advocate of, dealt with the CDBG program. This bill deals with a joint program between HUD and the veterans administration, HUD and the VA, and that is why the bill's title spells out HUDVA.

The issue, again, is how do we define income for eligibility for housing. Certainly we should change that definition when it applies to veterans' housing for veterans on veterans' land.

The worst thing we could do is exclude disabled veterans. This is particularly true because perhaps the most significant parcel that this will affect is in my district, and it is the largest VA hospital in the West. What better place for disabled veterans to live when they need often hospital care than to live right there at the hospital.

This bill amends the HUD definition of annual income to exclude disability payments received by a veteran for eligibility purposes for housing under the HUDVA Supportive Housing program.

Last year, HUD, in a major victory for us, did decide to exclude disability benefits from this definition. It is now, I think, necessary for us to make that a statutory change so that it doesn't change with this or that administration.

Now, to qualify, as I have said, the central issue is whether VA disability benefits count as income. The Internal Revenue Code excludes them from that definition of income. As I said, in talking about the gentlewoman from Texas' bill, if you are disabled and you have disability benefits, those benefits don't necessarily raise your standard of living and raise your income from that standpoint when you have to spend your disability benefits on, for example, home healthcare, the additional

cost of living with a disability, et cetera.

The HUD-VASH program is designed to provide rental assistance. The inclusion of disability benefits in the annual income calculation excludes veterans who are disabled from living at a VA hospital land or part of a complex that includes a VA hospital. This legislation would address this problem.

The bill is supported by virtually all the veterans support organizations, such as VFW, Vietnam Veterans of America, American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, U.S. Vets, and Black Veterans Empowerment Council.

The bill is also supported by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, because it is mayors, after all, who have to deal with the homeless and particularly homeless veterans in their cities.

This bill had 101 cosponsors last Congress and substantial bipartisan support in this Congress. I am pleased to have the co-leadership of Ms. DE LA CRUZ from Texas. It has a zero Congressional Budget Office score, so it does nothing to increase our deficit.

The recent wildfires in my area also exemplify this in that the VA hospital that I referred to is right there close to where these fires broke out.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to passing this bill and to persuade the Senate to do so as well.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

I would again thank Congressman SHERMAN for working across the aisle, in particular with Representative DE LA CRUZ from Texas on her companion bill, to make sure our Nation's HUD-VASH program works as effectively as possible.

This bill is a step forward in ensuring that every veteran who is experiencing homelessness can access the supportive housing they need, facilitating their successful reintegration into civilian life.

This is especially true for disabled veterans who experience unique barriers to housing that is inaccessible and increasingly unaffordable.

With this bill, we can assure and ensure disabled veterans have the resources they need to lead stable, fulfilling lives after their invaluable service to our Nation.

Again, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I thank Mr. SHERMAN for his good work on this and his partnership with Ms. DE LA CRUZ of Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I also express my deep empathy and support of Representative SHERMAN, Representative CHU, Representative KIM, and others in the L.A. basin who are coping with the horrendous results and tragedy connected with the fires at Pacific Palisades and elsewhere where some 45,000 California homes were destroyed in just the blink of an eye and lives lost.

I thank Mr. SHERMAN for his focus on housing the least fortunate, our veterans, but also I know that he is concerned about what is going to happen in the months ahead as southern California recovers.

In this regard, Mr. Speaker, we will have a bipartisan roundtable tomorrow in the House Financial Services Committee where Members on both sides of the aisle will talk with experts about how best to improve resilience and think through recovery for southern California.

I thank my colleagues for their bipartisan work on H.R. 965. I urge a “yes” vote on both sides of the aisle, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 965.

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.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 41 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MORAN) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

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:

H.R. 692; and
H.R. 736.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

CHINA EXCHANGE RATE TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2025

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 (H.R. 692) to require the United States Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund to advocate for increased transparency with respect to exchange rate policies of the Peo-

ple's Republic of China, and for other purposes, as amended, 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 Arkansas (Mr. HILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 388, nays 7, not voting 38, as follows:

[Roll No. 36]

YEAS—388

Adams	De La Cruz	Houchin
Aderholt	Dean (PA)	Houlahan
Aguilar	DeGette	Hoyle (OR)
Alford	DeLauro	Hudson
Allen	DelBene	Hurd (CO)
Amo	Deluzio	Issa
Amodei (NV)	DeSaulnier	Jack
Ansari	Diaz-Balart	Jackson (TX)
Arrington	Dingell	Jacobs
Auchincloss	Doggett	James
Babin	Donalds	Jayapal
Bacon	Dunn (FL)	Jeffries
Baird	Elfreth	Johnson (GA)
Balderson	Ellzey	Johnson (LA)
Balint	Emmer	Johnson (SD)
Barragán	Escobar	Johnson (TX)
Barrett	Espallat	Jordan
Baumgartner	Estes	Joyce (PA)
Bean (FL)	Evans (CO)	Kaptur
Beatty	Evans (PA)	Kean
Begich	Ezell	Kelly (IL)
Bentz	Fallon	Kelly (MS)
Bera	Fedorchak	Kelly (PA)
Bergman	Feenstra	Kennedy (NY)
Beyer	Fields	Kennedy (UT)
Bice	Figures	Khanna
Biggs (SC)	Finstad	Kiggans (VA)
Bilirakis	Fischbach	Kiley (CA)
Bishop	Fitzgerald	Kim
Bonamici	Fitzpatrick	Knott
Bost	Fleischmann	Krishnamoorthi
Boyle (PA)	Fletcher	Kustoff
Brecheen	Flood	LaHood
Bresnahan	Fong	LaLota
Brown	Foster	Langworthy
Brownley	Foushee	Larsen (WA)
Buchanan	Fox	Latimer
Budzinski	Frankel, Lois	Latta
Burlison	Franklin, Scott	Lawler
Bynum	Friedman	Lee (FL)
Calvert	Frost	Lee (NV)
Cammack	Fry	Lee (PA)
Carbajal	Fulcher	Letlow
Carey	Garamendi	Levin
Carson	Garbarino	Liccardo
Carter (GA)	Garcia (CA)	Lieu
Carter (TX)	Garcia (IL)	Lofgren
Casas	Garcia (TX)	Loudermilk
Case	Gill (TX)	Lucas
Casten	Gillen	Luna
Castor (FL)	Gimenez	Luttrell
Castro (TX)	Golden (ME)	Lynch
Cherfilus-	Goldman (NY)	Mace
McCormick	Goldman (TX)	Mackenzie
Chu	Gonzales, Tony	Malliotakis
Cisneros	Gonzalez, V.	Maloy
Clark (MA)	Goodlander	Mann
Clarke (NY)	Graves	Mannion
Cline	Gray	Mast
Clyburn	Green (TN)	Matsui
Clyde	Green, Al (TX)	McBath
Cohen	Greene (GA)	McBride
Cole	Griffith	McCaul
Collins	Grothman	McClain
Comer	Guest	McClain Delaney
Conaway	Guthrie	McClellan
Connolly	Hageman	McCollum
Correa	Hamadeh (AZ)	McCormick
Costa	Harder (CA)	McDonald Rivet
Courtney	Haridopolos	McDowell
Craig	Harrigan	McGarvey
Crank	Harris (MD)	McGovern
Crawford	Harris (NC)	McGuire
Crenshaw	Harshbarger	McIver
Crockett	Hayes	Meeks
Crow	Hern (OK)	Menendez
Cuellar	Higgins (LA)	Meng
Davids (KS)	Hill (AR)	Meuser
Davidson	Himes	Mfume
Davis (IL)	Hinson	Miller (IL)
Davis (NC)	Horsford	Miller (OH)

Miller (WV)	Riley (NY)	Subramanyam
Mills	Rivas	Suozi
Min	Rogers (AL)	Sykes
Moolenaar	Rogers (KY)	Takano
Moore (AL)	Rose	Taylor
Moore (NC)	Ross	Tenney
Moore (UT)	Rouzer	Thanedar
Moore (WI)	Ruiz	Thompson (CA)
Moore (WV)	Rulli	Thompson (MS)
Moran	Rutherford	Thompson (PA)
Morelle	Ryan	Tiffany
Morrison	Salazar	Timmons
Moskowitz	Salinas	Titus
Moulton	Sánchez	Tlaib
Mrvan	Scalise	Tokuda
Murphy	Scanlon	Tonko
Nadler	Schakowsky	Torres (CA)
Neal	Schmidt	Torres (NY)
Neguse	Schneider	Trahan
Nehls	Scholten	Tran
Newhouse	Schweikert	Turner (OH)
Norcross	Scott (VA)	Turner (TX)
Norman	Scott, Austin	Underwood
Nunn (IA)	Scott, David	Valadao
Obernolte	Self	Van Drew
Ocasio-Cortez	Sessions	Van Dyne
Ogles	Sewell	Van Orden
Olzewski	Sherman	Vargas
Omar	Shreve	Vasquez
Onder	Simon	Veasey
Owens	Simpson	Velázquez
Pallone	Smith (MO)	Vindman
Palmer	Smith (NE)	Wagner
Panetta	Smith (NJ)	Walberg
Pappas	Smith (WA)	Wasserman
Pelosi	Smucker	Schultz
Perez	Sorensen	Waters
Perry	Soto	Watson Coleman
Peters	Spartz	Weber (TX)
Pfleger	Stansbury	Westerman
Pingree	Stanton	Whitesides
Pocan	Staubert	Wied
Pou	Stefanik	Williams (GA)
Pressley	Steil	Williams (TX)
Quigley	Steube	Wilson (SC)
Ramirez	Stevens	Wittman
Randall	Strickland	Womack
Raskin	Strong	Yakym
Reschenthaler	Stutzman	Zinke

NAYS—7

Biggs (AZ)	Crane	Roy
Boebert	Gosar	
Burchett	Massie	

NOT VOTING—38

Barr	Grijalva	Leger Fernandez
Bell	Hoyer	Magaziner
Carter (LA)	Huffman	McClintock
Ciscomani	Huizenga	Messmer
Cleaver	Hunt	Miller-Meeks
Cloud	Ivey	Mullin
DesJarlais	Jackson (IL)	Petterson
Dexter	Joyce (OH)	Schrier
Downing	Kamlager-Dove	Sherrill
Edwards	Keating	Swalwell
Gomez	LaMalfa	Webster (FL)
Gooden	Landsman	Wilson (FL)
Gottheimer	Larson (CT)	

□ 1849

Messrs. BIGGS of Arizona, BURRETT, and Ms. BOEBERT changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 36.

Ms. DEXTER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 36, H.R. 692.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 36.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 36.