

the 21st century, we've moved from tracing letters of the alphabet on a palm to navigating a Palm Pilot, and we must ensure that all of these devices are accessible to the deaf and the blind in our society. That's what this legislation does here this evening.

Annie Sullivan was an incredibly dedicated and determined teacher. Now, technology needs to be the teacher, the constant companion providing instruction and access to the world and opportunities that otherwise would be out of reach. Helen Keller did learn to speak—and Helen Keller is still speaking to us tonight—about how all of us should make the most of our abilities and participate in society to the fullest, but we need the technologies to make that possible being made accessible to each American.

The bill we are considering tonight significantly increases accessibility for Americans with disabilities to the indispensable telecommunications and video technology tools of the 21st century by making getting on the Web easier through improved user interfaces for smartphones; enabling Americans who are blind to enjoy TV more fully through audible descriptions of the on-air action; making cable TV program guides and selection menus accessible to people with vision loss; providing Americans who are deaf the ability to watch new TV programs online with the captions included; mandating that remote controls have a button or similar mechanism to easily access the closed captioning on broadcast and pay TV; requiring that telecom equipment used to make calls over the Internet is compatible with hearing aids; and for low-income Americans who are deaf and blind, providing a share of the total \$10 million per year of funding to purchase accessible Internet access and telecom services so these individuals can more fully participate in our society.

I thank my colleagues for their support for this landmark legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

This bill will help Americans with hearing or vision disabilities, or those who have both, allow them access to 21st century technology and prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from mandating proprietary technologies, relying instead on advisory committees and industry-developed technical standards.

The members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, on a bipartisan basis, supported this legislation when it moved through the committee and the House in July. I want to commend my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for working with the minority and with all of the stakeholders to get a consensus. Because of that work, the bill originally passed this House by a vote of 348-23.

We are now considering the Senate version in an effort to move the bill quickly to the President. Unfortu-

nately, the version from the other body originally included a number of significant technical errors. To fix those errors, the other body passed S. 3828 to make corrections to their work.

As corrected, S. 3304, like the House bill, includes language explicitly stating that the new provisions of the law shall not be construed to require every feature and function, of every device or service, to be accessible for every disability. Furthermore, the law will create goals rather than impose technology mandates, which will allow innovation in this area to flourish. In that same spirit, it allows manufacturers and providers to rely on third-party solutions in order to achieve accessibility for people with disabilities.

However, all businesses and their products are not created equal. This bill recognizes that some small businesses and fledgling entrepreneurs may not be able to bear the financial burden of these new requirements, so there is the possibility of exemptions for small businesses. The legislation also contemplates waivers for some multi-function devices that are not primarily designed for advanced communications, as well as authorizes the Federal Communications Commission to grant waivers to address concerns of the electronics community about very small devices.

I, again, want to thank the majority for working together on this bill. I wish the rest of the legislation that has been considered in this Congress could have been dealt with in such a collaborative process.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support the bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. 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. 3304.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This bill has been several years in the making. It's going to have a transformative effect on the lives of the deaf and the blind in our country, and ultimately in the world, because the technologies we develop here will help all of the deaf and blind be able to use information in this wireless world that all information is now migrating to.

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I want to thank Roger Sherman, Tim Powderly, Sarah Fisher, Amy Levine on the Democratic side. Neil Fried and Will Carty on the Republican side for their great work. To Colin Crowell on my staff for many years, who helped to conceptualize what it is that we are doing today. And especially to Mark Bayer on my staff, who has worked

tirelessly over the last year and a half to bring this bill to fruition. Looking down I think and smiling right now on this legislation are Karen Peltz Strauss, Rosaline Crawford, Jenifer Simpson, Eric Bridges, Mark Richert, Larry Goldberg, Steve Rothstein from the Perkins School, and Mike Festa at the Carroll Center. Incredible advocates, and the conscience of this issue, why we're here. I thank all who worked on this legislation.

I urge an "aye" vote.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3304.

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.

#### MAKING TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY COMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO ACCESSIBILITY ACT OF 2010

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3828) to make technical corrections in the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010 and the amendments made by that Act.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3828

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

#### SECTION 1. AMENDMENT OF TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY COMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO ACCESSIBILITY ACT OF 2010.

The Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010 is amended—

(1) by striking the item relating to section 105 in the table of contents in section 1(b) and inserting the following:

“Sec. 105. Relay services for deaf-blind individuals.”;

(2) by striking “requirement” in section 201(e)(1)(B) and inserting “objectives”;

(3) by striking “requirement” in section 201(e)(2)(B) and inserting “objectives”;

(4) by inserting “or digital broadcast television” after “protocol” in section 201(e)(2)(C); and

(5) by inserting “or digital broadcast television” after “protocol” in section 201(e)(2)(E).

#### SEC. 2. AMENDMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934.

The Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 151 et seq.), as amended by the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010, is amended—

(1) by striking “do not” in section 716(d);

(2) by striking “facilities” in section 716(e)(1)(D) and inserting “facilitate”;

(3) by striking “provider in the manner prescribed in paragraph (3),” in section 717(a)(5)(C) and inserting “provider.”;

(4) by striking “Equal Access to 21st Century Communications Act” in section 719(a)

and inserting "Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010";

(5) by inserting "low-income" after "accessible by" in section 719(a);

(6) by striking "and" in section 713(f)(2)(A) and inserting "such";

(7) by inserting "have" after "that" in the first place it appears in section 713(f)(2)(B);

(8) by inserting "and Commerce" after "Energy" in section 713(f)(4)(C)(iii);

(9) by striking "programming distribution" in section 713(c)(2)(D)(iii) and inserting "programming distributors";

(10) by striking "progammimg" in section 713(c)(2)(D)(v) and inserting "programming";

(11) by striking "and video description signals and make" in section 713(c)(2)(D)(vi) and inserting "and makes";

(12) by striking "by" in section 303(aa)(3) and inserting "for";

(13) by striking "and" after the semicolon in section 303(bb)(1);

(14) by striking "features." in section 303(bb)(2) and inserting "features; and"; and

(15) by striking the matter following subdivision (2) of section 303(bb) and inserting the following:

"(3) that, with respect to navigation device features and functions—

"(A) delivered in software, the requirements set forth in this subsection shall apply to the manufacturer of such software; and

"(B) delivered in hardware, the requirements set forth in this subsection shall apply to the manufacturer of such hardware."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. 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 materials in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. I rise in support of this legislation to make corrections to the bill that the House just passed. The corrections are technical in nature, and once this bill passes, the House will send to the President landmark legislation to update our country's accessibility laws for the Internet age.

Again, I thank the minority for their cooperation on this historic legislation. It does show what good can be done when this institution works as it should. I thank my colleagues for their support.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I also urge our colleagues to support the technical corrections which are necessary for the previously passed bill. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, so with the request that this body in unison vote "aye" on this historic legislation, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3828.

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.

### PEDIATRIC RESEARCH CONSORTIA ESTABLISHMENT ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 758) to amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of pediatric research consortia, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

#### H.R. 758

*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 "Pediatric Research Consortia Establishment Act".*

#### SEC. 2. NATIONAL PEDIATRIC RESEARCH CONSORTIA.

*Subpart 7 of part C of title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 285g et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:*

#### "SEC. 452H. NATIONAL PEDIATRIC RESEARCH CONSORTIA.

*"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of NIH, acting through the Director of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and in collaboration with all other Institutes of the National Institutes of Health that support pediatric research, may, subject to the availability of funds, award grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements to public or nonprofit private entities to pay all or part of the cost of planning, establishing, and providing basic operating support for up to 20 national pediatric research consortia. The Director of NIH shall take unmet research needs into account when making awards under this section.*

*"(b) RESEARCH.—Research conducted under this section shall supplement, but not replace, research that is otherwise conducted or supported as part of the comprehensive pediatric research portfolio of entities receiving awards under subsection (a). Consortia established under subsection (a) shall, in the aggregate, conduct basic, clinical, behavioral, social, or translational research to meet unmet research needs, as well as training in and demonstration of advanced diagnostic and treatment methods relating to pediatrics, as appropriate.*

*"(c) COORDINATION OF CONSORTIA REPORTS.—The Director of NIH shall—*

*"(1) as appropriate, provide for the coordination of information among consortia established under subsection (a) and ensure regular communication between such consortia; and*

*"(2) require the periodic preparation of reports on the activities of the consortia and the submission of the reports to the Director.*

*"(d) ORGANIZATION OF CONSORTIUM.—Each consortium established under subsection (a) shall be formed from a collaboration of cooperating institutions with a lead institution, meeting such requirements as may be prescribed by the Director of NIH, including participation in a network of such consortia.*

*"(e) LIMITATION.—Payments under subsection (a) shall not exceed \$2,500,000 per year for each consortium in the first 5-year cycle.*

*"(f) DURATION OF PAYMENTS.—Payments under subsection (a) for a consortium may be provided under this section for a period of 5*

*years and may be extended for additional periods of 5 years each, with enhanced funding opportunities based on a review of the operations by an appropriate scientific review."*

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. 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 in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 758, the Pediatric Research Consortia Establishment Act. The goal of H.R. 758 is to enhance the Nation's research program into pediatric conditions by creating a strong research infrastructure. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 758, the Pediatric Research Consortia Establishment Act, would allow the National Institutes of Health to support up to 20 national pediatric research consortia that would conduct vital pediatric research. Specifically, the Pediatric Research Consortia Establishment Act would allow but not require the National Institutes of Health award grants to public or nonprofit private entities to pay for the cost of planning, establishing, and providing a basic operating support for up to 20 national pediatric research consortia. These consortia would conduct basic clinical, behavioral, social, and translational research. They could also provide training on advanced diagnostic and treatment methods relating to pediatrics. The consortia will foster efficiency and collaboration at all levels of pediatric research, and they will provide patients with greater access to vital research.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for the bill and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 758, as amended.

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. BURGESS. 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.