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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

FACT SHEET

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H.R. 6929, Susan Muffley Act of 2022

This Bipartisan Bill Would Restore Full Retirement Benefits to Delphi Salaried Retirees

Key Points:

- Today, the House will consider H.R. 6929, the Susan Muffley Act of 2022. This bipartisan bill would restore full retirement benefits to Delphi salaried retirees.
- Rep. Dan Kildee (D-MI), who has been fighting for years to restore full pension benefits to the Delphi salaried retirees, introduced the Susan Muffley Act of 2022 back on March 3, 2022.
- The bill is named in honor of the late Susan Muffley, whose husband David is one of the current 20,000 Delphi salaried retirees who have failed to receive the full pension benefits originally promised them.
- Susan Muffley became an important member of the core leadership team in the long-going efforts to fully restore the Delphi pension plan benefits. She continued this fight even after she received a diagnosis of Stage 4 pancreatic cancer, ultimately dying in August 2012. She had hoped to live to see the pension fully restored.
- The rule, issued on July 22, provides for consideration of the bill under a structured rule, with one hour of general debate and with the Ways and Means Committee managing debate on the bill.

The Bill Has Strong Bipartisan Support

The bill has 35 cosponsors, with 16 Republicans and 19 Democrats. Many of the cosponsors represent Midwestern states where many of the Delphi retirees live. Cosponsors of the bill include, among others, Reps. Debbie Dingell (D-MI), Brenda Lawrence (D-MI), Haley Stevens (D-MI), (Andy Levin (D-MI), Bill Huizenga (R-MI), Lisa McClain (R-MI), Joyce Beatty (D-OH), Tim Ryan (D-OH), Michael Turner (R-OH), Bill Johnson (R-OH), Marcy Kaptur (D-OH), Gwen Moore (D-WI), and Mark Pocan (D-WI).

Background:

- Delphi Corporation was the nation's largest automotive parts supplier, originally created as a division of General Motors. In 1999, Delphi was spun-off from General Motors and reestablished as an independent company. In the years after the spin-off from GM, Delphi struggled financially and in October 2005 filed for bankruptcy.
- By 2009, after Delphi's first bankruptcy reorganization plan failed, there were two options with respect to Delphi's pension plans: either GM would absorb Delphi's pension plans or the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) would terminate the pension plans. Both Delphi and PBGC advocated for GM assumption.
- However, GM then filed for bankruptcy in 2009 and the new reorganized GM, which was being organized by the federal government in bankruptcy proceedings commonly referred to as the auto bailout, declined to assume the pension plans.
- Although Delphi and PBGC worked together to avoid termination of the pension plans, eventually, Delphi proved incapable of sustaining the financial burdens.
- Then, in May 2009, PBGC terminated Delphi's pension plans and assumed responsibility for paying pension benefits for the 70,000 participants.
- PBGC is currently only allowed to pay participants' benefit up to the statutory maximum, which leaves some receiving less than their full benefits.

- The bill would fully restore Delphi pension plan benefits by directing the PBGC to recalculate benefits for participants and beneficiaries in Delphi plans without regard to the statutory maximum limits on their guarantee. The bill addresses which plans, participants, and beneficiaries would be eligible for increased benefits and how benefits of eligible participants and beneficiaries would be calculated and paid.