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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 10, 2012.

I hereby appoint the Honorable STEVE WOMACK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

We give You thanks, O God, for giving us another day.

As the Members of the people's House return to the Capitol, call them as well with Your gentling voice of collegiality.

When a sense of alienation shadows all of our souls, we find our differences difficult to bear; we move away from each other. Insofar as the spirit of alienation has descended upon this House, help each Member to overcome unnecessary divisions that hamper productive work on behalf of our Nation.

Bring them to a deeper level of awareness of Your Spirit, and make us one Nation. Give the Members listening hearts, willing to give to each other time and attention and ready to respond to Your spirit living in each one.

And may all that is done within the people's House this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, DC,
August 15, 2012.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: I write to inform you that I have notified California Governor Jerry Brown of my resignation from the House, effective midnight tonight, August 15th.

It has been a tremendous honor to represent my friends and neighbors from California's Central Valley, both in Congress and the California State Assembly. I look back with pride on what we have accomplished. The real honor of serving in Congress is not working in historic buildings, but in laboring with so many unbelievably talented and dedicated individuals who serve our Nation daily.

Sincerely,

DENNIS CARDOZA.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, DC,
August 15, 2012.

Hon. EDMUND G. BROWN,
Governor of California,
Sacramento, CA.

DEAR GOVERNOR BROWN: I write to inform you that I will resign my House seat, effective midnight tonight, August 15th.

It has been a tremendous honor to represent my friends and neighbors from California's Central Valley, both in Congress and the California State Assembly. I look back with pride on what we have accomplished. The real honor of serving in Congress is not working in historic buildings, but in laboring with so many unbelievably talented and dedicated individuals who serve our Nation daily.

Sincerely,

DENNIS CARDOZA.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from California (Mr. CARDOZA), the whole number of the House is 430.

COMMUNICATION FROM DISTRICT DIRECTOR, THE HONORABLE ROBERT A. BRADY, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Ilene Jenofsky, District Director, the Honorable ROBERT A. BRADY, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, DC,
August 15, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena for testimony issued by the Philadelphia Municipal Court, Criminal Division, in connection with a

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criminal prosecution currently pending before that court.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and precedents of the House.

Sincerely,

ILENE JENOFSKY,
District Director.

COMMUNICATION FROM CONSTITUENT SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE, THE HONORABLE ROBERT A. BRADY, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Warren Raines, Constituent Services Representative, the Honorable ROBERT A. BRADY, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, DC,
August 15, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a subpoena for testimony issued by the Philadelphia Municipal Court, Criminal Division, in connection with a criminal prosecution currently pending before that court.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and precedents of the House.

Sincerely,

WARREN RAINES,
Constituent Services Representative.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

CABIN FEE ACT OF 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3397) to modify the Forest Service Recreation Residence Program by implementing a simple, equitable, and predictable procedure for determining cabin user fees, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3397

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Cabin Fee Act of 2012''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Definitions.
Sec. 3. Cabin user fees.
Sec. 4. Payment of cabin transfer fees.
Sec. 5. Right of appeal and judicial review.
Sec. 6. Effect.
Sec. 7. Regulations.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) AUTHORIZATION; AUTHORIZE.—The terms ''authorization'' and ''authorize'' mean the issuance of a special use permit for the use and occupancy of National Forest System land by a cabin owner under the Recreation Residence Program.

(2) CABIN.—The term ''cabin'' means a privately built and owned recreation residence and related improvements on National Forest System land that—

(A) is authorized for private use and occupancy; and

(B) may be sold or transferred between private parties.

(3) CABIN OWNER.—The term ''cabin owner'' means—

(A) a person authorized by the Secretary to use and to occupy a cabin; and

(B) a trust, heir, or assign of a person described in subparagraph (A).

(4) CABIN TRANSFER FEE.—The term ''cabin transfer fee'' means a fee that is paid to the United States on the transfer of a cabin between private parties for money or other consideration that results in the issuance of a new permit.

(5) CABIN USER FEE.—The term ''cabin user fee'' means an annual fee paid to the United States by a cabin owner in accordance with an authorization for the use and occupancy of a cabin.

(6) CURRENT APPRAISAL CYCLE.—The term ''current appraisal cycle'' means the completion of Forest Service review and acceptance of—

(A) initial typical lot appraisals; and

(B) second appraisals, if ordered by cabin owners and approved by the Forest Service.

(7) CURRENT CABIN USER FEE.—The term ''current cabin user fee'' means the most recent cabin user fee, as adjusted under section 3(c).

(8) LOT.—The term ''lot'' means a parcel of National Forest System land on which a person is authorized to build, use, occupy, and maintain a cabin.

(9) NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM.—The term ''National Forest System'' has the meaning given that term in section 11 of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1609).

(10) RECREATION RESIDENCE PROGRAM.—The term ''Recreation Residence Program'' means the Recreation Residence Program established under the last paragraph under the heading ''FOREST SERVICE'' in the Act of March 4, 1915 (16 U.S.C. 497).

(11) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service.

(12) TYPICAL LOT.—The term ''typical lot'' means a cabin lot, or group of cabin lots, in a tract that is selected for use in an appraisal as being representative of, and that has similar value characteristics as, other lots or groups of lots within the tract.

SEC. 3. CABIN USER FEES.

(a) PAYMENT OF CABIN USER FEES.—Cabin owners shall pay an annual cabin user fee established by the Secretary in accordance with this section.

(b) INITIAL CABIN USER FEES.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish initial cabin user fees in accordance with this subsection.

(2) ASSIGNMENT TO VALUE TIERS.—On completion of the current appraisal cycle, as required by paragraph (4), the Secretary shall assign each permitted lot on National Forest System land to 1 of 10 tiers based on the following considerations:

(A) Before assigning the lots to tiers, all appraised lot values shall be adjusted, or normalized, for price changes occurring after the appraisal, in accordance with the National Association of Homebuilders/Wells Fargo Housing Opportunity Index.

(B) Second appraisal values shall supersede initial lot appraisal values for the normalization and ranking process under subparagraph (A).

(C) The tiers shall be established, on a national basis, according to relative lot value, with lots having the lowest adjusted appraised value assigned to tier 1 and lots having the highest adjusted appraised value assigned to tier 10.

(D) The number of lots (by percentage) assigned to each tier is contained in the table set forth in paragraph (3).

(E) Data from incomplete appraisals may not be used to establish the fee tiers under this subsection.

(F) Until assigned to a tier under this subsection, the Secretary shall assess (and may adjust annually subject to clause (ii)) an interim fee for permitted cabin lots (including lots with incomplete appraisals) in an amount equal to the lesser of—

(i) $5,000; or

(ii) the amount of the current cabin user fee, as determined under the Cabin User Fee Fairness Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6201 et seq.), which amount the Secretary may increase annually by not more than 25 percent, except that the increased fee shall not exceed the otherwise scheduled fee determined under the Cabin User Fee Fairness Act of 2000.

(3) AMOUNT OF INITIAL CABIN USER FEES.—The initial cabin user fees, based on the assignments under paragraph (2), are as follows:

Fee Tier	Approximate Percent of Permits Nationally	Fee Amount
Tier 1	5 percent	$500
Tier 2	12 percent	$1,000
Tier 3	22 percent	$1,500
Tier 4	22 percent	$2,000
Tier 5	10 percent	$2,500
Tier 6	9 percent	$3,000
Tier 7	7 percent	$3,500
Tier 8	5 percent	$4,000
Tier 9	5 percent	$4,500
Tier 10	3 percent	$5,000

(4) DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION OF CURRENT APPRAISAL CYCLE.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete the current appraisal cycle.

(5) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The initial cabin user fees required by this subsection shall take effect beginning with the first calendar year beginning after the completion of the current appraisal cycle.

(c) ANNUAL ADJUSTMENTS OF CABIN USER FEE.—Once initial cabin user fees have been assessed, based on the tier assignments under subsection (b)(2), the Secretary shall use changes in the Implicit Price Deflator for the Gross Domestic Product published by the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce, applied on a 5-year rolling average, to assess an annual adjustment to cabin user fees.

(d) EFFECT OF DESTRUCTION, SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE, OR LOSS OF ACCESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall reduce the cabin user fee to $100 per year for a cabin if—

(A) the cabin is destroyed or suffers substantial damage in an amount that is greater than 50 percent of replacement cost of the cabin; or

(B) access to the cabin is significantly impaired, whether by catastrophic events, natural causes, or governmental actions.

(2) TERM OF REDUCED FEE.—The reduced fee under paragraph (1) shall be in effect until the later of—

(A) the last day of the year in which the destruction or impairment occurs; or

(B) the date on which the cabin may be lawfully reoccupied and normal access has been restored.

SEC. 4. PAYMENT OF CABIN TRANSFER FEES.

As a condition of the issuance by the Secretary of a new authorization for the use and occupancy of the cabin, the cabin owner transferring the cabin shall pay to the Secretary a cabin transfer fee in the amount of $1,200.

SEC. 5. RIGHT OF APPEAL AND JUDICIAL REVIEW.

(a) RIGHT OF APPEAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any action of a cabin owner to exercise rights in accordance with section 6, the Secretary shall by regulation grant to the cabin owner the right to an administrative appeal of the determination of a new cabin user fee, fee tier, or whether or not to reduce a cabin user fee under section 3(d).

(2) APPLICABLE LAW.—An appeal under paragraph (1) shall be pursuant to the appeal process provided under subpart C of part 251 of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation).

(b) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A cabin owner that contests a final decision of the Secretary under this Act may bring a civil action in United States district court.

(2) VENUE.—The venue for an action brought before the United States district court under this subsection shall be in the Federal judicial district in which the cabin is located.

(3) EFFECT ON MEDIATION.—Nothing in this Act precludes a person from seeking mediation for an action under this Act.

SEC. 6. EFFECT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act limits or restricts any right, title, or interest of the United States in or to any land or resource.

(b) SPECIAL RULE FOR ALASKA.—In determining a cabin user fee in the State of Alaska, the Secretary shall not establish or impose a cabin user fee or a condition affecting a cabin user fee that is inconsistent with 1303(d) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3193(d)).

SEC. 7. REGULATIONS.

Not later than December 31, 2013, the Secretary shall issue regulations to carry out this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Cabin Fee Act, which I have sponsored for several Congresses, sets a new fee schedule for the 14,000 privately owned cabins in our national forests. It creates a simple, straightforward, and predictable fee schedule that is fair to cabin owners, the Forest Service, and the American taxpayer.

H.R. 3397 would replace the current complex and unfair payment system by assigning cabin fees to tiers based on the cabin lot's appraised value. The fees would rise with inflation, but otherwise would be a fixed fee. This means that families would no longer face sudden, unexpected jumps to unaffordable levels, and the maximum fees are kept from going above $5,000 a year.

As considered on the House floor today, the Cabin Fee Act is revenue neutral. The CBO score is zero.

Many of the private cabins on Forest Service land are simple, rustic structures hand-built by the grandparents of current owners early in the last century and passed down from generation to generation. The overwhelming majority of these cabins are modest family retreats.

The purpose of this bill is to keep the fees affordable for people such as teachers, factory workers, and retirees, and not just millionaires, which is what would result if we do not make the change in the law.

The cabin owners affected by this bill are charged an annual fee for the use of their land on which their cabin sits. They do not get any ownership rights to the land. They have only a temporary and highly restricted use permit for basically the footprint of their cabin.

Because a limited use permit is not comparable to the rights acquired when somebody owns property in fee simple, it has proven impossible under current law to establish a fair basis for setting the fees charged to the cabin owners. The current system has resulted in unrealistic, arbitrary fee hikes that are completely unaffordable for average families.

For example, in the Northwest, the Seattle Times published a report that cabin owners in Lake Wenatchee, which is in my district, received notice that their fees would increase by more than 1,000 percent, from $1,400 a year to $17,000 a year. Skyrocketing fees also make these seasonal cabins unmarketable, leaving families who are unable to pay the high fees also unable to sell their cabins.

Unless Congress acts to bring about a course correction, thousands of cabin owners will be forced to abandon family heirloom cabins as the currently planned hike in fees goes into effect. This bill is strongly supported by the Forest Service because it preserves this cherished century-old program while greatly reducing and simplifying the Service's administrative burden.

The need to fix this problem has bipartisan support in the House and the Senate. So I urge support of the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

CBO ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 3397, THE CABIN FEE ACT OF 2012, WITH AN AMENDMENT, AS PROVIDED TO CBO BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2012

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—												
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2012–2017	2012–2022
	Net Increase or Decrease (−) Deficit												
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact [a]	0	2	−5	−3	−2	0	1	2	2	2	2	−8	0

Note: Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

a. H.R. 3397 would establish a new schedule for the fees paid to the federal government by individuals who own cabins located on Forest Service lands. The bill also would establish a transfer fee that would be assessed on owners who sell their cabins. Because H.R. 3397, as amended, would cap annual cabin fees at $5,000 and prevent scheduled fee increases from being implemented as they would be under current law, CBO estimates that enacting the bill would, in general, lower annual offsetting receipts over the 2012–2022 period. However, CBO estimates that enacting the legislation would increase receipts over the 2014–2016 period because we expect that cabin fees would be increased more gradually under current law than under the bill over that period. On net, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would increase offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending) by $8 million over the 2012–2017 period and would have no significant impact on direct spending over the 2012–2022 period.

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

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3397, sponsored by our Chairman HASTINGS, authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture

to adjust the fees for private cabins on national forest lands.

We remain concerned about the impact this legislation may have on cabin owners of modest means, of which there are many. It appears that in order to reduce the fees for owners in the highest bracket, fees on the middle- and lower-value cabins would have to increase.

Many members of the committee do not object to the passage of this legislation at this time, although I wanted to bring up some personal concerns about the inequity of the new fee system. I'd like to work with the chairman and the cabin owners and the other body to achieve an equitable solution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time and urge adoption of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3397, 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.

BILLFISH CONSERVATION ACT OF 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2706) to prohibit the sale of billfish, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2706

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 ''Billfish Conservation Act of 2012''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The United States carefully regulates its domestic fisheries for billfish and participates in international fishery management bodies in the Atlantic and Pacific.

(2) Global billfish populations have declined significantly, however, because of overfishing primarily through retention of bycatch by non-United States commercial fishing fleets.

(3) Ending the importation of foreign-caught billfish for sale in the United States aligns with U.S. management measures of billfish and protects the significant economic benefits to the U.S. economy of recreational fishing and marine commerce and the traditional cultural fisheries.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY.

The Congress enacts this Act pursuant to clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON SALE OF BILLFISH.

(a) PROHIBITION.—No person shall offer for sale, sell, or have custody, control, or possession of for purposes of offering for sale or selling billfish or products containing billfish.

(b) PENALTY.—For purposes of section 308(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1858(a)), a violation of this section shall be treated as an act prohibited by section 307 of that Act (16 U.S.C. 1857).

(c) EXEMPTIONS FOR TRADITIONAL FISHERIES AND MARKETS.—

(1) Subsection (a) does not apply to billfish caught by US fishing vessels and landed in the State of Hawaii or Pacific Insular Areas as defined in section 3(35) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1802(35)).

(2) Subsection (a) does not apply to billfish landed by foreign fishing vessels in the Pacific Insular Areas when the foreign caught billfish is exported to non-US markets or retained within Hawaii and the Pacific Insular Areas for local consumption.

(d) BILLFISH DEFINED.—In this section the term ''billfish''—

(1) means any fish of the species—

(A) Makaira nigricans (blue marlin);

(B) Kajikia audax (striped marlin);

(C) Istiompax indica (black marlin);

(D) Istiophorus platypterus (sailfish);

(E) Tetrapturus angustirostris (shortbill spearfish);

(F) Kajikia albida (white marlin);

(G) Tetrapturus georgii (roundscale spearfish);

(H) Tetrapturus belone (Mediterranean spearfish); and

(I) Tetrapturus pfluegeri (longbill spearfish); and

(2) does not include the species Xiphias gladius (swordfish).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2706, the Billfish Conservation Act, authored by our colleague from Florida (Mr. MILLER).

Under current law, it is illegal to import or sell Atlantic billfish. Despite this, the U.S. is one of the major importers of billfish in the world. While Pacific billfish populations in general are in better shape than Atlantic billfish, threats to both oceans' billfish from foreign fishing fleets remain.

As long as the U.S. allows a market for these fish, their population levels are likely to worsen. To add more protection for both the Atlantic and Pacific billfish, the legislation would make it illegal to sell specific billfish species or possess those billfish for sale, whether they are Atlantic or Pacific.

Now, I note, Mr. Speaker, that concern had been raised at the June hearing that U.S. fishermen in Hawaii and the Pacific insular areas might be disadvantaged by these new rules and that the local consumption of billfish products might be made illegal. The bill was amended during committee consideration to address this concern; and the legislation, as amended, now protects these U.S. fishermen and the existing limited, traditional local consumption of billfish products while still providing additional and increased protection for billfish populations in the United States.

This is good legislation. I support it. And I reserve the balance of my time.

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

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2706, the Billfish Conservation Act, seeks to ban imports of foreign-caught marlin, sailfish, and spearfish into the United States. Now, these fish, as we know from prized photographs of our friends and many of our past experiences, are highly valued as recreational game-fish and serve as the top predators in ocean ecosystems—the so-called lions and tigers of the sea.

While this bill is a small step forward and has the support of recreational fishing and commercial interests, we can and should do much more for the conservation of billfish. Specifically, developing and using more selective commercial fishing gear, cracking down on illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing, and passing legislation, such as the bill recently introduced by our colleague from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), to combat seafood fraud would provide even more protections for these iconic species. However, I and most of my colleagues, I believe, support passage of H.R. 2706; and we hope that it is a precursor to further action on this important issue.

I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1610

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER), the author of this legislation.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, thank you for the recognition.

I thank the gentleman from Washington, the chairman of the committee, for his recognition and his leadership on this effort, as well as Dr. JOHN FLEMING, the subcommittee chairman, and all the members of the House Natural Resources Committee for their support of this particular piece of legislation.

I also have to thank members of the sportsmen's community, members of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, and in particular, Congressmen DUNCAN from South Carolina and WITTMAN, BOREN, MICHAUD, and BONNER, and my counterparts in the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus leadership—that would be Congressmen ROSS, LATTA,

and SHULER—for all their efforts to help advance this legislation in a bipartisan effort.

Today, I join my colleagues in support of H.R. 2706, which is the Billfish Conservation Act of 2012.

As the chairman has already said, the United States is the largest importer of billfish products in the world. Our populations continue to be affected by foreign commercial overfishing, and the importing of billfish only exacerbates the problem that exists today.

Without passage of this bill and strengthening of the current ban of the Atlantic-caught billfish to include the sale and harvest of all billfish—excluding, as has been already said on the floor today, those fisheries in the State of Hawaii and Pacific insular area—the current ban will continue to be undermined through loopholes that have hurt our anglers and the economy.

By eliminating the sale in the continental U.S., passage of this bill will support the billfish population growth, a healthy ocean ecosystem, and improve recreational fishing opportunities. As a result of the increased recreational fishing opportunities, this bill provides a huge economic boost to generate billions of dollars through direct expenditures and marine-related jobs and sales without placing a burden on the U.S. seafood market and its consumers.

I want to urge all my colleagues to support this very important piece of legislation to help conserve a very depleted fish population, preserving our Nation's fishing heritage, and provide for economic growth during a time when our country needs it most.

Mr. HOLT. May I ask the chairman if he has additional speakers?

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I have no more requests for time. If the gentleman yields back, I'm prepared to yield back.

Mr. HOLT. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield back the balance of my time and urge adoption of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2706, 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.

NORTH TEXAS ZEBRA MUSSEL BARRIER ACT OF 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6007) to exempt from the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 certain water transfers by the North Texas Municipal Water District and the Greater Texoma Utility Authority, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6007

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 ''North Texas Zebra Mussel Barrier Act of 2012''.

SEC. 2. COMPLIANCE WITH LACEY ACT.

The Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3371 et seq.) and section 42 of title 18, United States Code, shall not apply with respect to any water transfer by the North Texas Municipal Water District and the Greater Texoma Utility Authority using only closed conveyance systems from the Lake Texoma raw water intake structure to treatment facilities at which all zebra mussels are extirpated and removed from the water transferred.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Chairman RALPH HALL's bill to provide relief to 1.6 million people living in the Dallas/Fort Worth area necessitated because of a bizarre set of circumstances.

In 1989, the North Texas Municipal Water District constructed a pumping station in Lake Texoma, providing up to 125 million gallons per day of safe drinking water to one of the most rapidly growing regions in the country, the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Sometime later, the enactment of a boundary adjustment resulted in a small portion of the pumping station being shifted from Texas to Oklahoma. In 2009, zebra mussels were discovered in the lake. This has caused a significant problem because it is in violation of the Lacey Act to transport zebra mussels across State lines.

So, to resolve this, the Water District has proposed to construct a $300 million, 46-mile closed pipeline that will transport Lake Texoma water to its treatment facility in Wylie, Texas. All zebra mussels will then be destroyed there, and the entire effort will be accomplished without any cost to Federal taxpayers.

This project was issued a section 404 Clean Water Act permit in May, and it was supported by the U.S. Wildlife Service district office in Arlington, Texas. However, as happens so many times, the Washington, D.C., headquarters of Fish and Wildlife is not so supportive and has suggested what it describes as a nonlegislative solution: an agreement with the Justice Department not to prosecute North Texas Municipal Water District for transporting zebra mussels.

Now, just think about this, Mr. Speaker. As someone who believes that we are a Nation of law, I am deeply troubled by the notion that a Federal agency would suggest that it would not seek to prosecute, under the law, those who may violate the law. I just think that's the wrong approach, and this approach is the right approach.

So I urge adoption of H.R. 6007, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 6007, the North Texas Zebra Mussel Barrier Act, provides a very specific and necessary—we believe—exemption to the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981.

The Lacey Act is vital to our Nation's interests because it prevents the spread of undesirable, injurious species such as zebra mussels. In fact, zebra mussels may be a textbook example, a poster child for injurious introduced species.

These mussels are the bane of many a power plant or municipal water operator. Millions are spent each year just to keep intake and outflow pipes clear of these creatures. They harm our fisheries by crowding out native species and taking all their food, and they're driving many native mussels to extinction.

H.R. 6007 would allow the North Texas Municipal Water District and the Greater Texoma Utility Authority to transport water that contains zebra mussels from the Oklahoma side of Lake Texoma to Texas. However, all the water would be kept in closed conveyance systems, we are assured; and we are further assured that all water would be fully treated, with all zebra mussels being fully removed before being released into any water body. The biologists, the limnologists, the hydrologists, the water engineers assure us of these things.

I do want to emphasize that zebra mussels are pernicious and insidious. I am loathe, and I think many of my colleagues are loathe, to weaken or seek exemption from the Lacey Act, which controls invasive species. However, Texas needs access to this water, and the aforementioned entities have a comprehensive plan for ensuring, we are told, that these water transfers will not cause zebra mussels to spread.

So for these reasons, and with this understanding, I rise in support of H.R. 6007. I do strongly urge that this bill, which is put forward as a remedy for a very difficult and unique situation, should not be used to set any precedent for granting exemptions to the Lacey Act or in any way weakening our protections against invasive species.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I'm very pleased to yield 3 minutes to the author of this legislation, our distinguished colleague from Texas, Chairman RALPH HALL.

□ 1620

Mr. HALL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I, of course, rise today in support of H.R. 6007, the North Texas Zebra Mussel Barrier Act of 2012. When I read in the papers and hear in the press that Republicans and Democrats can't get together on anything, well, we're together on something today, and I think the gentlemen have adequately described the enemy.

North Texas has a very serious problem with an invasive aquatic species called zebra mussel. I'd never heard of them before. I hope I never hear of them again. Zebra mussels are going to attach to probably just about anything. They infest and cover rocks, attach to boats and docks, and clog water pipelines. North Texas has a unique situation due to a Texas-Oklahoma boundary change that requires a congressional solution. You know you hear people say it takes an act of Congress to get something accomplished. Well, that's exactly what we're here doing today.

The local water folks have been working extremely hard to prevent the spread of zebra mussels while simultaneously attempting to provide enough clean water for our citizens, but they absolutely need our help. They need this help. H.R. 6007 allows the North Texas Municipal Water District to pump water from Lake Texoma straight into the Wylie, Texas, Water Treatment Plant where the water can be cleaned of zebra mussels without being in violation of the Lacey Act. These folks are the only ones who have tackled and solved this problem. They're not the only ones who have tackled it, but they're the only ones who have solved this problem. It has been at their own expense, and they have solved it. Now they need our support.

In the late 1980s, the North Texas Municipal Water District built the Lake Texoma pump station to better serve its use. This was built entirely within the Texas border and in accordance with the Army Corps of Engineers' 1939 survey, which defined the Texas and Oklahoma boundary line.

In 2000, a variation in the Texas-Oklahoma border was enacted into law, and the pump station ended up straddling the two States. Since the Lacey Act prohibits the transfer of zebra mussels across State lines, it effectively has banned the use of the Texoma water pump station since the year 2009, which was when zebra mussels first appeared in Lake Texoma. The North Texas Municipal Water District generally receives 28 percent of its water supply from Lake Texoma.

H.R. 6007 will enable the water district to resume pumping water to better serve more than 1.5 million users and to do so in a manner that provides safe water in the tradition of its 20-year history. The bill will allow the Texoma water pump to reopen, to provide much-needed jobs and to provide enough clean water to the community during a season of very severe drought, when water is desperately needed.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield the gentleman an additional 1 minute.

Mr. HALL. On May 3 of this year, the Army Corps of Engineers approved a 404 permit that will allow the construction of a 46-mile water pipeline from Lake Texoma straight into the Wylie Water Treatment Plant, which would remove 100 percent of the zebra mussels and would provide clean water for North Texas citizens and businesses.

This is a commonsense solution, a necessary solution and one for which I certainly want to thank the chairman, DOC HASTINGS.

Mr. HOLT. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS).

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I believe the facts of the case that have been clearly enumerated by both sides are very important for this Congress to understand in that this is an agreement on both sides. Yet I think what has happened is that, due to the bipartisan leadership back on the committee between not just Mr. HOLT and the chairman but also with the gentleman, Mr. FLEMING, it has really come to the aid and assistance, not just in a bipartisan way but in a commonsense way.

It is the opportunity for 1.6 million people who need this desperately to be able to get water at a time of drought, at a time of much consternation in Texas where we have fires and drought and heat and a lot of problems. This means that the people of North Texas know that Chairman RALPH HALL and this committee worked very carefully to make sure that they went through regular order, to make sure that they knew the facts of the case, to make sure that they studied this well.

I really want to offer, not just my support for this, but my thanks to the committee and to the committee chairman for the hard work that has been done by this. I don't make apologies for coming to the floor to do things that are in the best interests of the people of Texas, but this has become necessary as a result of directives back in Texas and the inability of people to clearly resolve this. So I am very pleased to support not just this bill, H.R. 6007, but also the concept of Congress working together through using common sense.

Mr. Speaker, we are here today to discuss an issue which is vital to North Texas. H.R. 6007, the North Texas Zebra Mussel Barrier Act, provides an elegant solution to a growing problem. Currently, 1.6 million customers of the North Texas Municipal Water District, many of whom are my constituents, have restricted access to water as a result of the discovery of zebra mussels in Lake Texoma. Additionally, water transfers have become complicated because of a surveying error resulting in the incorrect designation of the District's Lake Texoma intake station as being in Oklahoma rather than in Texas. This surveyor's error, made more than a decade ago by the Red River Boundary Compact, means that water transfers of zebra mussels now cross a state line. Such a transfer triggers the Lacey Act, which is designed to prevent the spread of invasive species across state lines.

In response, the North Texas Municipal Water District has been forced to suspend all pumping from Lake Texoma for the past three years. This water source constitutes roughly 28 percent of the North Texas Municipal Water District's available supply of raw water. Such a reduction in available resources has put a tremendous stress on the District and its ability to assure its customers that there will be an adequate supply of water in the future.

H.R. 6007 would allow North Texas Municipal Water District to resume water transfers from Lake Texoma through a completely closed conveyance system that delivers water directly into their water treatment facility. To achieve this, the North Texas Municipal Water District has committed approximately $300 million to build a 46-mile long pipeline. The District has approved the funding and obtained the necessary 4–0–4 permits required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to begin construction.

Such a conveyance system would provide safe and dependable means for the District to access the water they have legal rights to while ensuring, with 100 percent reliability, that Zebra Mussels will not be transferred into Texas waters. Their treatment facility will employ chemical and mechanical means of filtration to eliminate any risk of propagation of invasive species. Such techniques have been proven successful in other areas of the country and have been approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Ultimately, H.R. 6007 will restore the adequate and steady stream of water to over 1.6 million Texans without the use of taxpayer dollars while complying with the Lacey Act's intended goal of preventing the spread of invasive species.

Mr. HOLT. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of the 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 Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6007, 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.

AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2489) to authorize the acquisition and protection of nationally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 under the American Battlefield Protection Program, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2489

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 ''American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act of 2012''.

SEC. 2. REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND WAR OF 1812 AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION.

Section 7301(c) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–11) is amended as follows:

(1) In paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

''(A) BATTLEFIELD REPORT.—The term 'battlefield report' means, collectively—

''(i) the report entitled 'Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields', prepared by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, and dated July 1993; and

''(ii) the report entitled 'Report to Congress on the Historic Preservation of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Sites in the United States', prepared by the National Park Service, and dated September 2007.''; and

(B) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking ''Battlefield Report'' and inserting ''battlefield report''.

(2) In paragraph (2), by inserting ''eligible sites or'' after ''acquiring''.

(3) In paragraph (3), by inserting ''an eligible site or'' after ''acquire''.

(4) In paragraph (4), by inserting ''an eligible site or'' after ''acquiring''.

(5) In paragraph (5), by striking ''An'' and inserting ''An eligible site or an''.

(6) By redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (9).

(7) By inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraphs:

''(6) WILLING SELLERS.—Acquisition of land or interests in land under this subsection shall be from willing sellers only.

''(7) REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the activities carried out under this subsection, including a description of—

''(A) preservation activities carried out at the battlefields and associated sites identified in the battlefield report during the period between publication of the battlefield report and the report required under this paragraph;

''(B) changes in the condition of the battlefields and associated sites during that period; and

''(C) any other relevant developments relating to the battlefields and associated sites during that period.

''(8) PROHIBITION ON LOBBYING.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds provided pursuant to this section may be used for purposes of lobbying any person or entity regarding the implementation of this section or be granted, awarded, contracted, or otherwise be made available to any person, organization, or entity that participates in such lobbying.

''(B) LOBBYING DEFINED.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'lobbying' means to directly or indirectly pay for any personal service, advertisement, telegram, telephone call, letter, printed or written matter, or other device intended or designed to influence in any manner a Member of Congress, a jurisdiction, or an official of any government to favor, adopt, or oppose by vote or otherwise, any legislation, law, ratification, policy, land use plan (including zoning), or appropriation of funds before or after the introduction of any bill, resolution, or other measure proposing such legislation, law, ratification, policy, or appropriation.''.

(8) In paragraph (9) (as redesignated by paragraph (6)), by striking ''2013'' and inserting ''2017''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 addressed the preservation and protection of Civil War battlefields through conservation easements or through the purchase of land from willing sellers through Federal grants. H.R. 2489 renews this effort, which will soon expire, and it adds the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 battlefields to those eligible for protection.

The Natural Resources Committee made several improvements to the legislation as introduced, including a reduction of the authorization from 10 years to 5 years. Also, the authorization was cut in half to save up to $50 million over the course of the program. It is important to note that we have not raised the authorization one cent over current levels; therefore, there is no increase in spending.

Finally, the committee added language to prohibit these funds from being used for lobbying activities or from being distributed to organizations that participate in lobbying. With so many existing needs within the National Park Service, we want to ensure that these funds go specifically for battlefield protection and not to outside advocacy groups. These battlefields are part of our history, and we should do everything we can to ensure that future generations understand what our forefathers went through to ensure our freedoms.

So, with that, I support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I would like to thank my colleagues from the Natural Resources Committee for working with me to bring this bill to the floor today, our bipartisan bill, which is the American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act. I was pleased to work with Chairman HASTINGS and Chairman BISHOP and Ranking Members MARKEY and GRIJALVA to move this bill through our committee, and I would like to thank the majority and minority staffs for their hard work.

The bill before us today reauthorizes the American Battlefield Protection Program, which is a competitive grant program that matches Federal dollars with private money to preserve historic war sites. H.R. 2489 builds on the success of the Civil War Battlefield Protection Program, which has preserved Civil War battlefield sites. The legislation also expands the grant program to include over 670 historic battlefields and associated sites from the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812.

Since 1996, when the Battlefield Protection Program was first authorized, the program has helped preserve many important sites, including, for example, the Fort Gregg, New Market Heights Battlefield in Virginia.

□ 1630

In fiscal year 2011, a protection grant helped preserve a 7.2-acre property best remembered because of the unquestioned valor of the African American Union soldiers who fought there. There are many other examples that I could point to: the Wilderness Crossroads, the Reynolds Tract, Perryville Battlefield in Kentucky, the Slaughter Pen Farm, Fredericksburg Battlefield in Virginia, and so forth.

H.R. 2489 would allow the American Battlefield Protection Program to collaborate with State and local governments, nonprofit organizations, and willing sellers—and I do want to emphasize that point—to protect the most endangered historical sites, and to provide up to half the costs of purchasing battlefield land threatened by sprawl and commercial development.

From Lexington, where the shot was heard around the world, to Gettysburg, where Lincoln brilliantly summarized the description of the conception and proposition of our Nation, the stories of the American Revolution and the Civil War bring to life the ideals of liberty and democracy fostered by our Founders.

Unfortunately, urbanization, suburban sprawl, and unplanned commercial and residential development are constantly encroaching on many of the significant battlefields of the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the Civil War. This encroachment poses a severe and growing risk to the preservation of these historic sites.

History is best experienced by those who can touch it, feel it, and live it, and the battlefields of the American Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the Civil War provide a unique opportunity for Americans to experience where and how the epic struggle for our

Nation's independence and identity took place.

In my home State of New Jersey, there are more sites of military engagements than in any other State. More military engagements were fought in New Jersey than in any other State. New Jersey played an influential role in the War for Independence.

I was pleased to join Representative FRELINGHUYSEN and Senator LAUTENBERG, and the rest of the New Jersey delegation, in establishing some years ago the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area in our State. The Crossroads Association has made enormous progress toward promoting our State's rich heritage, and the bill before us today, I think, is vital for organizations like Crossroads in New Jersey and others to perform their important work.

As the Civil War Trust said in their letter supporting this legislation:

> Preserving these American historic treasures is essential to remember the sacrifices our ancestors made to secure our freedom and independence, and to preserve our Republic.

Historical sites, once lost, are gone forever. They exist only on the pages of books and in fading memories. We must act to preserve these valuable sites while we still can. Approving this bill will demonstrate that the Members of this House can work together. Historic preservation is not a Republican issue, not a Democratic issue. Historic preservation is an American issue because it is our shared history that we are working to preserve and to protect.

I thank the majority for working with me on this bill. During the 111th Congress, similar legislation was twice approved by this body with near unanimous support. In this Congress, the American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act is again enjoying bipartisan support, and I certainly hope the other body will act promptly so that we can get about the work of preserving these sites.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2489, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, this is good legislation, and I urge its adoption.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2489, 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.

STUDY OF VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY-BASED FLOOD INSURANCE OPTIONS

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6186) to require a study of voluntary community-based flood insurance options and how such options could be incorporated into the national flood insurance program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6186

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

SECTION 1. STUDIES OF VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY-BASED FLOOD INSURANCE OPTIONS.

(a) STUDY.—

(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall conduct a study to assess options, methods, and strategies for making available voluntary community-based flood insurance policies through the National Flood Insurance Program.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—The study conducted under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) take into consideration and analyze how voluntary community-based flood insurance policies—

(i) would affect communities having varying economic bases, geographic locations, flood hazard characteristics or classifications, and flood management approaches; and

(ii) could satisfy the applicable requirements under section 102 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4012a); and

(B) evaluate the advisability of making available voluntary community-based flood insurance policies to communities, subdivisions of communities, and areas of residual risk.

(3) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study required under paragraph (1), the Administrator may consult with the Comptroller General of the United States, as the Administrator determines is appropriate.

(b) REPORT BY THE ADMINISTRATOR.—

(1) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives a report that contains the results and conclusions of the study conducted under subsection (a).

(2) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include recommendations for—

(A) the best manner to incorporate voluntary community-based flood insurance policies into the National Flood Insurance Program; and

(B) a strategy to implement voluntary community-based flood insurance policies that would encourage communities to undertake flood mitigation activities, including the construction, reconstruction, or improvement of levees, dams, or other flood control structures.

(c) REPORT BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date on which the Administrator submits the report required under subsection (b), the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) review the report submitted by the Administrator; and

(2) submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives a report that contains—

(A) an analysis of the report submitted by the Administrator;

(B) any comments or recommendations of the Comptroller General relating to the report submitted by the Administrator; and

(C) any other recommendations of the Comptroller General relating to community-based flood insurance policies.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) and the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to add extraneous material on this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6186, introduced by my friend and colleague on the Financial Services Committee, Congresswoman GWEN MOORE.

H.R. 6816 would require the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, the agency which administers the National Flood Insurance Program, NFIP, to conduct a study on the advantages and disadvantages of providing voluntary community-based flood insurance through NFIP and report its recommendations for implementation to Congress within 18 months. H.R. 6186 also requires the Government Accountability Office, GAO, to analyze FEMA's report and submit its comments or recommendations on it to Congress within 6 months.

Community-based flood insurance is an insurance technique where a risk assessment is made for all the buildings in a community, and then premiums to cover that risk are paid collectively by that community rather than the current practice of assessing each building individually and having each individual owner pay a premium. This innovative tool may represent a new and better way for some communities at risk of flooding to take the necessary steps to protect their citizens.

In fact, FEMA has stated in congressional testimony that voluntary community-based flood insurance could help the NFIP better account for the full cost of flood risk, as well as provide incentives to encourage communities to implement greater flood mitigation measures. Thus, we think it's appropriate to commission this study of the community-based flood insurance concept so that FEMA can understand how it could be put to the greatest benefit.

Congresswoman MOORE's community-based flood insurance study provision was originally introduced as part of H.R. 1309, the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2011, the bipartisan, long-term NFIP reauthorization measure that passed the House with over 400 votes

last summer. During the previous year, Congresswoman MOORE's study language was also included as part of long-term NFIP reauthorization efforts that passed the House three additional times as part of other bills.

Unfortunately, Congresswoman MOORE's text, which is now H.R. 6186, was not included in the bipartisan Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act that was signed into law on July 6. However, the Financial Services Committee remains committed to enacting this provision, and I want to commend Congresswoman MOORE for all her hard work on this measure, and I am a cosponsor.

With that, I would urge my colleagues to support H.R. 6186, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to start out by expressing my deepest appreciation to the manager of this bill, Representative BIGGERT, and also a cosponsor of this legislation, in addition to Representative BACHUS and Representative WATERS, a bipartisan initiative.

□ 1640

As Mrs. BIGGERT has indicated, this study was originally included in the flood insurance bill that passed the House but was later dropped for reasons of expediency. It was not controversial in negotiations with the Senate. I believe that a community-based flood insurance option may eventually provide a wonderful cost-saving option for communities within the framework of the overall National Flood Insurance Program.

The potential for savings and community empowerment certainly merits a study. H.R. 6186 would require FEMA to study voluntary community-based flood insurance options and examine how such options could be incorporated into the National Flood Insurance Program.

The idea is to study group flood insurance policies for a National Flood Insurance Program-participating community or a FEMA-designated flood plain so that everyone in the community would pay the same rate. Now, this approach has merit because it means not only potentially lower rates due to increased participation, but there is also the option of providing lower-income households with access to vouchers to purchase flood insurance as part of the group.

The group rating, of course, would spread the risk to an affordable extent for each individual homeowner. An analogy for this concept is group or employee health insurance coverage versus individual coverage. We all understand that group coverage is less expensive than individual coverage due to the economies of scale of streamlined underwriting. The difference is, in this case, a community, not an individual, would be the policy holder.

Now, this brings me to a very important potential benefit of this approach: increased incentives for communities to take affirmative actions to mitigate the threat from floods in the community. Now, while an individual flood insurance holder has absolutely no incentive or means to, say, build stronger levees or dikes, a community policyholder would have the means and incentives to take those kinds of precautions. In theory, under this model, the homeowner would pay insurance like a utility bill on a monthly or quarterly basis.

Finally, I want to point out that there is precedent for this idea. Under current regulations, FEMA could issue group flood insurance policies. The program was limited, but it was successful. This bill only adds that FEMA examine the cost and benefits of using this approach on an ongoing basis as an option for communities.

I urge all my House colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. BIGGERT. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6186.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

FHA EMERGENCY FISCAL SOLVENCY ACT OF 2012

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4264) to help ensure the fiscal solvency of the FHA mortgage insurance programs of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4264

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''FHA Emergency Fiscal Solvency Act of 2012''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.
Sec. 2. FHA annual mortgage insurance premiums.
Sec. 3. Indemnification by FHA mortgagees.
Sec. 4. Early period delinquencies.
Sec. 5. Semiannual actuarial studies of MMIF during periods of capital depletion.
Sec. 6. Delegation of FHA insuring authority.
Sec. 7. Authority to terminate FHA mortgagee origination and underwriting approval.
Sec. 8. Authorization to participate in the origination of FHA-insured loans.
Sec. 9. Reporting of mortgagee actions taken against other mortgagees.
Sec. 10. Default and origination information by loan servicer and originating direct endorsement lender.
Sec. 11. Deputy Assistant Secretary of FHA for Risk Management and Regulatory Affairs.
Sec. 12. Establishment of Chief Risk Officer for GNMA.
Sec. 13. Report on mortgage servicers.
Sec. 14. FHA emergency capital plan.
Sec. 15. FHA safety and soundness review.
Sec. 16. FHA disclosure standards.
Sec. 17. Report on streamlining FHA programs.
Sec. 18. Budget compliance.

SEC. 2. FHA ANNUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE PREMIUMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 203(c)(2) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(c)(2)(B)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding clause (i)—

(A) by striking ''may'' and inserting ''shall'';

(B) by striking ''not exceeding 1.5 percent'' and inserting ''not less than 0.55 percent''; and

(C) by inserting ''and not exceeding 2.0 percent of such remaining insured principal balance'' before ''for the following periods:''; and

(2) in clause (ii), by striking ''1.55 percent'' and inserting ''2.05 percent''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) take effect upon the expiration of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. INDEMNIFICATION BY FHA MORTGAGEES.

Section 202 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1708) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(i) INDEMNIFICATION BY MORTGAGEES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary determines that the mortgagee knew, or should have known, of a serious or material violation of the requirements established by the Secretary with respect to a mortgage executed by a mortgagee approved by the Secretary under the direct endorsement program or insured by a mortgagee pursuant to the delegation of authority under section 256 such that the mortgage loan should not have been approved and endorsed for insurance, and the Secretary pays an insurance claim with respect to the mortgage within a reasonable period specified by the Secretary, the Secretary may require the mortgagee approved by the Secretary under the direct endorsement program or the mortgagee delegated authority under section 256 to indemnify the Secretary for the loss, irrespective of whether the violation caused the mortgage default.

''(2) FRAUD OR MISREPRESENTATION.—If fraud or misrepresentation was involved in connection with the origination or underwriting and the Secretary determines that the mortgagee knew or should have known of the fraud or misrepresentation, the Secretary shall require the mortgagee approved by the Secretary under the direct endorsement program or the mortgagee delegated authority under section 256 to indemnify the Secretary for the loss regardless of when an insurance claim is paid.

''(3) APPEALS PROCESS.—The Secretary shall, by regulation, establish an appeals process for mortgagees to appeal indemnification determinations made pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2).

''(4) REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES.—The Secretary shall issue regulations establishing appropriate requirements and procedures governing the indemnification of the

Secretary by the mortgagee, including public reporting on—

''(A) the number of loans that—

''(i) were not originated or underwritten in accordance with the requirements established by the Secretary; and

''(ii) involved fraud or misrepresentation in connection with the origination or underwriting; and

''(B) the financial impact on the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund when indemnification is required.''.

SEC. 4. EARLY PERIOD DELINQUENCIES.

Subsection (a) of section 202 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1708(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

''(8) PROGRAMMATIC REVIEW OF EARLY PERIOD DELINQUENCIES.—The Secretary shall establish and maintain a program—

''(A) to review the cause of each early period delinquency on a mortgage that is an obligation of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund;

''(B) to require indemnification of the Secretary for a loss associated with any such early period delinquency that is the result of a material violation, as determined by the Secretary, of any provision, regulation, or other guideline established or promulgated pursuant to this title; and

''(C) to publicly report—

''(i) a summary of the results of all early period delinquencies reviewed under subparagraph (A);

''(ii) any indemnifications required under subparagraph (B); and

''(iii) the financial impact on the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund of any such indemnifications.

''(9) DEFINITION OF EARLY PERIOD DELINQUENCY.—For purposes of this section, the term 'early period delinquency' means, with respect to a mortgage, that the mortgage becomes 90 or more days delinquent within 24 months of the origination of such mortgage.''.

SEC. 5. SEMIANNUAL ACTUARIAL STUDIES OF MMIF DURING PERIODS OF CAPITAL DEPLETION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (4) of section 202(a) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1708(a)(4)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by inserting ''except as provided in subparagraph (B),'' after ''to be conducted annually,'';

(2) in the second sentence, by inserting '', except as provided in subparagraph (B),'' after ''annually'';

(3) by striking the paragraph designation and heading and all that follows through ''The Secretary shall provide'' and inserting the following:

''(4) INDEPENDENT ACTUARIAL STUDY.—

''(A) ANNUAL STUDY.—The Secretary shall provide''; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(B) SEMIANNUAL STUDIES DURING PERIODS OF CAPITAL DEPLETION.—During any period that the Fund fails to maintain sufficient capital to comply with the capital ratio requirement under section 205(f)(2)—

''(i) the independent study required by subparagraph (A) shall be conducted semiannually and shall analyze the financial position of the Fund as of September 30 and March 31 of each fiscal year during such period; and

''(ii) the Secretary shall submit a report meeting the requirements of subparagraph (A) for each such semiannual study.''.

(b) ANALYSIS OF QUARTERLY ACTUARIAL STUDIES.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall conduct an analysis of the cost and feasibility of providing for an independent actuarial study of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund on a calendar quarterly basis, which shall compare the cost and feasibility of conducting such a study on a quarterly basis as compared to a semi-annual basis and shall determine whether such an actuarial study can be conducted on a quarterly basis without substantial additional costs to the taxpayers. Not later than the expiration of the 90-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress setting forth the findings and conclusion of the analysis conducted pursuant to this subsection.

SEC. 6. DELEGATION OF FHA INSURING AUTHORITY.

Section 256 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–21) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (c);

(2) in subsection (e), by striking '', including'' and all that follows through ''by the mortgagee''; and

(3) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively.

SEC. 7. AUTHORITY TO TERMINATE FHA MORTGAGEE ORIGINATION AND UNDERWRITING APPROVAL.

Section 533 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1735f–11) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of subsection (b), by inserting ''or areas or on a nationwide basis'' after ''area'' each place such term appears; and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking ''(c)'' and all that follows through ''The Secretary'' in the first sentence of paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(c) TERMINATION OF MORTGAGEE ORIGINATION AND UNDERWRITING APPROVAL.—

''(1) TERMINATION AUTHORITY.—If the Secretary determines, under the comparison provided in subsection (b), that a mortgagee has a rate of early defaults and claims that is excessive, the Secretary may terminate the approval of the mortgagee to originate or underwrite single family mortgages for any area, or areas, or on a nationwide basis, notwithstanding section 202(c) of this Act.

''(2) PROCEDURE.—The Secretary''.

SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ORIGINATION OF FHA-INSURED LOANS.

(a) SINGLE FAMILY MORTGAGES.—Section 203(b) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(b)) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following new paragraph:

''(1) Have been made to a mortgagee approved by the Secretary or to a person or entity authorized by the Secretary under section 202(d)(1) to participate in the origination of the mortgage, and be held by a mortgagee approved by the Secretary as responsible and able to service the mortgage properly.''.

(b) HOME EQUITY CONVERSION MORTGAGES.—Section 255(d) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20(d)) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following new paragraph:

''(1) have been originated by a mortgagee approved by, or by a person or entity authorized under section 202(d)(1) to participate in the origination by, the Secretary;''.

SEC. 9. REPORTING OF MORTGAGEE ACTIONS TAKEN AGAINST OTHER MORTGAGEES.

Section 202 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1708), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(j) NOTIFICATION OF MORTGAGEE ACTIONS.—The Secretary shall require each mortgagee, as a condition for approval by the Secretary to originate or underwrite mortgages on single family or multifamily housing that are insured by the Secretary, if such mortgagee engages in the purchase of mortgages insured by the Secretary and originated by other mortgagees or in the purchase of the servicing rights to such mortgages, and such mortgagee at any time takes action to terminate or discontinue such purchases from another mortgagee based on any determination or evidence of fraud or material misrepresentation in connection with the origination of such mortgages, to notify the Secretary of the action taken and the reasons for such action not later than 15 days after taking such action.''.

SEC. 10. DEFAULT AND ORIGINATION INFORMATION BY LOAN SERVICER AND ORIGINATING DIRECT ENDORSEMENT LENDER.

(a) COLLECTION OF INFORMATION.—Paragraph (2) of section 540(b) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1712 U.S.C. 1735f–18(b)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) For each entity that services insured mortgages, data on the number of claims paid to each servicing mortgagee during each calendar quarter occurring during the applicable collection period.''.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—Information described in subparagraph (C) of section 540(b)(2) of the National Housing Act, as added by subsection (a) of this section, shall first be made available under such section 540 for the applicable collection period (as such term is defined in such section) relating to the first calendar quarter ending after the expiration of the 12-month period that begins on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 11. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF FHA FOR RISK MANAGEMENT AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF POSITION.—Subsection (b) of section 4 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3533(b)) is amended—

(1) by inserting ''(1)'' after ''(b)''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(2) There shall be in the Department, within the Federal Housing Administration, a Deputy Assistant Secretary for Risk Management and Regulatory Affairs, who shall be appointed by the Secretary and shall be responsible to the Federal Housing Commissioner for all matters relating to managing and mitigating risk to the mortgage insurance funds of the Department and ensuring the performance of mortgages insured by the Department.''.

(b) TERMINATION.—Upon the appointment of the initial Deputy Assistant Secretary for Risk Management and Regulatory Affairs pursuant to section 4(b)(2) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Act, as amended by subsection (a) of this section, the position of chief risk officer within the Federal Housing Administration, filled by appointment by the Federal Housing Commissioner, is abolished.

SEC. 12. ESTABLISHMENT OF CHIEF RISK OFFICER FOR GNMA.

Section 4 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3533) is amended by adding after subsection (g), as added by section 1442 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Public Law 111–203; 124 Stat. 2163), the following new subsection:

''(h) There shall be in the Department a Chief Risk Officer for the Government National Mortgage Association, who shall—

''(1) be designated by the Secretary;

''(2) be responsible to the President of the Association for all matters related to evaluating, managing, and mitigating risk to the programs of the Association;

''(3) be in the competitive service or the senior executive service;

''(4) be a career appointee;

''(5) be designated from among individuals who possess demonstrated ability in general

management of, and knowledge of and extensive practical experience in risk evaluation practices in large governmental or business entities; and

''(6) shall not be required to obtain the prior approval, comment, or review of any officer or agency of the United States before submitting to the Congress, or any committee or subcommittee thereof, any reports, recommendations, testimony, or comments if such submission include a statement indicating that the views expressed therein are those of the Chief Risk Officer of the Association and do not necessarily represent the views of the Secretary.''.

SEC. 13. REPORT ON MORTGAGE SERVICERS.

(a) EXAMINATION.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall conduct an examination into mortgage servicer compliance with the loan servicing, loss mitigation, and insurance claim submission guidelines of the FHA mortgage insurance programs under the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), and an estimate of the annual costs to the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund, since 2008, resulting from any failures by mortgage servicers to comply with such guidelines.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than the expiration of the 120-day period that begins upon the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress on the results of the examination conducted pursuant to subsection (a), including recommendations for any administrative and legislative actions to improve mortgage servicer compliance with the guidelines referred to in subsection (a).

SEC. 14. FHA EMERGENCY CAPITAL PLAN.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than the expiration of the 30-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall develop, submit to the Congress, and commence implementation of an emergency capital plan for the restoration of the fiscal solvency of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund (in this section referred to as the ''Fund'').

(b) CONTENTS.—The emergency capital plan developed pursuant to this section shall—

(1) provide a detailed explanation of the processes and controls by which amounts of capital that are assets of the Fund are monitored and tracked;

(2) establish a plan to ensure the financial safety and soundness of the Fund that avoids the need for borrowing amounts from the Treasury of the United States to meet obligations of the Fund; and

(3) describe the procedure by which, if necessary, any amounts from the Treasury needed to meet obligations of the Fund will be obtained from the Treasury.

(c) MONTHLY REPORTS.—

(1) REPORTS.—Subject to paragraph (3), upon the conclusion of each calendar month ending after the 14-day period that begins on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall submit to the Congress a report assessing the financial status of the Fund at the conclusion of such month and setting forth the information described in paragraph (2).

(2) CONTENTS.—Each report required under paragraph (1) for a month shall contain the following information regarding the Fund as of the conclusion of such month:

(A) The number of mortgages that are obligations of the Fund that are 60 or more days delinquent, the expected losses to the Fund associated with such delinquent mortgages, and the methodology used to make such calculation.

(B) The number of mortgages that are obligations of the Fund that have a loan-to-value ratio at the time of origination that is less than 80 percent and the percentage of all mortgages that are obligations of the Fund having such a ratio.

(C) The number of mortgages that are obligations of the Fund that had an original principal obligation exceeding 125 percent of the median house price, for a home of the size of the residence subject to the mortgage, for the area in which such residence is located, and the percentage of all mortgages that are obligations of the Fund having such an original principal obligation.

(D) The number of mortgages that are obligations of the Fund for which the mortgagor's income at the time of origination of the mortgage is greater than the median income for the area in which the residence subject to the mortgage is located, and the percentage of all mortgages that are obligations of the Fund for which the mortgagor has such an income.

(E) The balances for the financing and capital reserve accounts of the Fund.

(F) Any actions taken during such month to help ensure the financial soundness of the Fund and compliance with section 205(f) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1711(f); relating to a capital ratio requirement).

(3) TERMINATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—The requirement to submit reports under paragraph (1) shall terminate on the first date after the date of the enactment of this Act that the Fund attains a capital ratio (as such term is defined in section 205(f)(3) of the National Housing Act) of 2.0 percent.

SEC. 15. FHA SAFETY AND SOUNDNESS REVIEW.

(a) REVIEW.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall provide for an independent third party to—

(1) conduct a one-time review of the mortgage insurance programs and funds of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development that shall determine, as of the time of such review—

(A) the financial safety and soundness of such programs and funds; and

(B) the extent of loan loss reserves and capital adequacy of such programs and funds; and

(2) to submit a report under subsection (b). Such review shall be conducted in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applicable to the private sector and Federal entities.

(b) REPORT.—The report under this subsection shall describe the methodology and standards used to conduct the review under subsection (a)(1), set forth the results and findings of the review, including the extent of loan loss reserves and capital adequacy of the mortgage insurance programs and funds of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and include recommendations regarding restoring such reserves and capital to maintain such programs and funds in a safe and sound condition.

(c) TIMING.—The review required under subsection (a) shall be completed, and the report required under subsection (b) shall be submitted, not later than the expiration of the 60-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to alter or affect, or exempt the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development from complying with, any laws, regulations, or guidance relating to preparation or submission of budgets or audits or financial or management statements or reports.

SEC. 16. FHA DISCLOSURE STANDARDS.

Not later than the expiration of the 90-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall review and revise all standards and requirements relating to disclosure of information regarding the mortgage insurance programs and funds, including actuarial studies conducted under section 202(a)(4) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1708(a)(4)), quarterly reports under section 202(a)(5) of such Act, and annual audited financial statements under section 538 of such Act (12 U.S.C. 1735f–16), to ensure that, after the date of the enactment of this Act, such disclosures—

(1) provide meaningful financial and other information that is timely, comprehensive, and accurate;

(2) do not contain any material misstatements or misrepresentations;

(3) make available all relevant information; and

(4) prohibit material omissions that make the contents of the disclosure misleading.

SEC. 17. REPORT ON STREAMLINING FHA PROGRAMS.

(a) EXAMINATION.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall conduct an examination of the mortgage insurance and any other programs of the Federal Housing Administration to identify—

(1) the level of use and need for such programs;

(2) any such programs that are unused or underused; and

(3) methods for streamlining, consolidating, simplifying, increasing the efficiency of, and reducing the number of such programs.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than the expiration of the 12-month period that begins upon the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress on the results of the examination conducted pursuant to subsection (a), including recommendations for any administrative and legislative actions to streamline, consolidate, simplify, increase the efficiency of, and reduce the number of such programs.

SEC. 18. BUDGET COMPLIANCE.

The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall allocate $2,500,000 from the account for Administrative Contract Expenses each fiscal year through September 30, 2017, which amounts shall be available only for the purposes of this Act and the amendments made by this Act, including such additional actuarial reviews as may be required by section 5 of this Act and the amendments made by such section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) and the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and add extraneous material on this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4264, the FHA Emergency Fiscal Solvency Act of 2012, will provide the tools necessary to ensure the financial soundness of the Federal Housing Administration, or FHA. Right now, FHA is well below its mandatory 2 percent capital reserve with only .24 percent to cover losses.

The administration's fiscal year 2013 budget recently admitted that the FHA

may need a $688 million taxpayer bailout because of the depleted capital reserve fund. Last Friday, September 7, HUD issued its FHA quarterly report, which said that it anticipates increased foreclosures, claim activity, and related expenditures.

The FHA has had an abysmal fiscal track record and, to top it off, recent data furnished by the GAO confirmed that the FHA represents about 75 percent of the insured mortgage market. FHA is a government program that has put taxpayers at significant risk and flies in the face of private capital returning to the housing financial market.

The FHA Emergency Fiscal Solvency Act will provide FHA with the tools that it needs to shore up the program, lower the program's risk, and reduce taxpayers' liabilities.

The bill would establish for the first time a minimum annual premium of 55 basis points and allow FHA to charge up to 2.05 percent. It would strengthen FHA's ability to recoup losses from lenders for fraudulent, misrepresented and early delinquent loans, and it would allow FHA on a nationwide basis to terminate bad lenders. It also codifies the position of FHA Deputy Assistant Secretary for Risk and establishes a chief risk officer for Ginnie Mae.

These are commonsense targeted changes that would ensure accountability and financial stability within the FHA. On March 27, the Financial Services Committee unanimously passed this bill, and I would urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4264.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I believe that H.R. 4264 will further strengthen and protect the MMI fund, and I would urge all Members to adopt this resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. BIGGERT. I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4264, 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.

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL CENTURY OF SERVICE COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2139) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the establishment of Lions Clubs International, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2139

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 ''Lions Clubs International Century of Service Commemorative Coin Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds as follows:

(1) Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization founded in 1917 by Chicago business leader Melvin Jones. Lions Clubs International empowers volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions clubs.

(2) Today, Lions Clubs International has over 1.35 million members in more than 45,000 clubs globally, extending its mission of service throughout the world every day.

(3) In 1945, Lions Clubs International became one of the first nongovernmental organizations invited to assist in drafting the United Nations Charter and has enjoyed a special relationship with the United Nations ever since.

(4) In 1968, Lions Clubs International Foundation was established to assist with global and large-scale local humanitarian projects and has since then awarded more than $700 million to fund five unique areas of service: preserving sight, combating disability, promoting health, serving youth and providing disaster relief.

(5) In 1990, the Lions Clubs International Foundation launched the SightFirst program to build comprehensive eye care systems to fight the major causes of blindness and care for the blind or visually impaired. Thanks to the generosity of Lions worldwide, over $415 million has been raised, resulting in the prevention of serious vision loss in 30 million people and improved eye care for hundreds of millions of people.

(6) On June 7, 2017, Lions Clubs International will celebrate 100 years of community service to men, women, and children in need throughout the world.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) $1 SILVER COINS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the ''Secretary'') shall mint and issue not more than 400,000 $1 coins in commemoration of the centennial of the founding of the Lions Clubs International, each of which shall—

(1) weigh 26.73 grams;

(2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(3) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the centennial of the Lions Clubs International.

(2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

(A) a designation of the value of the coin;

(B) an inscription of the year ''2017''; and

(C) inscriptions of the words ''Liberty'', ''In God We Trust'', ''United States of America'', and ''E Pluribus Unum''.

(b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

(1) chosen by the Secretary after consultation with Lions Clubs International Special Centennial Planning Committee and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) MINT FACILITY.—Only one facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this Act.

(c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins under this Act only during the calendar year beginning on January 1, 2017.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

(1) the face value of the coins;

(2) the surcharge provided in section 7 with respect to such coins; and

(3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

(b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this Act shall include a surcharge of $10 per coin.

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Lions Clubs International Foundation for the purposes of—

(1) furthering its programs for the blind and visually impaired in the United States and abroad;

(2) investing in adaptive technologies for the disabled; and

(3) investing in youth and those affected by a major disaster.

(c) AUDITS.—The Lions Clubs International Foundation shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts received under subsection (b).

(d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin would result in the number of commemorative coin programs issued during such year to exceed the annual 2 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code. The Secretary may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.

The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that—

(1) minting and issuing coins under this Act will not result in any net cost to the United States Government; and

(2) no funds, including applicable surcharges, shall be disbursed to any recipient

designated in section 7 until the total cost of designing and issuing all of the coins authorized by this Act (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the United States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 9. BUDGET COMPLIANCE.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ''Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation'' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DOLD) and the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and add extraneous material on this bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 2139, the Lions Clubs International Century of Service Commemorative Coin Act.

Mr. Speaker, this bill, which authorizes the minting and issuing of commemorative coins in 2017, celebrates the 100th anniversary of the world's largest service club organization, Lions Clubs International. Lions Clubs International empowers volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace, and promote international understanding through service in Lions Clubs.

□ 1650

The Lions Club was established, Mr. Speaker, in 1917 by Chicago business leader Melvin Jones after he posed this simple question to his local business club: ''What if people put their talents to work improving their communities?'' Now headquartered in Oak Brook, Illinois, the organization has grown over the years from that simple question, Mr. Speaker, to 46,000 clubs and 1.35 million members globally. In that time, the Lions Club has organized local youth programs, taken up the banner to try to eradicate blindness, and participated in the drafting of the United Nations charter.

The Lions Club has worked in countless ways to improve the lives of people all over the world, Mr. Speaker. Here are just a few of the highlights from this storied and generous organization. In 1925, Helen Keller addressed the Lions Club at their international convention in Cedar Point, Ohio. She challenged them to become the ''knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness.'' The Lions embraced this challenge and have since helped in the effort to save the sight of more than 15 million children through eye screenings, glasses, and other treatments. They have established eye care centers that have reached more than 120 million children and prevented serious vision loss for more than 30 million worldwide.

In 1945, the Lions Club became the first nongovernmental organization invited to assist in the drafting of the United Nations charter. Since then, the Lions Club has worked closely with the United Nations, providing aid and manpower for the United Nations Children's Fund; the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization; and the World Health Organization.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation does not merely recognize the accomplishments of Lions all over the world. The people who voluntarily buy Lions Club coins each will pay a surcharge on top of the cost of producing and marketing the coin. The coins will be sold at a price which will recover all taxpayer costs, and the surcharges go to the Lions Club to further its work.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation recognizes and celebrates the accomplishments of a truly selfless organization and all of its members, who give so much of themselves each and every day. I am proud to be one of the 292 cosponsors of this bill and of the 69 senators who have sponsored the companion bill introduced by my good friend, Senator MORAN of Kansas. I look forward to its swift passage in this House and over in the Senate, and I want to make sure that it gets to the President's desk for signature.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MOORE. I am so happy to be able to speak affirmatively about this legislation. I'm really impressed with the storied history of the Lions and their dynamic history, where they serve in more than 200 countries and geographic areas. I am particularly struck by their service and stewardship to our young people across the world, and I'm so proud to be a cosponsor of this legislation. I would urge all Members to support this resolution.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to another Member from the State of Illinois, the chief deputy whip, (Mr. ROSKAM).

Mr. ROSKAM. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Today is a day when we can celebrate accomplishment in the private sector and in the volunteer sector, and to celebrate a rich history and a century of accomplishment—accomplishment that is borne of service to one another.

The gentleman from Illinois a minute ago gave a brief history of the Lions Club International. I am honored to serve as the representative for the Lions Club International headquarters. They're an organization that not only, as was previously mentioned, has an impact here in the United States but has had an impact around the world. And I would argue that if you have an impact on vision for children, if you have an impact on vision for others, you're not just having an impact on that family but you're having a generational impact.

And so here we are today, celebrating the Lions Club International as they're on the cusp of a new century. So there's a lot to celebrate. There's a lot to be proud of here. And I want to thank also Chairman BACHUS and Ranking Member FRANK and the staff of the Financial Services Committee and the Lions around the world who reached out and built a constituency for this legislation today. I am a strong supporter, and I am pleased to be a part of this bipartisan effort.

I urge its passage.

Mr. DOLD. I just want to wrap up by saying it is indeed an honor to be able to stand up here in a bipartisan way to pay tribute to literally the millions of members of the Lions Club that are doing such great work all across the globe.

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

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, August 1, 2012.

Hon. SPENCER BACHUS,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BACHUS, I am writing concerning H.R. 2139, the ''Lions Clubs International Century of Service Commemorative Coin Act,'' which is scheduled for floor action the week of July 30, 2012.

As you know, the Committee on Ways and Means maintains jurisdiction over matters that concern raising revenue. H.R. 2139 contains a provision that establishes a surcharge for the sale of commemorative coins that are minted under the bill, and this falls within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means.

However, as part of our ongoing understanding regarding commemorative coin bills and in order to expedite this bill for floor consideration, the Committee will forgo action. This is being done with the understanding that it does not in any way prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation in the future.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 2139, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration.

Sincerely,

DAVE CAMP,
Chairman.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, August 1, 2012.

Hon. DAVE CAMP,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CAMP, I am writing in response to your letter regarding H.R. 2139,

Lions Clubs International Century of Service Commemorative Coin Act, which is scheduled for Floor consideration under suspension of the rules on Wednesday, August 1, 2012.

I wish to confirm our mutual understanding on this bill. As you know, section 7 of the bill establishes a surcharge for the sale of commemorative coins that are minted under the bill. I acknowledge your committee's jurisdictional interest in such surcharges as revenue matters and appreciate your willingness to forgo action by the Committee on Ways and Means on H.R. 2139 in order to allow the bill to come to the Floor expeditiously. Also, I agree that your decision to forgo further action on this bill will not prejudice the Committee on Ways and Means with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation. Therefore, I would support your request for conferees on those provisions within your jurisdiction should this bill be the subject of a House-Senate conference.

I will include this exchange of letters in the Congressional Record when this bill is considered by the House. Thank you again for your assistance and if you should need anything further, please do not hesitate to contact Natalie McGarry of my staff at 202–225–7502.

Sincerely,

SPENCER BACHUS,
Chairman.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, August 1, 2012.

Hon. DAVE CAMP,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CAMP: I am writing in response to your letter regarding H.R. 2139, Lions Clubs International Century of Service Commemorative Coin Act, which is scheduled for Floor consideration under suspension of the rules on Wednesday, August 1, 2012.

I wish to confirm our mutual understanding on this bill. As you know, section 7 of the bill establishes a surcharge for the sale of commemorative coins that are minted under the bill. I acknowledge your committee's jurisdictional interest in such surcharges as revenue matters and appreciate your willingness to forego action by the Committee on Ways and Means on H.R. 2139 in order to allow the bill to come to the Floor expeditiously. Also, I agree that your decision to forego further action on this bill will not prejudice the Committee on Ways and Means with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation. Therefore, I would support your request for conferees on those provisions within your jurisdiction should this bill be the subject of a House-Senate conference.

I will include this exchange of letters in the Congressional Record when this bill is considered by the House. Thank you again for your assistance and if you should need anything further, please do not hesitate to contact Natalie McGarry of my staff at 202–225–7502.

Sincerely,

SPENCER BACHUS,
Chairman.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DOLD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2139, 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. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

REVISING AUTHORITY OF LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS TO ACCEPT GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6122) to revise the authority of the Librarian of Congress to accept gifts and bequests on behalf of the Library, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6122

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

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY OF LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS TO ACCEPT GIFTS AND BEQUESTS.

(a) EXPANDING TYPES OF GIFTS THAT MAY BE ACCEPTED.—The first undesignated paragraph of section 4 of the Act entitled ''An Act to create a Library of Congress Trust Fund Board, and for other purposes'', approved March 3, 1925 (2 U.S.C. 160), is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking ''in the name of the United States'' and all that follows and inserting the following: ''in the name of the United States and in the interest of the Library, its collections, or its service, gifts or bequests of money for immediate disbursement, personal property valued at $25,000 or less, nonpersonal services, or voluntary and uncompensated personal services.'';

(2) in the second sentence, by inserting ''of money'' after ''bequests''; and

(3) in the third sentence, by striking ''enter them'' and inserting ''enter the gift, bequest, or proceeds''.

(b) TREATMENT OF GIFTS OF SECURITIES.—The first undesignated paragraph of section 4 of such Act (2 U.S.C. 160) is amended by inserting after the first sentence the following new sentence: ''In the case of a gift of securities, the Librarian shall sell the gift and provide the donor with a receipt from the proceeds of the sale.''.

(c) PUBLIC REPORT ON ACCEPTED GIFTS.—Section 4 of such Act (2 U.S.C. 160) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of the first undesignated paragraph, by striking ''Nothing'' and inserting ''(a) ACCEPTANCE AND DISBURSEMENT OF GIFTS.—Nothing''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(b) PUBLIC REPORT ON ACCEPTED GIFTS.—In each Annual Report of the Library of Congress, the Librarian of Congress shall include a description of each gift or bequest accepted under this section during the year involved which is valued at $1,000 or more.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6122 to revise the authority of the Librarian of Congress to accept gifts and bequests on behalf of the Library, and for other purposes. This bill simply authorizes the Librarian of Congress to accept nonmonetary gifts of securities, personal property valued at $25,000 or less, and voluntary and uncompensated personal services. The Librarian is required to disclose a description of each gift or bequest valued at $1,000 or more in the Annual Report of the Library of Congress.

Over its history, the Library has been offered various types of donations that it has not had authority to accept. These would include donations of IT equipment, audiovisual equipment, and volunteer services outside of the American Folklife Center or the Center for the Book. While the Library is currently authorized to accept monetary gifts, this bill authorizes benevolent individuals to give back to the Library in other ways that would be beneficial to the Library's mission and therefore to this Congress and to the United States.

I would urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 6122, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of legislation to authorize the Library of Congress to accept certain gifts on behalf of the Library. Expanding the Librarian's authority to accept gifts other than money is in the best interests of the Library. Occasionally, the Library is offered gifts that would be beneficial but which the Librarian cannot today accept, such as voluntary personal services or vintage equipment needed to play old movies or audio recordings.

Further, the bill authorizes the Librarian to accept gifts of marketable securities for immediate disbursement and other personal property valued at $25,000 or less. In this budgetary era, authority to accept and make good use of such donations will serve the Library well.

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

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I would ask all Members to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HARRIS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6122.

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. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

□ 1700

DESIGNATION OF INDIVIDUAL AUTHORIZED TO MAKE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE DISBURSEMENTS IN EVENT OF DEATH OF CANDIDATE

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 406) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election for Federal office to designate an individual who will be authorized to disburse funds of the authorized campaign committees of the candidate in the event of the death of the candidate.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 406

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF INDIVIDUAL AUTHORIZED TO MAKE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE DISBURSEMENTS IN EVENT OF DEATH OF CANDIDATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 302 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 432) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(j)(1) Each candidate may, with respect to each authorized committee of the candidate, designate an individual who shall be responsible for disbursing funds in the accounts of the committee in the event of the death of the candidate, and may also designate another individual to carry out the responsibilities of the designated individual under this subsection in the event of the death or incapacity of the designated individual or the unwillingness of the designated individual to carry out the responsibilities.

''(2) In order to designate an individual under this subsection, the candidate shall file with the Commission a signed written statement (in a standardized form developed by the Commission) that contains the name and address of the individual and the name of the authorized committee for which the designation shall apply, and that may contain the candidate's instructions regarding the disbursement of the funds involved by the individual. At any time after filing the statement, the candidate may revoke the designation of an individual by filing with the Commission a signed written statement of revocation (in a standardized form developed by the Commission).

''(3) Upon the death of a candidate who has designated an individual for purposes of paragraph (1), funds in the accounts of each authorized committee of the candidate may be disbursed only under the direction and in accordance with the instructions of such individual, subject to the terms and conditions applicable to the disbursement of such funds under this Act or any other applicable Federal or State law (other than any provision of State law which authorizes any person other than such individual to direct the disbursement of such funds).

''(4) Nothing in paragraph (3) may be construed to grant any authority to an individual who is designated pursuant to this subsection other than the authority to direct the disbursement of funds as provided in such paragraph, or may be construed to affect the responsibility of the treasurer of an authorized committee for which funds are disbursed in accordance with such paragraph to file reports of the disbursements of such funds under section 304(a).''.

(b) INCLUSION OF DESIGNATION IN STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEE.—Section 303(b) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 433(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (5), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) in paragraph (6), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(7) in the case of an authorized committee of a candidate who has designated an individual under section 302(j) (including a second individual designated to carry out the responsibilities of that individual under such section in the event of that individual's death or incapacity or unwillingness to carry out the responsibilities) to disburse funds from the accounts of the committee in the event of the death of the candidate, a copy of the statement filed by the candidate with the Commission under such section (as well as a copy of any subsequent statement of revocation filed by the candidate with the Commission under such section).''.

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act shall apply with respect to authorized campaign committees which are designated under section 302(e)(1) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on this bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation was introduced by our colleague, Congressman WALTER JONES. It simply amends the Federal Elections Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election for Federal office to designate an individual who would be authorized to disburse campaign funds in the event of the death of the candidate.

Every private citizen who decides to become a candidate for public office is driven by issues that inspire and motivate them to want to serve. Often those issues outlive the individuals who champion their ideals.

This bill will ensure that every Federal candidate will have the opportunity to appoint a trusted individual to distribute campaign funds in the event they die.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 406, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill to allow a candidate for Federal office to designate someone to disburse his or her unspent campaign funds in the event of the candidate's death. Under this bill, a Federal candidate could designate another person by filing the appropriate form with the FEC and could revoke or change the designation at any time.

The bill allows the candidate to designate a second individual to carry out the duties and wishes of the candidate, within the limits of the law, should the first designee die or become unable to perform these duties. H.R. 406 further allows candidates to provide instructions for distribution of campaign funds as allowed by law.

H.R. 406 is designed to help campaign treasurers facing conflicting State laws in cases where Federal candidates die leaving unspent balances in their campaign treasuries, which happens from time to time. This measure offers a commonsense improvement to the Federal Election Campaign Act to deal with this situation.

The House has passed similar legislation before, and I urge our Members to support it again. I pledge to my friend, Mr. JONES from North Carolina, that I will do whatever I can in my power, and I know my chairman will, too, to make sure the Senate does take this up so we can pass it into law.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES), a distinguished member on the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Financial Services.

Mr. JONES. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member BRADY. I want to thank you all for bringing this bill back to the floor of the House.

This came to my attention—I would not have had any idea that if a candidate or an incumbent running as a candidate would die in office that their family would not decide how to disburse the money. It would go back to the treasurer of the campaign. And in cases, many times, that is probably what the family would want anyway.

But what I found out with my own father who served here 26 years, and he died in office, was that it does create a problem. If the family has the authority to make the recommendation as to how to disburse the proceeds, it just makes for a very satisfactory time in a very difficult time when a family member dies.

So to Mr. LUNGREN and Mr. BRADY, thank you very much for bringing this bill to the floor of the House again. All this is is a simple change so that the candidate for Federal office can determine that he would like to have or she would like to have a person other than the treasurer to disburse the funds.

If we pass this bill today, I want to ask my friend, Mr. BRADY, to help me

with the Senate, and I'll reach out to the Republicans and maybe he can reach out to the Democrats and get this bill through because it is the right thing to do for the family in that tragic situation that can happen to any of us.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make it very, very clear: this does not change the law that the campaign funds would have to be used for a charitable purpose or for a political purpose, that is, to a party or candidate. It doesn't change that at all. It just changes the person who would have the decision-making responsibility. And since this is a situation where a Member or someone running for office would die, those funds, in some cases, would probably—the candidate would have wished them to go to a particular charity or series of charities. And this would ensure that those people who know best the candidate and know what his or her desires would be would make that determination.

But it does not in any way change it so that it could be used for personal purposes by the family or anybody else designated. It would still have to go to those legitimate legal purposes for which campaign funds are limited. It would do nothing more than change the person who would make that determination, and we have a real-life experience of that occurring, and that is why I support this very strongly. It has been supported strongly in the House before; and if we can get the attention of our friends on the other side of the Capitol, we can make this happen, and I think it would be a good, good thing.

So with that, I would urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 406, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for Federal office to designate an individual to disburse the campaign funds of the candidate in the event of the candidate's death, authored by my colleague from North Carolina, WALTER JONES.

Unfortunately, he has personally experienced the situation that this legislation is attempting to remedy when his father—a 14 term member of this body—passed away and questions arose as to what to do with remaining campaign funds.

Current law authorizes the campaign treasurer to disperse campaign funds but does not give instruction on how those funds should be spent in the event of a candidate's death.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 406 is a common-sense solution to resolving this potentially complex issue. I was proud to support the legislation when it came before the Committee on House Administration, and I urge all of my colleagues to support it today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 406.

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.

FUNDING TO ENSURE PRODUCTION OF AUTHORIZED NUMBER OF COPIES OF REVISED VERSION OF ''HISPANIC AMERICANS IN CONGRESS''

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 132) providing funding to ensure the printing and production of the authorized number of copies of the revised and updated version of the House document entitled ''Hispanic Americans in Congress,'' and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 132

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. FUNDING TO ENSURE PRODUCTION OF AUTHORIZED NUMBER OF COPIES OF REVISED VERSION OF "HISPANIC AMERICANS IN CONGRESS".

Notwithstanding section 2(b) of House Concurrent Resolution 90, One Hundred Seventh Congress (agreed to December 7, 2001), in printing the updated version of House Document 103–299, entitled ''Hispanic Americans in Congress'' (as revised by the Library of Congress), the Public Printer shall print the maximum number of copies of such Document for which the total printing and production costs do not exceed an amount equal to the amount provided for under such section, increased by $700,000.

SEC. 2. ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF CERTAIN HOUSE DOCUMENTS.

(a) ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION.—Upon request of the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives, the Public Printer shall publish and disseminate an electronic version of each of the House documents referred to in subsection (b), under the direction of the Committee.

(b) DOCUMENTS DESCRIBED.—The House documents referred to in this subsection are as follows:

(1) The updated version of House Document 103–299, entitled ''Hispanic Americans in Congress'', as described in section 1.

(2) House Document 108–223, entitled ''Women in Congress, 1917–2006''.

(3) House Document 108–224, entitled ''Black Americans in Congress, 1870–2007''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 132, providing funding to ensure the printing and production of the authorized number of copies of the revised and updated version of the House document entitled ''Hispanic Americans in Congress.''

The previous authorization from the 107th Congress did not authorize sufficient funds to make available to Members the same number of copies as the previous publications of ''Black Americans in Congress'' and ''Women in Congress.'' Additionally, the resolution also authorizes the electronic publication of ''Hispanic Americans in Congress,'' ''Women in Congress,'' and ''Black Americans in Congress,'' thereby bringing us up to what is becoming more and more the way of publication, that is, by electronic means.

This resolution will help to ensure that this valuable history will be available for future generations. I would urge my colleagues to support the resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the House to adopt this resolution which the chairman has accurately described. Members who served in the 107th Congress will recall that in 2001 we authorized new additions of three congressional publications: ''Women in Congress,'' ''Black Americans in Congress,'' and ''Hispanic Americans in Congress.''

□ 1710

The new editions of ''Women in Congress'' and ''Black Americans in Congress'' were distributed to Members, libraries, and others in 2007 pursuant to their respective authorizations. However, in the 11 years since we authorized the new edition of Hispanic Americans in Congress, circumstances have changed, including, I am delighted to say, the election of more Hispanics to serve in this House and the other body. This means the new edition will be larger than estimated, and the cost of printing the same number of copies of Hispanic Americans will likely be larger.

As I urge adoption of this resolution, I wish to thank the Clerk, who worked on this revised edition, and the dedicated men and women of the Government Printing Office, who procure the volumes for their fine work.

The new editions of ''Women in Congress'' and ''Black Americans in Congress'' are useful, high-quality reference volumes of great value to students, historians, and us. I am certain the new edition of ''Hispanic Americans in Congress'' will similarly be well received when published and distributed in the coming months.

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

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I have no more requests for time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO) for as much time as he may consume.

Mr. SERRANO. First of all, I want to thank the chairman and the ranking member for bringing this bill to the floor.

In 2001, I sponsored the original resolution which created the ''Hispanic Americans in Congress'' book. And to some folks watching this debate, that may not be the most important bill we will debate in the next couple of days—or it may be, for that matter—but on the other hand, when you really think of the historic nature of this resolution and what happened in 2001, where this book became a very big item in libraries and communities throughout the Nation—in fact, Members of Congress received a lot of mail and phone calls at that time asking for copies, and of course it was a very limited amount.

Now, this resolution would allow for a growth in that number, but most importantly, dealing with the world we deal in today, this resolution allows for a digital copy to be made available. Now, I don't know the specific language of the bill, but I would imagine that any American then can take that digital copy and make their own copy, and so libraries and schools and individuals will be able to make that number grow. And it's important to know why that is an important thing to do.

''Women in Congress,'' ''African Americans in Congress,'' ''Hispanics in Congress'' was simply a way for people to say we have a lot of information about these particular communities in terms of what they've done in sports, in show business, in business, but there's little information—very little—as to what has happened in Congress since the beginning of time of our Republic. So this book, when it first came out, was really something that incurred a lot of research and brought about a lot of discussion because people just did not know how long back there had been Hispanic Americans in Congress.

Finally, with the growth of the Latino leadership community, with the fact that when this book first came out, to be honest, it was really a book about this side of the aisle, now the next book will be about a wide side of the aisle, both sides, because it has grown dramatically, and we suspect after the next election the number will even grow more dramatically.

So I thank you both for bringing this resolution up. I hope all Members vote for it unanimously and we can get the book printed as soon as possible.

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

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. 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 California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 132.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ACCEPTANCE OF STATUE OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS FOR PLACEMENT IN EMANCIPATION HALL

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6336) to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to accept a statue depicting Frederick Douglass from the District of Columbia and to provide for the permanent display of the statue in Emancipation Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6336

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

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Frederick Douglass, born Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey in Maryland in 1818, escaped from slavery and became a leading writer, orator, and publisher, and one of the Nation's most influential advocates for abolitionism, women's suffrage, and the equality of all people.

(2) The contributions of Frederick Douglass over many decades were crucial to the abolition of slavery, the passage of the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution of the United States, the support for women's suffrage, and the advancement of African-Americans after the Civil War.

(3) After living in New Bedford, Massachusetts, Frederick Douglass resided for 25 years in Rochester, New York, where he published and edited ''The North Star'', the leading African-American newspaper in the United States, and other publications.

(4) Self-educated, Frederick Douglass wrote several influential books, including his best-selling first autobiography, ''Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave'', published in 1845.

(5) Frederick Douglass worked tirelessly for the emancipation of African-American slaves, was a pivotal figure in Underground Railroad activities, and was an inspiration to enslaved Americans who aspired to freedom.

(6) As a well-known speaker in great demand, Frederick Douglass traveled widely, visiting countries such as England and Ireland, to spread the message of emancipation and equal rights.

(7) Frederick Douglass was the only African-American to attend the Seneca Falls Convention, a women's rights convention held in Seneca Falls, New York in 1848.

(8) During the Civil War, Frederick Douglass recruited African-Americans to volunteer as soldiers for the Union Army, including 2 of his sons, who served nobly in the Fifty-Fourth Massachusetts Regiment.

(9) In 1872, Frederick Douglass moved to Washington, DC, after a fire destroyed his home in Rochester, New York.

(10) Frederick Douglass was appointed as a United States Marshal in 1877 and was named Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia in 1881.

(11) Frederick Douglass became the first African-American to receive a vote for nomination as President of the United States at a major party convention for the 1888 Republican National Convention.

(12) From 1889 to 1891, Frederick Douglass served as minister-resident and consul-general to the Republic of Haiti.

(13) Frederick Douglass was recognized around the world as one of the most important political activists in the history of the United States.

(14) Frederick Douglass died in 1895 in Washington, DC and is buried in Rochester, New York.

(15) Frederick Douglass's achievements and influence on the history of the United States merit recognition in the United States Capitol.

SEC. 2. ACCEPTANCE OF STATUE OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS FOR PLACEMENT IN EMANCIPATION HALL.

(a) ACCEPTANCE.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Joint Committee on the Library shall accept from the District of Columbia the donation of a statue depicting Frederick Douglass, subject to the terms and conditions that the Joint Committee considers appropriate.

(b) PLACEMENT.—The Joint Committee shall place the statue accepted under subsection (a) in a suitable permanent location in Emancipation Hall of the United States Capitol.

Amend the title so as to read: ''A bill to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to accept a statue depicting Frederick Douglass from the District of Columbia and to provide for the permanent display of the statue in Emancipation Hall of the United States Capitol.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6336, a bill that I had the privilege to introduce with my esteemed colleague, the representative from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON). This bill appropriately places a statue of Frederick Douglass into Emancipation Hall in the U.S. Congress.

Frederick Douglass is a pivotal figure in American history who had an unyielding dedication to equal rights,

the abolition of slavery, and the advancement of women's suffrage. In addition to a gripping personal saga detailing his flight from slavery to freedom, Frederick Douglass inspired a nation through both his compelling anti-slavery writings and his rhetoric.

Published in 1845, his eloquent autobiography ''Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave'' undercut pro-slavery arguments. He challenged enslavement, and he inspired individuals seeking their freedom.

After the Civil War, he served in a number of government positions and became the first African American to receive a vote for nomination as President of the United States at the 1888 Republican National Convention—yes, I would repeat, the Republican National Convention. He was a proud Republican.

Mr. Speaker, September 22 marks the 150th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln signing the preliminary proclamation that paved the way for the Emancipation Proclamation to be signed on January 1, 1863. How fitting that a statue honoring Frederick Douglass, a man who brought freedom to so many, will be on display in Emancipation Hall.

In considering the remarkable achievements of Frederick Douglass and his contributions to our rich history, his presence within the U.S. Capitol will honor this institution and serve as an endearing testimony to the struggle for freedom and equality.

I would like to thank again my colleague, the Congresswoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON). I know she, unfortunately, couldn't be here today because I know she has a requirement to teach a class; otherwise, she would be here. But I wanted to thank her for her tireless work to bring this statue to the Capitol, as well as our counterparts in the Senate, the Senate Rules Committee. As many know, Senator SCHUMER introduced the companion legislation in the Senate. I thank my ranking member for his support in this effort.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure, and I look forward to welcoming the statue of Frederick Douglass to Emancipation Hall very soon.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for H.R. 6336, to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to accept the statue of Frederick Douglass and provide for its permanent display in Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center.

Often considered the father of the civil rights movement, Frederick Douglass' place in history was earned with deep-seated courage and an unshakable belief in the equality of all human beings. A former slave, Douglass went on to become one of the most prominent figures of the movement to free the slaves. His statue should serve as a reminder to millions of visitors to this great place of both how far we've come and how far we still have to go.

Mr. Speaker, I'd also like to thank my chairman, Mr. LUNGREN, for his patience—this was a long time coming—and his negotiations and for his respect, and also for his unyielding cooperation.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

One of the great things about Frederick Douglass is that he inspired a nation not only by the example of his lifetime in releasing the bonds of slavery and becoming a free man, but he was self-educated. He was a great orator, a great writer, a great inspiration to this country.

There's not too many people that you can talk about that actually can take credit, tremendous credit, for the passage of three amendments to the U.S. Constitution—13th, 14th, and 15th. There's not many people who were on the right side of history in such a tremendous way, someone who not only worked to encourage African Americans to fight in the Civil War on the side of freedom, but also later on to work to ensure that the message of freedom that was the promise of both our Declaration of Independence and our Constitution was embodied specifically in the Constitution by these amendments.

He was a powerful man who was very proud of his history and proud of his place in history in terms of leading a political movement and showing that African Americans were not just freed slaves that somehow got their freedom at the suffrage of the other members of society, but that they fought for it, they struggled for it, and they had both physical courage and intellectual power that inspired the Nation to recognize the fact that we had fallen so far short of the promise of our Constitution and the Declaration of Independence.

□ 1720

I'm afraid that too many young people today don't know the story of Frederick Douglass. In a small way, this may help to rekindle the interest in Frederick Douglass so that when the young people come here to this Capitol, as they often do, and they look at the statues and they ask who is that and what did he do or what did she do, people can now look proudly to the statue of Frederick Douglass and explain what it is he did and why his powerful legacy is still an inspiration to all of us today.

So I would hope that our Members would unanimously support this legislation and that we would soon see Frederick Douglass return to the United States Capitol in this way.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 6336, and to express my deep gratitude to Chairman DAN LUNGREN for introducing the bill, for consulting with me on it, and for bringing it to the House floor. I would also like to thank Senator DICK DURBIN for including a provision in the Senate Appropriations Committee-passed fiscal year 2013 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill to place the Frederick Douglass statue in the U.S. Capitol and Senator CHARLES SCHUMER for introducing the Senate companion to H.R. 6336.

The District of Columbia government commissioned the Douglass statue, with the intention of giving it to the American people as a gift to be displayed in the Capitol. Douglass, an iconic leader for equal rights for African Americans and women and an internationally celebrated human rights advocate, spent much of his life as a D.C. resident and served as a local public official. His home in Southeast D.C., which is now the Frederick Douglass National Historic Site, sits only a few miles from the Capitol. Since the statue was completed in 2007, I have been pursuing legislation to have Congress accept the District's gift. When Congress built the Capitol Visitor Center, it named the main room ''Emancipation Hall'' in honor of the slaves who helped to build the Capitol. Nevertheless, the Capitol still has a long way to go in telling the nation's story, including the role of African Americans in U.S. history. Currently, there are 180 statues and busts in the Capitol, and the Douglass statue would only be the third portraying an African American.

The time has come for the Congress to accept the District of Columbia's gift. I urge the House to pass the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6331, 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 was amended so as to read: ''A bill to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to accept a statue depicting Frederick Douglass from the District of Columbia and to provide for the permanent display of the statue in Emancipation Hall of the United States Capitol.''

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 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 21 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. NUNES) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5544, MINNESOTA EDUCATION INVESTMENT AND EMPLOYMENT ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5949, FISA AMENDMENTS ACT REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2012

Mr. NUGENT, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 112–660) on the resolution (H. Res. 773) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5544) to authorize and expedite a land exchange involving National Forest System land in the Laurentian District of the Superior National Forest and certain other National Forest System land in the State of Minnesota that has limited recreational and conservation resources and lands owned by the State of Minnesota in trust for the public school system that are largely scattered in checkerboard fashion within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and have important recreational, scenic, and conservation resources, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5949) to extend the FISA Amendments Act of 2008 for five years, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 6122, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 2139, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 6186, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

REVISING AUTHORITY OF LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS TO ACCEPT GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6122) to revise the authority of the Librarian of Congress to accept gifts and bequests on behalf of the Library, and for other purposes, 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 California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 377, nays 0, not voting 52, as follows:

[Roll No. 557]

YEAS—377

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Baca
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Benishek
Berg
Berkley
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Chu
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Garamendi
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hahn
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind
King (IA)
Kingston
Kissell
Kline
Kucinich
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Marchant
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Moore
Moran
Mulvaney
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neal
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quayle
Quigley
Rahall
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Ribble
Richardson
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schilling
Schmidt
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Stark
Stearns
Stivers
Sullivan
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster
Welch
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—52

Ackerman
Alexander
Bachmann
Baldwin
Bass (CA)
Berman
Boswell
Broun (GA)
Burton (IN)
Cicilline
Coble
Donnelly (IN)
Filner
Flake
Flores
Gallegly
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gutierrez
Harper
Heinrich
Herger
Hirono
Jackson (IL)
Johnson (IL)
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Lee (CA)
Lewis (CA)
Lowey
Maloney
Manzullo
Miller, George
Nadler
Napolitano
Pastor (AZ)
Paul
Platts
Rangel
Richmond
Rivera
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Schock
Shuler
Speier
Stutzman
Tierney
Towns
Turner (OH)
Walden
Wilson (FL)

□ 1853

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 557, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 557 I was unavoidably detained and did not vote. If I had been present, I would have voted "yea."

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL CENTURY OF SERVICE COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas). The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2139) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the establishment of Lions Clubs International, 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 Illinois (Mr. DOLD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 376, nays 2,

answered ''present'' 1, not voting 50, as follows:

[Roll No. 558]

YEAS—376

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Altmire
Amodei
Austria
Baca
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Benishek
Berg
Berkley
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Chu
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Garamendi
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hahn
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind
King (IA)
Kingston
Kissell
Kline
Kucinich
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Marchant
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neal
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quayle
Quigley
Rahall
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Ribble
Richardson
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schilling
Schmidt
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Stark
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Van Hollen
Visclosky
Walberg
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster
Welch
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NAYS—2

Amash
Brady (TX)

ANSWERED ''PRESENT''—1

Mulvaney

NOT VOTING—50

Ackerman
Alexander
Andrews
Bachmann
Baldwin
Berman
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Burton (IN)
Cicilline
Coble
Donnelly (IN)
Filner
Flake
Flores
Gallegly
Gibbs
Gutierrez
Harper
Heinrich
Herger
Hirono
Jackson (IL)
Johnson (IL)
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Lee (CA)
Lewis (CA)
Lowey
Lummis
Maloney
Manzullo
Miller, George
Nadler
Napolitano
Pastor (AZ)
Paul
Platts
Rangel
Richmond
Rivera
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Schock
Shuler
Speier
Tierney
Towns
Velázquez
Walden

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1900

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. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 558, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

STUDY OF VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY-BASED FLOOD INSURANCE OPTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6186) to require a study of voluntary community-based flood insurance options and how such options could be incorporated into the national flood insurance program, and for other purposes, 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 gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 364, nays 11, not voting 54, as follows:

[Roll No. 559]

YEAS—364

Aderholt
Akin
Altmire
Amodei
Austria
Baca
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berg
Berkley
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Chu
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Garamendi
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hahn
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hochul
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind
King (IA)
Kingston
Kissell
Kline
Kucinich
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Levin
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Maloney
Marchant
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (NC)

Miller, Gary
Moore
Moran
Mulvaney
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Neal
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Richardson
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schilling
Schmidt
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Stark
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster
Welch
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NAYS—11

Adams
Amash
Benishek
Gohmert
Miller (MI)
Quayle
Ribble
Rooney
Ross (FL)
Tiberi
Walberg

NOT VOTING—54

Ackerman
Alexander
Andrews
Bachmann
Baldwin
Bass (CA)
Berman
Broun (GA)
Burton (IN)
Canseco
Cicilline
Cleaver
Coble
Donnelly (IN)
Filner
Flake
Flores
Gallegly
Gibbs
Gutierrez
Harper
Heinrich
Herger
Hirono
Holden
Jackson (IL)
Johnson (IL)
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Lee (CA)
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lowey
Manzullo
Miller, George
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Pastor (AZ)
Paul
Rangel
Richmond
Rivera
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Schock
Shuler
Speier
Terry
Tierney
Towns
Walden
Wilson (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1906

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 559, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

AMERICA NEEDS REAL SOLUTIONS FOR JOBS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, the Bureau of Labor Statistics released the latest jobs report. For 43 months, our Nation's unemployment rate has remained above 8 percent. Last month, only 96,000 more people found jobs and, sadly, 368,000 people were discouraged and defeated and gave up searching for jobs. To make matters worse, for persons with jobs, the average hourly wages decreased and labor force participation is the lowest in 31 years.

The President's policies have failed to create jobs, failed to encourage economic growth, and failed to reassure hardworking Americans that we can restore hope for American families. The American people deserve better. They deserve leadership in Washington that will fight to create jobs. It is past time for the liberal-controlled Senate to act on the dozens of bipartisan bills the House has passed and approved promoting jobs for American families.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

MEXICO/CANADA/UNITED STATES ENERGY ALLIANCE

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Texans are growing more concerned about the rising cost of gasoline. One lady recently wrote me:

> My husband drives a truck. As gas prices rise, so does the cost of diesel. This affects the cost of every single thing we buy. That includes food.

Gasoline prices are the one thing that people should not need to worry about. We have the resources, but Washington keeps them under lock and key. And we still import half our oil from unstable dictators like Chavez and the OPEC monopoly.

Americans can no longer afford to be beholden to the turmoil in the Middle East. So what about this idea?

United States, Mexico, and Canada are rich with God-given natural resources. So working together in a new strategic energy partnership, our three nations could become the world's new energy superpower alliance to compete with OPEC. Let's create an energy supply built to last with our North American allies and finally make OPEC and Middle Eastern dictators irrelevant.

And that's just the way it is.

DON'T CUT THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, just recently it was announced that 50 million Americans experience food insecurity—and experienced it in the last year. What that means is that families in the United States suffer without food. A predominant number of those are single parents and children.

What are we as a country if we allow children to go hungry in this particular great land?

I just came back from Africa, and saw children who are hungry. But yet we were there to encourage better technology to promote agricultural development. But today, this Congress, this House, Republican Congress, is cutting $16 billion from the Supplemental Nutrition Program. We can do better.

I want to work with this Congress to ensure that 50 million Americans are not hungry in this great land. Let us revisit the cutting of the Supplemental Nutrition Program because our children are begging, they're asking us: Do we care?

We do care. We cannot cut $15 billion, $16 billion from the Supplemental Nutrition Program with 50 million Americans experiencing food insecurity—working Americans, Americans with children. The time to stop is now and support those families.

REMEMBERING THE 9/11 ATTACKS

(Mr. FITZPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow our Nation will mark the 11th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. At community gatherings across the country, neighbors will come together to honor the memory of those lost in New York, Pennsylvania, and our Nation's capital, including a ceremony in Bucks County at the 9/11 Garden of Reflection, the official Pennsylvania memorial to the victims of the September 11 attacks.

As I stand before you this evening, I'm reminded of the President's address to the Nation the evening of the attacks. In his remarks to the Nation, the President said that:

> Terrorist attacks can shake the foundations of our biggest buildings, but they cannot touch the foundation of America. These acts shatter steel, but they cannot dent the steel of American resolve.

Eleven years later, our resolve has never been stronger, and we continue to honor the memory of those tragically lost that day.

□ 1920

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WOODALL). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. COURTNEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. COURTNEY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Here we are today on September 10, 5 weeks since Speaker BOEHNER pushed

through a motion to recess for 5 weeks at a time when our Nation faces so many challenges, so many ticking clocks in terms of must-do items, some of which have already cleared the U.S. Senate, like the farm bill. And yet despite that need out there from the country, looking for some action and certainty out of this Chamber, the majority again said, Nope. We're going home for 5 weeks. And we're going to leave dairy farmers whose price supports expired on August 31 left hanging in the breeze—despite the fact that the U.S. Senate has passed a farm bill with Dairy Security Act provisions that reforms the price structure, saves the taxpayer money, and provides some horizon so that the folks who are getting up every morning and milking cows could have some certainty in terms of whether or not their business, their operations, have any sense of future.

They are losing money every day in New England. The feed costs, the high energy costs. And the Dairy Security Act, which was part of the Senate farm bill, and by the way was also incorporated in the House Agriculture Committee in its committee bill, will, in fact, provide that sense of security and future for dairy farmers. Yet the Speaker put through a motion to recess for 5 weeks.

August 31 has come and gone, and these guys and women are out there and they are faced with total fear, and those are the faces that I saw when I was home in August about the fact that this Congress, particularly the House of Representatives controlled by the Republicans, refused to take up a farm bill despite the fact that we had weeks of time to do it before the expiration of the price supports for dairy farmers.

Obviously, American agriculture is far broader than just the dairy industry. It also includes commodity crops in the great Midwest, which are facing a historic drought right now where the security of crop insurance is so important.

Joining me here this evening to report in from the Midwest is a great Congressman from eastern Iowa, my colleague and friend, Congressman BRUCE BRALEY, and I would like to yield to him to talk about what the lack of a farm bill means in your great State.

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. I thank my friend for yielding.

The thing that I think we need to focus on at the beginning is 62 days. It's been 62 days since the House Agriculture Committee reported a strong, bipartisan farm bill that passed out of committee after extensive debate and numerous amendments, and that's on the heel of the Senate Ag Committee passing a farm bill with strong bipartisan support, that passed the entire Senate where it's incredibly difficult to pass anything these days with a strong bipartisan vote.

So I think the question on the minds of many of my constituents in Iowa's First District is when is the House going to vote on a farm bill, which in the past has always been a bipartisan priority of the House and the Senate.

Now, my district in Iowa has been burning up all summer. Almost every part of the First District of Iowa has been classified as extreme drought conditions. Now, what does that mean? Well, I will tell you what it means to the eye when you go out and visit the farms that I visited back in the First District in July and August.

Corn that normally fills up an entire ear, and the ear is typically about this long, now is coming out on ears that are this long that if you're lucky has a fraction of the kernels per ear that you would normally see in a typical Iowa cornfield. Stalks of corn were burning up in July and had to be chopped because they have no value other than the insurance policy that was in place on those crops because commodity insurance has been available to those farmers.

Soybeans were more fortunate because they weren't burning up and got late rain that allowed them to mature, and we're hopeful that the bean crop will not be as devastated to the extent that the corn is.

This is profound, it's real, it's going to have dramatic implications for the cost of food in this country, for the cost of fuel in this country. And while we sit here and do nothing in the House to get a farm bill reported out into conference committee, farmers back in my district are looking at what's going to happen this fall when they face dramatically reduced yields. Then we roll into the period of time this winter when they're buying crop inputs for next spring. All of these things have enormous ripple effects on our domestic economy.

Then you look at what's happening with our nutrition programs, which will also be expiring on September 30. And we know how many people depend on those nutrition programs. Who are they? Most of them are seniors, the elderly, who depend on those food stamp programs. It's people who are disabled and on fixed incomes and working and are underemployed right now.

So this failure to act is having profound consequences for the people I represent in Iowa. I have done 14 listening posts on the farm, food, and jobs bill in Iowa this summer, and we get people from across the spectrum who will be dramatically impacted if Congress fails to act.

You look at the rural economic development title of the farm bill. It has profound implications throughout this country, and it's not based on whether a district is blue or red or purple. Every single district in this country is impacted by our failure to act.

That's why I'm glad to be here tonight talking about these implications, and I hope to be bringing to the floor soon a discharge petition that has been delayed because of the inaction on this bill but that will give every Member of the House of Representatives the opportunity to go down and record on a piece of paper whether they want to see a farm bill brought to the floor for a vote, an up-or-down vote, and I encourage all of my colleagues to take a serious look at joining me in signing that discharge petition so we finally get action on the long overdue piece of legislation.

Mr. COURTNEY. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. I'll be happy to yield back to my colleague.

Mr. COURTNEY. I think your last point about the fact that we are now at a place where the Democratic minority is finding itself in a position where they really have almost no choice but to seek a discharge petition.

The fact is is that this week the majority, Speaker BOEHNER's office and the House Majority Leader, Congressman CANTOR, issued their agenda for the week which lists the bills that they are proposing to take up for votes. And for those listening around the country, I think it's important to remember that the Republican majority controls that agenda. I mean, that is something that we have no control in our caucus of adding or subtracting.

Looking at that agenda this week, I was hoping when I got back from the 5-week break that the Speaker's office would have responded to what is happening all over the country, which is a hue and cry demanding action on a farm bill.

But the fact is, as I think the gentleman from Iowa knows, is that there is nothing on that agenda that indicates we are going to take up a farm bill this week. Incredible. I mean, just amazing, that, you know, at a time when the American Farm Bureau has been doing a circuit throughout the Midwest holding hearings, holding events, drawing attention to this fact. Even in New England and Connecticut, which is not viewed as a sort of agriculture powerhouse, I mean the fact is I had roundtables with the Connecticut Farm Bureau who are just dumbfounded that an issue like this could get sort of swept up in just sort of the do-nothing record of the Republican majority in this Congress.

I also think it's important for people to remember the Senate farm bill which passed, as the gentleman indicated, on a bipartisan basis actually saves the taxpayers $23 billion over the next 5 years.

□ 1930

It came in with a lower cost than the baseline from the last farm bill, so it actually helps the deficit situation.

The House Agriculture Committee bill that you mentioned that got reported out also reduces the deficit. Again, I think it went a little too heavy in terms of the reductions on the nutrition side, but I am confident that that can get worked out in a conference committee if the House would take up a bill and send a bill to a conference committee.

But the fact of the matter is is your leadership, in terms of bringing out a discharge petition, is probably not something that you woke up thinking you'd love to do 6 months from now, but it's really an act of necessity because this majority will not even send a signal that anything is even being planned to take up a bill this week.

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. I think the thing that is so disturbing to so many of us who represent parts of rural America that are heavily dependent on agriculture is this has never been a partisan stalemate in the past. Usually, the farm bill bogs down over regional differences over how you structure a bill that's going to get the necessary support to get the necessary votes on the floor. There is strong bipartisan support here in the House among our colleagues.

Earlier, Congressman WELCH initiated a Dear Colleague letter—they got 60 signatures—calling on leadership from both the House Democrats and Republicans to come together, get this bill to the floor, bring it for an up-or-down vote so that people get to see who's willing to put their vote behind crafting a bipartisan bill that can get support and move this country forward. That's the disturbing thing is I'm confident that there would be broad support across this Chamber to get a bill on the floor, to have an amendment process, to allow people to offer amendments to improve the bill. That's what happens in committee. That's what happened in this particular case. But when we can't even get a bill to the floor—and everything we're hearing is that there's no plan to bring a bill to the floor before the election—and then you look at everything that's being pushed back into the so-called lame duck session—which you know, Congressman COURTNEY, is one of the worst times to bring people together with everything going on—it's very frustrating, because this is a bill that could have and should have been passed before the August recess, and that's why it's so frustrating.

Mr. COURTNEY. This week, I think we are going to see the impact outside of the beltway, because it's my understanding that over 30 to 50 groups are going to be converging on Washington, advocates of American agriculture ranging from the real traditional American Farm Bureau to the Farmers Union, to specific commodity crop groups who, as you point out, sometimes have some pretty heated disagreements about regional issues and about allocations within the farm bill; and they may still have some today in terms of the way the Senate bill was voted out in the House committee, but they all agree on one item, which is that it is time for this House of Representatives to act.

This is not a debate club here that people were sent to, and it's also not a place where political strategists can sort of play games with people's lives about how the agenda is handled. I mean, this is a place where so many sectors of American society depend on us, again, at the end of the day, rising to our constitutional duty, sometimes having to really compromise on some very difficult measures, but, nonetheless, we have a duty to act. We have a duty to really make sure that the people who sent us here can rely on the fact that we're not here just to fight and sort of try and get political gain out of every issue that comes to the floor.

Again, what the Connecticut farmers were saying to me when I was back home is that they just cannot believe that the farm bill has now become a partisan issue, but the Republican leadership controlling this House apparently believes it is. They won't even bring up a bill for a vote.

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Well, I think one of the things that's helpful is to talk about some misconceptions about the farm bill. This isn't just something that affects farmers. At every one of my farm bill listening posts, I started off by pointing out that in 1900, my State of Iowa had 11 Members of Congress in the House of Representatives and Florida had two, and there were about 40 percent of Americans at that time who lived on farms. After the next election, we will have four Representatives from my State of Iowa in the House and Florida will have 28; and now, less than 1½ percent of the American population lives on farms. So that illustrates why it's such a big challenge anymore to put this bill together.

But when you look at who showed up at my farm bill listening post, it wasn't just people engaged in agriculture. There were plenty of farmers there. There were representatives from the corn growers, the soybean producers, the cattlemen, and the pork producers, but there were also people there from Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, the Sierra Club, Trout Unlimited. There were people from nutrition groups who were involved in providing food to underserved portions of the community. There were people there from school lunch programs impacted. There were people from rural electric cooperatives who serve not just rural America today, but even medium- and small-size cities. You had people there from all these different groups who came together, from energy groups who were part of the energy title of the farm bill.

Everybody who eats in this country is impacted by what's in this bill. Everybody who puts fuel in their vehicles is impacted by what's in this bill. For many people in America, this is one of the most important economic development bills we pass every 5 years.

The reason we do it every 5 years is because when you're involved in the types of operations that produce the food, fiber, and fuel we depend on, you don't just do it on a week-to-week, month-to-month business plan. You have to know right now what you're going to put in the ground next spring and what it's going to cost to do it and what type of risk you're taking on in order to be successful and continue in that operation.

And so you can't just kick the can down the road—which we are so good at in this body—and hope it all works out in the end, because for many farmers that will be too late. That's why it's time to come together and work in a bipartisan manner to solve this problem and get it done, because the American people are depending upon us. If we don't do it until after the election, it's too late.

Mr. COURTNEY. To follow up on that point, one of the aspects of this farm bill which I think is actually so exciting is that there's a major reform in terms of how we're going to reduce, to some degree, the American taxpayers' liability for crop production in this country. We are definitely eliminating crop subsidies once and for all, direct cash payments to farms, in both the Senate bill and in the House Agriculture Committee bill. We are eliminating direct payment subsidies. That's where the largest portion of savings are actually being generated, the $23 billion in the Senate and the roughly $33 billion in the House bill. We are basically going to be using much more of a crop insurance, risk insurance model where the farmers have a little more skin in the game. The producer is going to have a little more skin in the game and the taxpayer is going to have a little less.

From almost every angle, when you look at the hard work that's been put into the measure this year in terms of, again, lowering costs, trying to wean the system away from direct cash payments, doing some important, I think, exciting reforms in terms of promoting farmers' markets and marketing specialty crops—which, again, I'm sure Iowa is just like New England and California and other places where there has just been this renaissance of local agriculture. Food security issues and the growing awareness about the fact that healthier foods for school cafeterias or family dinner tables is something that people are just really engaged in as almost never before.

This farm bill promotes all of that positive change in terms of nutrition habits all the way to school cafeterias, but also, again, helping producers deal with a different structure in terms of how their business model is going to run. As you point out, you can't do that with a 3-month extension or a 9-month extension or a 12-month extension. We need a 5-year farm bill. We need something exactly along the lines of what the Senate produced on a bipartisan basis.

Again, it is just incredible that this leadership, the Republican leadership, doesn't hear what is out there right now both on the producer side and on the nutrition side. People want this Congress to get this item done, and it just should not be a partisan issue.

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. One of the other common themes that I heard at all of my listening tours—and this is uniform across the country, whether you're living in Connecticut or Iowa or California or any other part of the country—the average age of the farmers in Iowa is 59, and we have a lot of people who are nearing the end of their farming careers. We need to have opportunities for young farmers and young people who want to get involved in agriculture to get their foot in the door.

So that's one of the exciting things about this farm bill is, for young farmers and beginning farmers who may be doing it as a second career, they may be working at a John Deere factory in Waterloo and farming on a part-time basis because it's in their blood, it's what they love the most out of life, but to give people that opportunity to get started, we have to be focusing on some innovative new ways of allowing them to earn an income from farming.

□ 1940

Whether that's specialty crops, which you mentioned earlier, whether it's dealing with orchards and other types of new and innovative ways of raising money from production agriculture, all of those things are at a standstill if this bill doesn't move. And that is one of the reasons why it's inspiring, at a time when so much that focuses on Congress is about partisan bickering, that there is actually an enormous opportunity here to reach across the aisle to our friends on the other side and say, join us, make this happen, bring this bill to the floor. We will work with you to improve this bill and get it to a conference committee so that we can get an up-or-down vote on the future of agriculture in America.

Mr. COURTNEY. Just to kind of put the period on that is that right now the House Republican leadership is looking like we've only got 8 days of real, full floor action for the whole month of September. Again, incredibly, after basically leaving town and passing a motion to recess, the Republican leadership, now that we're back, has only scheduled 8 full session days, which, again, really shows why your discharge petition for the farm bill is so critical in that we really need to get this thing moving, because there clearly will be a conference. There's going to be some disagreement with the Senate. But on the fundamental structure of the bill there really isn't. I mean, the reform of subsidy payments, there's overlap in both bills.

The savings that that will generate, the dairy issue which I mentioned earlier, how we are again going from a historic change in terms of an industry that's had total cash payment subsidies to a risk insurance model, which, again, commodity crop folks like yours have dealt with that for decades. We're now putting dairy into that same model.

But 8 days does not give us much margin for error in terms of the way this place operates. And again, that's the Republican schedule which came out.

I know, as far as yourself and myself and our colleagues on our side of the aisle, you know, we're prepared to roll up our sleeves and stay here as long as it takes, and frankly, we've got other issues which I think all of us would be more than happy to plunge into, whether it's the fiscal cliff, whether its sequestration, whether it's the postal reform bill, which the Senate has passed, whether it's the Violence Against Women Act that again, incredibly, even though law enforcement leaders all across the country are imploring Congress to move on the Violence Against Women Act, the leadership hasn't set a conference group to get that bill done.

This is stuff that should be just baseline givens, in terms of just running the country. And yet we have got an agenda this week which, other than maybe doing a CR to keep the government from closing on October 1, that's it in terms of what the Republican leadership has put forward.

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Well, I think that one of the things that we need to make sure everybody understands is, as of September 30, September 30, which is just a couple of weeks away, there is no farm bill. We revert back to a 1949 farm bill that nobody in this country wants to see happen, including the Secretary of Agriculture, who would be given extraordinary powers that were given under that old farm bill to determine markets, to determine prices, to select winners and losers.

It would be a horrible situation. And that's why the American people are depending on us to put aside our partisan bickering, to come together and solve this problem. And that's why I'm looking forward to working with my Republican colleagues to get support for this discharge petition and work to get signatures so that we can bring this bill to a vote on the floor, which is what should have happened before August 1.

Mr. COURTNEY. And it is a shame because really, if you look at the U.S. economy right now, particularly in terms of balance of trade, agriculture is probably the brightest spot, even with all the challenges that have happened this summer. I mean, export of American farm products, whether it's beef or commodities, is actually really helping the balance of trade for this country.

There was a story this morning in The New York Times about Mexico, about how their rising middle class now—I mean, made in America, particularly for food products, is something that the consumer market is really stampeding towards.

And again, to allow this September 30 deadline to happen and to suddenly, you know, have complete almost chaos in terms of pricing mechanisms, in terms of, again, insurance payments, in terms of cash payments, which, presumably, would somehow have to continue, really would hurt growth in this country, which American agriculture has actually been helping sort of pull up for other sectors.

I want to thank the gentleman for joining me here this evening to talk about that point.

Again, there was a Bloomberg News report also earlier today that said that telemarketers now have a higher approval rating than the U.S. Congress. And again, the colloquy we just listened to this evening about the farm bill, it's no wonder. The work schedule which the Republican majority has put forward over the last 18 months would make Homer Simpson blush.

I mean, the fact of the matter is we've had repeated recesses. We've had a work product, in terms of actual numbers of bills that have been discussed and brought forward on the floor, at historic lows. We've had a shutdown crisis in April of last year where, literally, the country was on the edge of its seat in terms of whether or not the U.S. government was going to shut down last April of 2011.

We had, for the first time in American history, the prospect of a default on the full faith and credit of this country, when the debt limit issue was run up to, again, the final seconds before Treasury would have no authority to sell bonds to pay the bills for this country. First time in American history we confronted that prospect.

Under Ronald Reagan, the debt limit was extended 18 times with little or no fuss, yet this majority has intentionally sort of pushed these sorts of pressure points over the last 18 months, 2 years, to score political points. And that's something which MITCH MCCONNELL, the Senate minority Leader, made very clear was the number one priority of the Republicans in Washington: to cripple this President and to deprive him of reelection in a second term.

And now, as we stand here on September 10, we are now looking at another cliff that's facing this country, the fiscal cliff which is at the end of December, the Tax Code reverts back to pre-2001, raising taxes for middle class families all across the country.

President Obama has put out a plan which would protect the income of all Americans up to $250,000. And I want to repeat that. Every American would still retain their tax cuts from 2001 up to $250,000. For those who are fortunate enough to be above that threshold of adjusted gross income, then the rates would revert back to the Clinton era for people to pay a little bit more. And the Congressional Budget Office has scored that change as helping the deficit by roughly 800 to $900 billion.

You know, a couple of nights ago we had an opportunity, as a Nation, to listen to William Clinton, to President Clinton talk about his record in office, when his fiscal policies put the Nation's public finances in the black for the first time in decades.

I mean, a lot of us who grew up in the fifties and sixties could not sort of remember a time when America was paying its bills and paying down its debt. President Clinton presided over policies which got us to that point.

It was also an economy which produced 22 million jobs. We had unemployment rates below 4 percent in many States like my own, in the State of Connecticut, where unemployment was between two and three percent in 1998 and 1999. And he did it in way that was fair and balanced.

And the speech that he gave in Charlotte the other night reminded us that when you actually invest in the middle class, when you make sure that middle class families have the tools to raise their family, to educate their children, to cover their health care needs, to buy a house and afford a house, to provide the means so that seniors over 65 won't be bankrupted by health care bills, the fact of the matter is that's the formula for success for growth in this country.

And, again, the 1990s is Exhibit A for the success of those policies, which the President, when he gave his acceptance speech, reemphasized that, again, he is willing to extend the tax cuts for income up to $250,000 for all Americans, rich and poor, that we would revert the rates back to the Clinton era, which now even Mr. Romney is talking very positively about the Clinton years and praises President Clinton's tenure in office.

Well, he ought to adopt the plan that President Clinton is suggesting.

□ 1950

That's a plan which will put the public finances of our country back into better balance and which will provide a more solid footing. Even more than that, if we were able to come together with that reasonable compromise—averting the fiscal cliff—it would give this country and particularly the business community the confidence of knowing that their tax exposure—that the fiscal status of this country—is not literally going to be driven up to the cliff, up to the brink, over periods of short, monthlong time periods, just as it was in 2011 and 2012.

That really, unfortunately, sadly, is the legacy of the 112th Congress under Speaker BOEHNER's tenure. That's why telemarketers are more popular than Members of the U.S. Congress, which is according to the Bloomberg News report that came out earlier today. We have a leadership which has shown itself quite willing to defy all of the hopes of the American people that we would get people working together and compromise and extend a horizon for people so that they can make decisions to invest and to hire. Rather, we have seen under the direction of folks like MITCH MCCONNELL that the number one priority is not what matters for the American people; the number one priority is to bring down this President.

That was the number one issue everywhere I went when I was home over the last 5 weeks: When are we going to see some compromise out of the Republican leadership to come together for fiscal policies that will avert the fiscal cliff? When are we going to come together to diffuse the sequestration chain saw that's sitting out there on January 1, which is going to cut through the Federal Government both on the defense side and on the nondefense side?

I think it's important to remember nondefense interests, whether it's hospitals or medical providers, are looking at a 2 percent across-the-board cut in Medicare payments if sequestration goes into effect. Education, whether it's K through 12, whether it's student loans, are also going to get hit with that chain saw. We're going to see it with the National Institutes of Health, which is doing incredibly exciting work in terms of coming up with cures for cancer by using genome research. That chain saw is going to cut through NIH in terms of the great research projects that are going on in that institution. We would also see the chain saw hit defense.

In industry after industry in which you need to have a horizon, whether it's building F–35 fighter planes, whether it's building surface ships down in Virginia or nuclear submarines up in the State of Connecticut, the fact of the matter is the sequestration option, as Secretary Leon Panetta—the Secretary of Defense—has said, would be catastrophic for the national defense of this country. There are proposals on the table which would avert the implementation of sequestration. I sit on the Armed Services Committee. We had a hearing with leaders from the aerospace industry. We had leaders from the administration—the head of the Budget Office, the Undersecretary of Defense, Ashton Carter, who handles budget policy.

If you look at the budget which President Obama put out in January and if you look at PAUL RYAN's budget resolution in 2011, what you will see is, in fact, there is overlap between the two that could easily get us to the point of diffusing the sequestration chain saw that I mentioned out there. We have to hit a target of $1.2 trillion in terms of deficit reduction to avert sequestration from going into effect. If you look at the savings from the drawdown in Afghanistan, which PAUL RYAN and the Republican majority put in their budget resolution in 2011, according to the Congressional Budget Office, it totals roughly about $800 billion, and that's post-2014. That was in the Ryan budget. President Obama, in his budget plan, had exactly the same measure, which would save roughly $800 billion. If the two sides would come together and agree that we could pass a measure that locks in those savings, then you've really gotten to about two-thirds of the sequestration target set up under the Budget Control Act.

We can do this. We can do this this week if people would actually, basically, put down their cudgels—again, 8 weeks away from an election—and say: Let's do something that's for the benefit of the country; let's eliminate that uncertainty that's hanging out there; let's tell those firms that are wrestling with whether or not they have to issue WARN notices, layoff notices, to their workers because of sequestration sitting out there on January 1.

Let's come together. Let's get this thing done. Let's look at the President's budget, and let's look at PAUL RYAN's budget. Let's find the areas of common agreement, which do exist, and let's get this thing fixed so that the American economy is not facing another one of these runups. Unfortunately, the majority back in April of 2011 was willing to push this country to a government shutdown, and later, in August, was willing to default on the full faith and credit of this country. Let's not do that. Let's allow the American people the opportunity to have some security, which is that their jobs, that our national defense, that health care providers, that educators, that people who are in the critical areas of research and development over at NIH are not going to have the rug pulled out from under them because of sequestration, which was part of a package from which Speaker JOHN BOEHNER proudly announced he got 98 percent of what he wanted. Again, when the Budget Control Act passed, the Speaker was interviewed, and he was boasting about the fact that the Republicans got 98 percent of what they wanted. Within that package was the sequestration mechanism. Mr. RYAN, the candidate for Vice President, actually also publicly boasted about the fact that sequestration was a compromise which the two sides agreed to.

So everybody has got their fingerprints on it. The fact of the matter is that it's sitting out there, and it's creating uncertainty in the U.S. economy. There are measures that are both within the Ryan budget and the Obama budget which overlap and from which we could easily implement a compromise to diffuse that sequestration chain saw that's sitting out there. All it takes is the willingness of this Chamber, led by the Speaker, who is now trying to distance himself from the deal that he embraced back in August of last year, to come forward and say, okay, let's sit down and hammer this out. You could do it on the back of an envelope within a matter of a day or two in terms of the areas of agreement that exist between the Obama budget and the Ryan budget.

The failure to do that—the failure to bring up a farm bill, the failure to bring up a postal reform bill, the failure to bring up a Violence Against Women Act for conference and for final resolution, the failure to implement budgets on the health and labor and education subcommittee, which the majority just basically, I guess, decided they're just not going to do—is why Bloomberg News came out with

their report today saying that Congress is now less popular than telemarketers.

This is one of the most despised Congresses in American history, and it has been led by Republican leaders who, again, have shown that they are more interested in trying to weaken this President than in trying to strengthen our country. This is with regard to issue after issue, whether or not it's the farm bill, whether or not it's the postal reform—where we have a system that is literally now technically in bankruptcy—whether it's the Violence Against Women Act, whether it's getting budgets done in regular order, whether it's diffusing sequestration, whether it's averting the fiscal cliff.

We went home for 5 weeks without acting on any of these measures because of a recess motion that the Speaker put forward. The country is basically sitting there, waiting to see whether or not we have either a short-term future or a long-term future, which all of these issues are so critical to determining. We are going to be watching this agenda over the next few days. What we saw today from the majority leader's office indicated no farm bill, no postal reform bill, nothing related to any measures to try and deal with sequestration. We have seen a do-nothing agenda this week by the majority following 5 weeks of being back in the districts.

The American Farm Bureau was doing a cross-country barnstorm about the fact that we need to get that measure passed so we can create some certainty and horizon for the men and women who are getting up every morning and milking cows and planting crops and harvesting crops, those who desperately, particularly with the drought conditions in the Midwest, need to have some certainty that there is going to be crop insurance in place to make sure that they are not going to go bankrupt.

We have a measure which passed in the U.S. Senate—it's a bipartisan bill—which saves the taxpayer $23 billion, and yet we have a leadership which won't even bring up a farm bill for consideration. The bill that came out of committee wasn't perfect, but it is a measure which we need to act on to send to conference so that the agriculture sector of this country can have some confidence about what kind of future they're going to have beyond the next few weeks or until September 30, which is when the law of this country reverts back to that of the 1949 farm bill.

So that's the message which I certainly heard on my break and that Mr. BRALEY heard on his break. I think we're going to hear it this week when representatives of commodity crop groups—the American Farm Bureau, the American Farmers Union—are going to be gathering in the U.S. Capitol and demanding action so that we can at least allow one sector the ability and the confidence to know that they have some future, both short term and long term.

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

□ 2000

GOP FRESHMEN HOUR

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LANDRY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentlewoman from Alabama (Mrs. ROBY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to be here this evening alongside some of my freshman colleagues.

We want to have a real frank discussion with the American people tonight about a milestone that we hit just last week. This is not a milestone of historic significance that we're proud of, and that is that our national debt has now hit $16 trillion. This brings no pride or cause to celebrate to the American people, nor should it to any Member of this body or our friends in the Senate or in the White House. That is approximately $51,000 for every man, woman, and child in this country. It's unacceptable, and it doesn't, quite frankly, have to be this way.

I want to point you to a few of the President's own words that he said when he was campaigning to be the President of the United States:

> We can't afford another 4 years of the kind of deficits we've seen during the last 8. We can't afford to mortgage our children's future on another mountain of debt.

Where are we today? Today we're at a place that is far worse than 4 years ago. With our debt now at $16 trillion, we've not seen anything significant from this White House in an effort to reduce our debt. Instead, all we hear about is new programs that are going to require more taxpayer dollars and not an effort to rein in this out-of-control spending. I want to talk about that tonight.

Tonight we also want to focus on jobs. This is the number one issue facing the American people right now. We need to get America back to work. And this government, this body right here, we don't create the jobs, but we sure can help create an environment in which job creation is right. We have done a lot here in the House to do that. We've passed over 30 bills. They're sitting in the Senate awaiting action.

We are going to continue to highlight what we've learned, in this hour, over the course of our time back at home.

I have my friend from Colorado standing here. I would just say to you, Mr. GARDNER, that I'm sure you can say the same about what you learned over the district work period. From traveling from town to town, from county to county in Alabama's Second District over and over again, I have witnessed that the debt has stifled job creation because all it has done is create more uncertainty.

All of the regulation and red tape that has been passed in the previous Congress that this Congress has been unable to undue because of the lack of action in the Senate and ObamaCare, all of that has contributed to more and more uncertainty. People are hurting.

I've traveled around and looked into the eyes of folks, and they can't take any more. Their businesses are on the line, and that then, in turn, is a reflection of what's going to happen in their households.

Mr. GARDNER. The gentlelady from Alabama is exactly right.

Thank you for your leadership on the economy, on getting this country turned around, and getting our businesses back in shape to hire once again.

Over the past couple of years since being elected, I've traveled over 65,000 miles to be in every nook and cranny of the district of eastern Colorado and northern Colorado. We've held 74 town meetings to make sure that we are listening to everybody's voices, to make sure that people have an opportunity to address their concerns, their ideas to make our government better, to make our economy grow and healthy once again.

The points that you talk about, I don't know that anything is more relevant in the conversations that we have today than the point that was made at a town meeting just last week in Julesburg, Colorado, up in northeastern Colorado. It's just a hop, skip, and a jump from the panhandle of Nebraska. A young lady raised her hand and said:

> I'm a single mom. I have three kids at home. I've had two jobs. Now I only have one. I'm looking for a second one. I can't make ends meet because my job doesn't pay enough, and energy prices continue to increase.

She's trying to find health care for her children. Talk about somebody who is the front lines of our economy who is suffering because of the past 3½ years of failed economic policies.

The Congressional Budget Office recently issued a review of what can happen at the end of this year if nothing is done to avoid the fiscal cliff to deal with sequestration and to deal with the looming tax increases. This is what the Congressional Budget Office has stated:

> In particular, large budget deficits and growing debt would reduce national saving, leading to higher interest rates, more borrowing from abroad, and less domestic investment—which in turn would lower the growth of incomes in the United States.

While we talk about growing the economy, while we talk about economic growth and the need to get businesses and companies around this country hiring again, at the same time there's this negative pressure being placed on them because Congress can't do its job to control spending. We are $16 trillion in debt. You mentioned it was nearly $51,000 for every man, woman, and child. We've got a 10-month-old at home. Our 10-month-old

owes $51,000 as his share of the Federal debt. That's $51,000 apiece.

That negative pressure, that mounting debt, deficits that are over a trillion dollars every year, makes it more and more difficult for businesses to have access to the capital that they need to grow. It makes it more and more difficult for companies to operate, because all of a sudden they find themselves competing with the Federal Government for those scarce resources.

The next thing we know, government is going to have to look at tax increases to try to finance what's already over $200 billion a year in interest payments. Our businesses are saying: Government, can you get out of the way so we can let America work, so that we can run our businesses the way that we want to, not the way Washington wants to?

At the same time, you've got a Congress, including the United States Senate, that hasn't passed a budget in the past 3½ years, hasn't done the fundamental duty that it's required to do, and that's to make sure that this government knows where it's going to spend its money, to make sure this government knows how much money it has coming in and how much money is going out. But they refuse to pass a budget.

They refuse it, make no mistake, not because they think they need more time or because they need to study it more or come up with a different bill, no. They refuse it because they think it would be bad politically for them to vote on a budget. That's why the President's own budget received zero votes. The President's own budget not only received zero Republican votes, but zero Democrat votes.

There are so many people across this country who are unemployed, who are looking for work. In fact, most of the universities around the country just went back in a couple of weeks ago. Those students are all looking for jobs and expecting jobs to deal with their student loans. I know we've talked about it many times.

Mrs. ROBY. If we could spend some time on our young people, because that really paints the picture better than anything.

The graduating class of 2012, when they were getting ready to face the real world in April of this year, the Associated Press reported that half of those college graduates were unemployed. That's half.

Just to show a little bit of a comparison, since President Obama has taken office, the unemployment rate for 20-year-olds to 24-year-olds has increased more than a point from 12.4 percent to 13.9 percent. The median income for those under the age of 35 dropped by 10.5 percent from 2007 to 2010. That's more than any other age group. More of today's 20-somethings to 30-somethings are living with their parents than any of the generations that have gone before them.

□ 2010

So by comparison—and here's what we really highlight—this President's failure and this Congress' failure to get out of the way of job creation. In 1980, 17 percent of adults, 20- to 34-year-olds, had to live with their parents, and today that number is 24 percent. At a time when these young people coming out of college face mountains of student loan debt, they can't find jobs.

Instead of looking and working to find ways to provide opportunities for these young people, President Obama and his policies are setting the stage for these young people to be more dependent on the government. Anyway, that's just to highlight your point exactly that that is the sector of our population that is the promise of tomorrow, and they are unemployed.

Mr. GARDNER. Then add the fact that this generation that's graduating from college today is going to be left with a $16 trillion debt; and, by the way, that's just what it is today. It's growing each and every second. In just a few years, that number goes up dramatically to over $20 trillion if nothing is done to stop the runaway debt crisis that we have right now.

You mentioned the Associated Press article that talks about one out of every two graduates from college today being unemployed or underemployed, but that same Associated Press report talks about this, taking unemployment into consideration, the job prospects for bachelor's degree holders fell last year to the lowest level in more than a decade.

So we've seen this conversation take place about, you know, are we better off today than we were 4 years ago. Well, here's a statement from the Associated Press, when it comes to people who are graduating from college, that says, ''Taking underemployment into consideration, the jobs prospects for bachelor's degree holders fell last year to the lowest level in more than a decade.''

How are these families going to make ends meet? How are recent college graduates, some who come out of college with a family, going to pay back their student loans? We have seen Federal student loans soar 275 percent over the past decade. Over the past decade student loans have increased over 275 percent; yet job prospects are as bleak as they have been for 10 years or more.

You know, I've got some great universities in my district, the University of Northern Colorado, Colorado State University. We just visited Northeastern Junior College. We have been all over the community college system in our district talking about the challenges that they face trying to make sure that their students have the jobs that they need when they come out of school because what's happening, you see the higher debt load. Then because the economy is so tough, people are taking jobs that are lower paying just to try to make ends meet.

This country has prided itself on always making sure that for generation after generation we have greater opportunities, that we open more doors for our children. That's the same thing that ought to be, the same kind of idea that ought to be facing the recent graduates today.

This upcoming December, next May, they ought to be looking at job prospects that are even greater than their older brothers or sisters, even greater than their parents' generation. But the fact is those jobs don't exist because the policies of the last 4 years have made it more and more difficult for the country's businesses to grow and expand.

Mrs. ROBY. You mentioned your colleges in your district. Actually, there are some great colleges in or right nearby in Alabama's Second District: Alabama State University, Faulkner University, Troy University, and Huntingdon College. But let me just highlight real quickly Alabama's 2-year college system where we have incredible workforce development programs, honing skills in young people that can immediately go out into the workforce, and they deserve better than these lofty promises.

Did you know that since President Obama was inaugurated in January of 2009, the manufacturing sector has shed 590,000 jobs, 590,000 jobs?

Mr. GARDNER. When was that you said?

Mrs. ROBY. This was since President Obama was inaugurated in January of 2009.

The number of Americans receiving food stamps as of April 2012 was 46.1 million. I heard today one of our colleagues say one in seven, one out of every seven Americans is receiving some sort of nutritional assistance. That is astounding. That is astounding.

We've painted a picture here that is bleak, and we're telling the American people what they already know because so many of them are too aware of this because they're the ones that are suffering from this administration. I just want to say that we have solutions.

We have solutions where we can change things and the private sector can thrive, but that is going to mean getting the government out of the way. We need the leadership in the Senate to have the political courage to stand up and take up our jobs bills, our energy bills that reduce regulation and does just that, gets the government out of the way.

Mr. GARDNER. This past week I had an opportunity to visit a business in Colorado, a manufacturing business in Colorado. It's a multi-generation family business that was started by this gentleman's dad 50 years ago. He's actually retiring from the business, and his son is going to take over the business, third generation, a manufacturing business in Denver. They've got around 300 employees, spread out in the western United States region.

I asked him, I said, you know the past couple of years are you doing better now than you were then? His answer was no on any level. If you ask

him about what his bottom line is, his company's profits? No, they're not better off than they were. If you ask them about the number of employees he has? No, they're not better off. In fact, they've struggled to try to make sure that they are able to keep the employees that they have been able to keep.

This is something else that goes unreported, that work, that employee who is usually working a 40-hour work week or maybe a little bit more is now working a 30-hour work week or a 32-hour work week, because as an employer he feels the opportunity to try to do everything he can to keep these employees working, to keep their families with a job in the household. In order to do that, because their business is down, because their sales are down, they've actually now found themselves in situations where they are reducing hours, which means less take-home pay. In fact, if you look at the past 4 years, we've seen middle class pay, take-home pay, go down by about $4,000.

If employment is decreasing and, again, if you look at those employment numbers that just came out this past week, for every one person who found a job, four people quit looking. So you can see that this business isn't alone in trying to make ends meet, to try to build a better tomorrow.

We talked about the regulations that they face, and I talked about some of the recent changes that have been made, whether it's financial services legislation. In fact, one of the interesting points that we were talking about regulations, and I am sure you have heard a great deal about businesses in your district that are facing challenges with regulations and the ever-increasing cost of regulations, but this particular business, they were talking about how, because of the tough times that have hit their contracts, the people they contract with, the people who buy the goods from them, they are now actually having to float the cost of that business on their own books a lot longer. Because of the difficulties with some of the financial legislation we've seen, they're finding it even more difficult to do that.

Here you have a company that's trying to make it work with their customers so that they can buy their goods by holding their receivables a little bit longer; but they're finding pressure now from financial legislation that makes it more difficult to do that. So the government is getting them both ways. The government has failed to come up with the policies to get government out of the way so that our businesses can grow. Yet when you have somebody coming up with a solution to try to grow their business, government policies there are affecting that and impeding their ability to do that.

Mrs. ROBY. Absolutely. You know, when you talk to business owners, or at least when I have, you'll hear them say, but there was a time when regulators came into your business to try to make it more effective or a safer environment in which to work, but that time is long gone. Now the regulators are there to find problems and fine you.

I want to give you one example that was astounding to me. A fellow that's in the construction business was explaining to me that he had a friend that's a roofer that had a $700 job, to make a $700 profit on a roofing job. His crew was over there at this home all day long, had the ladder, they were going up and down.

After 5 o'clock, a regulator was driving down the road, pulled over and noticed that he was afraid the ladder didn't come over the eave of the roof just far enough to fit within the regulatory requirements.

□ 2020

He stopped and wrote that fellow up to the tune of $8,000. A $700 job and an $8,000 fine. These guys had been going up and down that ladder all day.

We all agree that not every regulation is bad, but this is an environment that has gotten out of hand; people with too much time on their hands and not coming into businesses in the spirit of helping businesses thrive.

Mr. GARDNER. And I think that's why we have to start talking about solutions for this country. We all have examples of regulations that have gone amok.

I was dealing with a business in the district just the other day that talked about a product that they were trying to handle. It was a very environmentally sensitive product that they were trying to remove and actually do some environmental mitigation from a cleanup site that they were working on. And this particular company was required to keep this product both wet and dry at the same time; a regulation that said you had to keep it wet until you moved it or stored it, and then you had to keep it dry. Well, you've got to dry it down in order to move it, but yet they faced the possibility of being fined because of this particular action.

Again, the solutions we need. This Congress has passed solutions, and I'll mention the REINS Act.

The REINS Act was a bill that we passed several months ago with strong support from both sides of the aisle. This is one of the bills that has passed the House and has moved over to the Senate, where it just sits stacking up like cordwood. Once again, here we have an opportunity to do something, a proactive solution.

The REINS Act simply says we're going to take a look at the cost of a regulation. We're going to get an idea of how much some regulation costs, and if it exceeds a certain threshold, then we're going to let that come back to Congress for review before it can go into effect. It's saying, hey, let's take a look at this. Let's create some kind of an opportunity for Congress to review a regulation that has a tremendous impact on the economy, taking over a hundred million dollars out of our economy to comply with the regulation. Let's take a look at it and make sure that the cost and benefits are in line to make sure that the benefits outweigh the cost, to make sure that doing it is actually worth it and it doesn't cost jobs that we so desperately need. And so the REINS Act passed and it's waiting over in the Senate.

Now, some people may say, well, that's just a partisan idea, that's just a Republican idea. Well, let's take a look at what some of the States do.

In my home State of Colorado, there's a process called the Rule Review Act, the Rule Review bill. This bill comes up every single year in the State legislature, and it's a chance for the State legislature to do exactly that, to review the rules that pass out of the executive branch agencies. Every year, the State legislature gives a thumbs up or a thumbs down to those regulations, because in Colorado we understand how important it is to make sure that government's not getting in the way, how important it is to make sure that we actually have responsible rules that move the ball down the field instead of creating penalties every time you turn around.

And so the Rules Review bill taken to the United States Congress becomes the REINS Act. And the REINS Act is a good way for us to check and provide that balance with the executive branch to make sure that we're not putting too much of a burden on our businesses.

Mrs. ROBY. Right. Let's just go back in time for a minute and talk about some of these other repeals.

We have the Boiler MACT provisions, the Cement MACT, net neutrality, the regulating farm jobs. We can go down the list one by one by one and talk about the efforts that we have taken here in the House. With the strength of the numbers here, some of these have been with bipartisan support that we've passed these measures. And yet again and again and again, it's just time after time after time it's sitting in the Senate without any action.

All you have to do is go look at the budget that the House has passed the past 2 years that Chairman RYAN put forth out of committee and came to the full floor. You mentioned the President's budget where there were zero votes—zero votes. We talk about offering solutions to the American people to look that small business owner in the eye and say, ''Yes, I am working for you; yes, I have a solution for you; yes, I have a way to get out of your way,'' which is what we've done, and our budget outlines very, very specifically what these solutions are.

Our spending is out of control, which in turn, like you already mentioned, just takes it a whole other step that this Congress is not doing their job, and therefore the jobs are not being created by the private sector, period. It all comes down to that.

Mr. GARDNER. And I know you serve on the Agriculture Committee

here in the House of Representatives, and I'm sure that you're hearing from some of your interests in agriculture about uncertainty.

Mrs. ROBY. Absolutely.

Mr. GARDNER. And one of the things that I've heard over the past several months—and, in fact, I held a series of farm bill roundtables earlier this spring, where one of the things we heard about so much, and this is part of the fiscal cliff that we're facing, is the death tax, the death tax that this Nation faces going back into the lower exclusion rates as of January 1.

Let me give you an example. I'm sure you've heard this time and again from the people that you represent.

One of the farm roundtables that we held, a young man from Eaton, Colorado, stood up and said: With the estate tax coming back in at the end of this year, beginning of next year, we'll be forced to pay for our farm for a third time, and we simply can't afford it.

This is a young man who wants to go on into life in agriculture. This is somebody who wants to be the next generation standing up to grow our food and fiber that this Nation depends on. But yet you've got a government policy that's going to say: We know you've invested, we know you've grown your business, you've made investments into the land that you need to make your operation successful, but because somebody died, we're going to tax them. And that's part of the fiscal cliff that this country faces at the end of this year.

There are farmers and ranchers around the State of Colorado, around this country, who are not trying to figure out how they're going to pass on their operation to the next generation, pass on their operation to the next generation because of a government policy that says: You know what? You've been too successful, and we're artificially going to place this barrier so that it's going to hurt you.

It's not just farmers and ranchers that it affects.

Mrs. ROBY. It's all businesses.

Mr. GARDNER. It's all businesses. That's right.

Mrs. ROBY. But the problem with our farming communities is that they are, in a lot of instances, they own a lot of land. So they have wealth when it comes to land ownership, but they may not have the cash. And so when the government comes along to tax the farm upon the death of a parent that wants to pass it down, they've got to sell the farm to pay the tax, and that's where our farmers lose out every time.

And there are numerous other businesses throughout this country where they may be cash poor. They may have some assets but they may be cash poor, and so they end up having to sell it off in order to pay the government for that company's success.

Mr. GARDNER. And you mentioned it, too. It's not just about cash in the bank. It's not just about how much money you have. It's about the assets that you have. And so your example where you may be cash poor but still hit this line, I think, is compelling to not only the farmers and ranchers, but you're right, to small businesses around the country who may own a restaurant, who may be trying to expand a sand and gravel operation, but they're going to be hit by this estate tax, which means they've got to sell, break it up, and not be able to pass it on.

Mrs. ROBY. You just add our lack of tax reform, which we so desperately need, and I know that we are committed to that here in the House majority. We do have a plan that we've set out as it relates to those reforms. We know that American businesses are faced with an unbelievably complicated and cumbersome Tax Code, combined, over 30 percent on businesses, not to mention the problems with the estate taxes. It makes the U.S. the second highest corporate tax rate among developed nations in the world. So the U.S. Federal rate is 35 percent. It's nearly 10 percentage points higher than our other competitors. That, on top of all of the other issues that we've highlighted.

I mentioned the manufacturing jobs. I don't know about you, but I get this question all the time: Where have all the manufacturing jobs gone? People always highlight that we just chase these jobs offshore. And it's because we have created this environment in which business owners don't have a choice. If they're going to turn a profit, they have to do what is the benefit for their family to make that hard-earned dollar.

I remember hearing a colleague give an example. He was sitting on an airplane next to a guy that made things. He made things, he produced a product, and he wanted to make them in the United States of America. But when it came down to it, the bottom line—he thought he was going to open his plant right here, but when it came down to it, they hadn't taken into account the corporate tax rate and the difference between that and the next country where they could manufacture his product.

□ 2030

That sealed the deal. They are not manufacturing in the United States because of the environment in which we have.

Mr. GARDNER. So you have got a government policy that actually is an impediment to job creation here. A company trying to bring jobs back in, but because of the cost of doing business here is so much higher than elsewhere, they had that unfair choice of how are they going to make things work, how are they going to be successful.

Mrs. ROBY. I was going to say in June for the first time in 44 months, small businesses cited taxes, taxes above poor sales as the single most important problem that they are facing today. Taxes.

Mr. GARDNER. We talked about solutions when it comes to regulations. We've talked about the REINS Act. But here again with taxes, we have come up with solutions. We have voted to make sure that the estate tax, the death tax, doesn't come back in at those lower exclusion numbers breaking small businesses around the country. We've made sure that we avoid the massive tax increases that loom, once again, at the end of this year on families, middle class families. Thousands of dollars for middle class families around this country increase in taxes if nothing is done, and that's why the House of Representatives has passed a measure to make sure that those taxes don't increase, to make sure that we are making it easier for people to keep more of their own money so they can invest it in their families, so they can invest it into job creation, in their businesses.

If this Congress adopts the President's plan, if this Congress does nothing, hundreds of thousands of small businesses around this country are going to see tax increases like we've never seen before. Tax increases will make it more difficult for them to make ends meet. And that's why the House has acted to make sure that we are dealing with the fiscal cliff to make sure that we are not making it more difficult in this country to succeed.

Mrs. ROBY. Absolutely. Again, by virtue of a comparison, with the President's proposed tax hike, deficits would still total 6.6 trillion over the next 10 years according to his own budget. But by comparison, our budget, the House Republican budget, would reduce deficits compared to his by 3.3 trillion while lowering taxes on small businesses and spurring economic growth. That's the difference.

Mr. GARDNER. Well, and I think that's the key, actually, as you mentioned, spurring economic growth. And we can talk about what happens to our economy with this policy or this legislation. But the bottom line is we've got to address that debt and deficit and only economic growth, long-term economic growth, is going to help us address our debt and deficit situation, but a high debt and deficit make it impossible for long-term economic growth.

So you have kind of got a circular problem here that for whatever reason the United States Senate, the President, hasn't taken seriously.

And just talk a little bit about the summer of recovery that was supposedly going to occur a couple of years ago after a trillion dollars was spent on the stimulus, money that went to companies like Solyndra that went bankrupt and the United States taxpayers are going to be out over half a billion dollars because they'll never get repaid.

You've got the stimulus bill that was supposed to lead to the summer of recovery, and yet here we are with 43 straight months of unemployment at or above 8 percent. Now, the American people know that even that number is not right because they know that maybe they have got a job that is only part time or maybe they are working full time but certainly not at the level that they know is to their full potential. It certainly makes it more difficult for them to meet the needs of their families. So that 8.3 percent number doesn't even count the people who've given up looking for work, doesn't even count the number of people who are underemployed.

So, the fiscal cliff, you've got millions and millions of Americans out there knowing what this Congress refuses to do, and that is if Congress will act to adopt these jobs bills that we've passed over to the Senate, if Congress will adopt the House budget that actually puts this country on a road and path to growing the economy, to preserving and protecting the promises that we have made to future generations, that number is going to come back down. It's not going to be 8.3, 8.1 percent. It's going to be lower. Millions of people will be back at work because of the bills and legislation that this body has passed, most with bipartisan support.

Mrs. ROBY. You know, to use the President's words again, because these are direct quotes, so let's look at a couple of things.

Last April, President Obama said, ''We have to live within our means, we have to reduce our deficit, and we have to get back on a path that will allow us to pay down our debt.'' That was the President just last April.

But also I want to make sure that there is no misunderstanding. This is the President's own words in February of 2009: ''I am pledging to cut the deficit by half by the end of my first term in office.'' And I know we are kind of circling back to how we began this hour tonight, but since the President has taken office, our national debt has increased by $5.3 trillion.

Mr. GARDNER. And 5.3 trillion, now, I think there's a statistic out there that shows that that's more money than the amounts of money spent by or the deficits between George Washington and Bill Clinton combined—or maybe it's George H.W. Bush. The fact is, we've never seen a period in our Nation's history where unemployment has been matched by a failure to recognize the needs of the American people, where debts are allowed to skyrocket, where you can say on TV one thing, pledge to the American people that you will cut the deficit in half, and then the next thing you know it's up by $5 trillion.

Maybe the question isn't are you better off today than you were 4 years ago, but maybe the question ought to be are you better off today than you were $5.3 trillion ago?

Mrs. ROBY. Well, your son can attest to that because he's 10 months old and already owes, his share is, what, $51,000 at 10 months old. You know, we both have young children and this is why we are here. We're here for them because we want this country to be as great for your children and mine and all America's children and grandchildren and generations to come. And quite frankly, it is horrendous that we would leave this situation on their backs.

We keep hearing about balancing the budget on the backs of the middle class. How about spending massive amounts of taxpayer dollars on the backs of my children and my children's children. This is where the future of this country is dependent, and if we don't get serious about this now, why wait? Why are we waiting until November? Why is the leadership in the Senate waiting until after the election to take on problems that are serious now?

As you said before, the clock keeps ticking up. The debt keeps accumulating between now and November. It's not like the 16 trillion is just some arbitrary number. I mean, it's a huge number, but it doesn't stand still. It's going to continue to increase.

As I explained when I am in town halls about the debt ceiling, the debt ceiling is like calling your credit card company and saying to your credit card company, ''I need you to increase my credit limit because I don't have any cash to pay you the interest on what I already owe, on the debt I already owe.'' That's where we are. And that's on the back of Margaret and George and your children and all of those other children and grandchildren of Americans. As you can tell, as a mom it makes me upset, and that's why we're here.

Republicans in the House majority have taken action on a number of things that have already been mentioned tonight: we've repealed the government takeover of health care. Ride down the road in any district in this country and talk to a small business owner about that, and you will find out very quickly that they're either going to be close to being out of business or they're going to go out of business completely if this law is fully enacted.

□ 2040

We have stopped massive tax increases here in this House that one independent analysis said could destroy more than 700,000 jobs—you highlighted that earlier. We have replaced these indiscriminate spending cuts from sequestration with commonsense solutions by calling on, again, our friends in the Senate whose budget reconciliation—it's hard to do that if you don't have a budget—but through budget reconciliation, through commonsense cuts instead of just across the board, and rein in this wasteful government spending. And with the 30-plus bills that you and I have highlighted some portion thereof in this discussion tonight that are sitting collecting dust in the Senate, all 30 of these jobs are job-creating, energy-producing bills that are sitting in the Senate collecting dust.

Mr. GARDNER. You talk about those bills, the regulations that we've passed. You talk about the things that we have done to avoid the fiscal cliff, the things that we have done to avoid sequestration. There's a word that's been missing that we haven't used tonight: leadership. It takes leadership to address these issues. That's what we have provided through so many of these bills that we have talked about—leadership to make sure that hundreds of thousands of small businesses don't have their taxes increased; leadership to make sure that farmers and ranchers can continue their operations without worrying about a death tax that will prevent them from passing on their land to the next generation; leadership to make sure that the sequestration is carried forward. Yes, we reduce spending, but we do so in a more responsible fashion, a way to make sure that we don't jeopardize the ability of our men and women in uniform to defend our country and to protect themselves.

I want to talk a little bit about the issue of sequestration because that's something that we haven't met. And the issue of leadership, once again, crops up. It just keeps coming forward where the House has led and we hear crickets from the other side of town.

The American people, I don't know if they were following what happened with the White House just this past Friday. Last week, the White House announced that it will miss the legal deadline for delivering a report to Congress on the spending cuts from sequestration that will take effect in January. Now, we hear a lot of complaints about, well, the Congress hasn't done this and the Congress hasn't done that, but here's a law that says you've got a deadline to present your ideas for leadership to the American people. And I guess it must have been too tough because they're not going to comply with it—they didn't comply with it.

Mrs. ROBY. Well, and you will see, again, further action from leadership here in the House on that, calling on the President to outline exactly what this is going to look like. And like you said, he hasn't. It's just one more on the list of uncertainties for job creators.

I see our colleague and our friend, the gentleman from Kansas, has joined us. Certainly feel free to jump in here.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. I appreciate the opportunity. Just like my colleagues, I've spent a little time in the real world. Some call it a recess; for many of us it was time to go back home. I admit in this job, I'll admit that I would much rather not be here and be at home. But what I heard at home is many of the same things that my colleagues are saying tonight: Washington, can you get your act together? In this Chamber, we passed many, many things that would hopefully improve the economy, but one thing that

seems to be on the mind of my colleagues is pretty clear.

Times have changed. I know some of my colleagues have been here a while, and they think that perhaps in the White House it's the same old, same old. But when we hit the $16 trillion mark for debt, that raised another red flag about what's going on in Washington.

I am a Republican. My colleagues tonight here are Republicans as well. We're not going to say it's a Democrat problem; we're not going to say it's a Republican problem. At the end of the day it is a Washington problem: it's the fact that we can't get our act together here in Washington. We can vote in here to free up job creators. We can vote in here to roll back regulations. But at the end of the day, we have $16 trillion of debt.

Like my colleagues, I have young children. I have four young kids. Each one of them, they've done nothing wrong yet—they do a few things wrong, I catch them every day at that—but through no fault of their own, they've got $15,000 they're going to owe on some spending that's already happened before my freshman colleagues and I arrived at this place—$15,000, and it is growing every day.

Under this President, trillion-dollar deficits have become the new norm. The last year of the previous administration, $452 billion of deficits in 1 year, I think the President, then Senator, was bemoaning the fact of what a dastardly amount that was, and here we have doubled and tripled that amount, and each year for the last 4 years added over $5 trillion of debt. You know, that adds up.

My constituents always keep saying, well, I can't quite understand what's a million, a billion, a trillion. It's pretty hard to explain to them—they don't understand a billion. But for the last 3½ years, this President, this town—Washington—has added $3.5 billion of borrowing every single day, 3½ years for $3.5 billion. That's unsustainable, and they want us to solve this problem.

But again, when folks like us gathered here see and hear the concerns of Americans that we have a spending problem—it's not a revenue problem. If it was a revenue problem, we simply would let off the gas pedal a little bit on regulations and we would take care of that. Everybody knows that. Every job creator comes to me and says, Tim, I'd like to invest more. I was visiting with a businessman who owns a packaging company—American Packaging in Hutchinson, Kansas. He said, TIM, I employ 43 employees—and by the way, he did build it—I employ 43 folks. When my father-in-law bought this business in 1987, there were five people employed here. And you know what, TIM, here's what I'd like to do: I'd like to hire two more people. Here in Washington, two more people doesn't add up to anything, but for two families in Hutchinson, Kansas, it would mean the difference between paying college tuition for their kids, whether or not they are able to update their used car, or whether they would be able to make the mortgage or down payment on their house, or whether they might even go on a vacation. That's the difference here.

Today, we have 23 million Americans—just like the two in Hutchinson—that don't have a job or are looking for more work. And Tony at American Packaging says this, he says: Just give me some certainty. Tell me what the rules are going to be, whether it's the tax uncertainty that happens at the end of the year—I'm sure it's been described here. If nothing changes, if Washington doesn't get its act together, if the President doesn't step up to the plate and help us, we're going to have the single largest tax increase in American history—and I dare say in the world's history—happen at the end of the year if we don't get help from the administration, if the Senate Democrats are not willing to provide certainty on taxes.

In addition, we have the regulatory uncertainty that's been discussed. We'll have the health care uncertainty. The provisions of ObamaCare are rolling in. Small businesses like Tony's do not know, what do we have to cover? I don't want to hire two more people because I might be fined if I can't provide for them. It's that type of uncertainty that says, you know what? I can invest, I'd like to make some money—and the businesses are there not just to create jobs; they're actually there to make a profit for the owners and to perform a service for the public. They're not here to work for Washington. But that's actually what does happen if you let the free market and free enterprise system work.

I had a video where Tony spoke. And I must say what shamed me the most was the response from our local newspaper—that was actually, I believe, fronting for this administration. Because Tony talked about the fact that he and his father-in-law built this business, and the newspaper said: No, you didn't build that business; the Government played a key role in making that happen. You know, the government wasn't there with his father-in-law when he hired employee six, employee seven, employee eight. They weren't there. They didn't take the risk. Now we have this whole town wants to take credit, including this President, every time someone hires a new person. But they don't take credit or they don't take fault for the fact that millions of Americans have quit looking for work in the Obama economy.

And it won't be perfect under any President. It never is. Washington can't dictate how an economy ebbs and flows. What I trust in, though, is the American people and American businessmen like Tony that say, hey, I would like to invest, Tim; just give me the certainty to do so and hire two more folks. It doesn't mean anything, again, in Washington, but it means something in the real world. So I appreciate my colleagues being here.

One of the things that the newspaper did mention—actually, it was a taxpayer-funded college professor—he said, you know, I just want to let you know that the free enterprise system is a charade. Of course, I guess if you work for a public university free enterprise might be a charade. But this is the type of thought that invades many in the White House. It certainly invades where this gentleman teaches. But the fact is free enterprise is not a charade. What it is about is individuals taking a risk, making decisions free from me, free from you, Cory, free from Martha's demands, free to make and take those risks. That's how the economy will continue to grow. That's how we will build the best economy in the world. And that's the economy that's being threatened with $16 trillion in debt.

Again, this is not our problem, it's not their problem; it's America's problem to solve this. I think we're making progress in the House, and we're going to continue to move forward.

So that's a little bit of what I've heard in my district about their concerns about where we're going to head and where we need to head. I have had town hall after town hall—about 140 town halls. And usually at every town hall somebody comes up to me and says, Tim, I'm doing pretty well—and my district actually is doing fairly well, despite a massive drought which impacts Colorado as well.

□ 2050

And we could talk about water all night, but we probably better not. We're friends right now—just kidding.

But they come up to me and say, TIM, you know, I think I'm going to do fine. I'm ready for retirement. A guy, 62, about, told me this the last time, but I'm worried about what kind of America I hand on to my children and grandchildren. And this current state of affairs, this $16 trillion, he says, I'm ready to do what it takes. I'm ready to keep working a little bit longer, do a little more, make a little more sacrifices, a little more investments, because I want a better country than I was given, because my parents gave me a better country than they had and my grandparents did the same.

That's the type of promise. That's why I get optimistic. That's why I like to go home, because that's what you guys hear at home as well as I do. They're optimistic. They're hopeful about the future, despite what's going on here in Washington, D.C.

Mr. GARDNER. And the gentleman from Kansas and I share a common, we share the border, eastern Colorado, western Kansas. And so many of the challenges that my farmers are facing your farmers are facing. And you're right, we won't get into water tonight. We'll save that for another day, another time. But the fact is we could both use more of it. And the way we

can use more of it is we store more water. Yet we have policies that are keeping us from storing more water, adding yet to the uncertainty of our farmers and ranchers who desperately need it.

And so whether it's the tax increases that we see at the end of this year, if nothing is done, the estate tax, income tax rates, capital gains rates, and you mentioned that this isn't just a big tax increase. This isn't just a large one for the United States. This is the largest we've ever seen, not only in the United States, but around the globe.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Fifty-five percent death tax. I mean, that's the one that hits the heart of my small businessmen and -women. And they're trying to hand on their business to their children or their grandchildren or someone else they choose, and government's going to come in and grab up to 55 percent of that estate, and that impacts farmers and ranchers in particular, and many other small businesses.

The very heart of economic recoveries in this country have always been driven by small business. It isn't the folks that hire a thousand people at a time. It's the ones that take—add one person, or take a part-time person to full time. And that's what I'm hearing at home, and they're frustrated. But they're ready to roll up their sleeves and go to work, and they expect Congress and Washington to do the same.

Mr. GARDNER. You mentioned optimism for the country, and I carry the same optimism, too, because the people that we work for believe that this continues to be the greatest Nation on the face of this Earth. If we have Congress, if we have Washington that's actually getting its job done, that will pass the regulations to make it easier to do business—excuse me, to repeal the regulations in this country to make it easier to do business, to make sure that we don't increase taxes to hurt their small businesses, better days are still ahead of us.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Oh, tremendous days are ahead of us. They say, hey, just stop doing a little of what you're doing. I'll even admit it. Some of them even say, you know what, what's there right now, as much as I don't like it, if you could just keep it the same. Two years. Give us a breather. Give us a moratorium. We'd like to roll them back, but give us a moratorium, some certainty on taxes, on regulations, on health care, and, TIM, we'll take care of your revenue problems. We'll do it for you.

Mrs. ROBY. The only thing that we all can agree on is that the only thing that is certain is that uncertainty; and to hear the consistency in all of our experiences back home, it's astounding to me why we cannot—why the President and the leadership in the Senate cannot see this, because if they're really listening to the same Americans that you and I are listening to, they would hear the same message that we've brought to the floor tonight.

Mr. Speaker, the choice for the President and the Senate is very, very clear. It's either political paralysis that leads to certain economic catastrophe, or bipartisan leadership that puts us on a path towards prosperity.

And I would just ask that they keep in mind a few people. Remember who this economy has hit the hardest. You've heard stories tonight in this hour of those business owners that have said just that.

Remember the moms at the grocery store that are trying to put food on the table for their family or gas in the car to get to their one or maybe two jobs.

Remember the young people, the recent graduates that we've talked about that can't find a job; and half of them in the class of 2012 are unemployed and they are drowning in debt.

All of these groups, all of these groups, they deserve leadership out of Washington, not lip service.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mrs. NAPOLITANO (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on August 7, 2012, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 4240. To reauthorize the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1402. To authorize the Architect of the Capitol to establish battery recharging stations for privately owned vehicles in parking areas under the jurisdiction of the House of Representatives at no net cost to the Federal Government.

H.R. 3670. To require the Transportation Security Administration to comply with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 54 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, September 11, 2012, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

7439. A letter from the Branch Chief, Planning and Regulatory Affairs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Disqualified Recipient Reporting and Computer Matching Requirements received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7440. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Bacillus thuringiensis eCry3.1Ab Protein in Corn; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0109; FRL-9357-4] received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7441. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Flutriafol; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2010-0875; FRL-9348-8] received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7442. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Paraquat Dichloride; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2010-0637; FRL-9357-1] received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7443. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Residues of Didecyl dimethyl ammonium chloride; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0139; FRL-9356-6] received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7444. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Farm Credit Administration Board Meetings; Organization; Standards of Conduct and Referral of Suspected or Known Criminal Violations; Definitions; Disclosure to Shareholders; Accounting and Reporting Requirements; Rules of Practice and Procedure; Practice Before the Farm Credit Administration; and Disclosure to Investors in System-wide and Consolidated Bank Debt Obligations of the Farm Credit System; Unincorporated Business Entities (RIN: 3052-AC65) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7445. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, Air Force Case Number 10-04; to the Committee on Appropriations.

7446. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the activities of the Defense Industrial Base Capabilities Fund during FY 2011, pursuant to Public Law 108-136, section 814(f)(2) (117 Stat. 1545); to the Committee on Armed Services.

7447. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Dirk J. Debbink, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

7448. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Admiral John C. Harvey, Jr., United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

7449. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Frank A. Panter Jr., United States Marine Corps, and his advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

7450. A letter from the Principal Deputy, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of five officers to wear the authorized

insignia of the grade rear admiral (lower half); to the Committee on Armed Services.

7451. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations (Solano County, California, et al.) [Docket ID: FEMA-2012-0003] received August 7, 2012; to the Committee on Financial Services.

7452. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Ireland pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

7453. A letter from the Member of Board of Directors, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

7454. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to United Arab Emirates pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

7455. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Brazil pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

7456. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's ''Major'' final rule — Disclosure of Payments by Resource Extraction Issuers [Release No.: 34-67717; File No. S7-42-10] (RIN: 3235-AK85) received August 24, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7457. A letter from the Administrator, U.S. Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting A report on ''The Availability and Price of Petroleum and Petrol Products Produced in Countries Other Than Iran'', pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 68513(a) Public Law 112-81, section 1245(d)(4); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7458. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the fourteenth report on the progress made in licensing and constructing the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 16523 Public Law 109-58, section 1810; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7459. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting Second Annual Report to Congress on FDA Foreign Offices Provisions of the FDA Food Safety and Modernization Act, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 393 Public Law 111-353, section 201(b); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7460. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule — Administrative Simplification: Adoption of Operating Rules for Health Care Electronic Funds Transfers (EFT) and Remittance Advice Transactions (RIN: 0938-AR01) received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7461. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Implementation of Device Registration and Listing Requirements Enacted in the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002, the Medical Device User Fee and Modernization Act of 2002, and Title II of the Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act of 2007 [Docket No.: FDA-2009-N-0114] (RIN: 0910-AF88) received August 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7462. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's FY 2011 annual performance report to Congress required by the Medical Device User Fee and Modernization Act of 2002; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7463. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — New Source Performance Standards Review for Nitric Acid Plants [EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0750; FRL-9667-3] (RIN: 2060-AQ10) received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7464. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — South Dakota: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions [EPA-R08-RCRA-2010-0933; FRL-9712-3] received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7465. A letter from the Chief, Policy and Rules Division, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Sections 15.35 and 15.253 of the Commission's Rules Regarding Operation of Radar Systems in the 76-77 GHz Band; Amendment of Section 15.235 of the Commission's Rules to Permit Fixed Use of Radar in the 76-77 GHz Band [ET Docket No.: 11-90] [ET Docket No.: 10-28] (RM-11555) received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7466. A letter from the Deputy Division Chief, Pricing Policy Division, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Connect America Fund; A National Broadband Plan for Our Future; Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers; High-Cost Universal Service Support; Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; Lifeline and Link-Up; Universal Service Reform — Mobility Fund [WC Docket No.: 10-90] [GN Docket No.: 09-51] [WC Docket No.: 07-135] [WC Docket No.: 05-337] [CC Docket No.: 01-92] [CC Docket No.: 96-45] [WC Docket No.: 03-109] [WT Docket No.: 10-208] received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7467. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Standards for Business Practices of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines [Docket No.: RM96-1-037; Order No. 587-V] received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7468. A letter from the Environmental Protection Agency, Agency's final rule —, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Determination of Failure to Attain the One-Hour Ozone Standard by 2007, Determination of Current Attainment of the One-Hour Ozone Standard, Determinations of Attainment of the 1997 Eight-Hour Ozone Standards for the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island Nonattainment Area in Connecticut, New Jersey and New York [EPA-R02-OAR-2011-0956; FRL-9696-2] received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7469. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting consistent with the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-243), the Authorization for the Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution (Pub. L. 102-1), and in order to keep the Congress fully informed, a report prepared by the Department of State for the April 26, 2012–June 24, 2012 reporting period including matters relating to post-liberation Iraq, pursuant to Public Law 107-243, section 4(a) (116 Stat. 1501); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7470. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the National Emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism that was declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7471. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a continuation of the national emergency regarding export control regulations, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); (H. Doc. No. 112–136); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

7472. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report entitled, ''U.S. Representation in United Nations Agencies and Efforts Made to Employ U.S. Citizens 2011'', pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276c-4; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7473. A letter from the Assistant Legal Advisor for Treaty Affairs, Deaprtment of State, transmitting report prepared by the Department of State concerning international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7474. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting a notice of a proposed lease with the Government of Germany (Transmittal No. 07-12) pursuant to Section 62(a) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7475. A letter from the Deputy Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 12-34, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7476. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting pursuant to section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, certification regarding the proposed transfer of major defense equipment (Transmittal No. RSAT-12-2991); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7477. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting pursuant to section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, certification regarding the proposed transfer of major defense equipment (Transmittal No. RSAT-12-2993); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7478. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question covering the period April 1 through May 31, 2012 pursuant to Section 620C(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7479. A letter from the Assistant Legal Advisor for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting report prepared by the Department of State concerning international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7480. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting As required by section 401(c) of the National

Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act with respect to Cote d'Ivoire that was declared in Executive Order 13396 of February 7, 2006, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7481. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting an alternative plan for locality pay increase payable to civilian Federal employees covered by the General Schedule (GS) and certain other pay systems for 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5305(a)(3); (H. Doc. No. 112–137); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and ordered to be printed.

7482. A letter from the Auditor, Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting copy of the report entitled ''District of Columbia Public Schools Consulting Report Local School and Central Office Budget Process Review (Report #1)'', pursuant to D.C. Code section 47-117(d); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7483. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-439, ''Compulsory/No Fault Motor Vehicle Insurance Amendment Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7484. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-440, ''Automated Traffic Enforcement Amendment Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7485. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-441, ''Anacostia River Clean Up and Protection Amendment Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7486. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-442, ''Immigration Detainer Compliance Amendment Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7487. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-443, ''Access to Selective Service Registration Amendment Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7488. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-444, ''DOC Inmate Processing and Release Amendment Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7489. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-445, ''Block Party Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7490. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-446, ''Pesticide Education and Control Amendment Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7491. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-447, ''Anacostia Waterfront Environmental Standards Amendment Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7492. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-448, ''Regulation of Body Artists and Body Art Establishments Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7493. A letter from the Executive Analyst, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7494. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, General Law, Ethics, and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting three reports pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7495. A letter from the Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting the Board's annual report for FY 2011 prepared in accordance with Section 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Public Law 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7496. A letter from the Division Chief, Regulatory Affairs, Department of Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Segregation of Lands — Renewable Energy [WO 300-1430-PQ] (RIN: 1004-AE19) received August 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7497. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary — Land and Minerals Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule — Oil and Gas and Sulphur Operations on the Outer Continental Shelf — Increased Safety Measures for Energy Development on the Outer Continental Shelf [Docket ID: BSEE-2012-0002] (RIN 1014-AA02] received August 24, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7498. A letter from the Division Chief, Regulatory Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Administration of Mining Claims and Sites [TW-620-1990-00-24 1A] (RIN: 1004-AE27) received August 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7499. A letter from the Director Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Commercial Fishing Operations; Bottlenose Dolphin Take Reduction Plan [Docket No.: 110202088-2252-02] (RIN: 0648-BA34) received August 14, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7500. A letter from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting a report on the authorized amounts expended for FY 2010 and FY 2011, pursuant to Public Law 111-21, section 3(h) (123 Stat. 1620); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

7501. A letter from the Clerk, Court of Appeals, transmitting an opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, Senne v. Village of Palatine, Illinois, No. 10-3243, (August 6, 2012); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

7502. A letter from the Senior Counsel to the Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule — National Standards To Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape [Docket No.: OAG-131; AG Order No. 3331-2012] (RIN: 1105-AB34) received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

7503. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Bureau of Investigation Anti-Piracy Warning Seal Program [Docket No.: FBI 151] (RIN: 1110-AA32) received August 7, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

7504. A letter from the Secretary, Judicial Conference of the United States, transmitting proposed legislation ''Criminal Judicial Procedure, Administration, and Technical Amendments Act of 2012''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

7505. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone, Fireworks display, Lake Superior; Duluth, MN [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0483] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7506. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; F/V Deep Sea, Penn Cove, WA [Docket Number: USCG-2011-1007] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7507. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standards for Living Organisms in Ships' Ballast Water Discharged in U.S. Waters [Docket No.: USCG-2001-10486] (RIN:1625-AA32) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7508. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Local Regulations for Marine Events, Swim Event; Lake Gaston, Littleton, NC [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0197] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7509. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; USMMA Fireworks, Long Island Sound, Kings Point, NY [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0404] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7510. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Hood Canal, WA [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0074] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7511. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Marysville Days Fireworks, St. Clair River, Marysville, MI [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0388] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7512. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; International Special Operations Forces Week Capability Exercise, Seddon Channel, Tampa, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0007] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7513. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Alexandria Bay Chamber of Commerce, St. Lawrence River, Alexandria Bay, NY [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0353] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7514. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Local Regulation and Security Zone: War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration, Port of Boston, MA [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0100]

(RIN: 1625-AA08) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7515. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; City of Tonawanda July 4th Celebration, Niagara River, Tonawanda, NY [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0352] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7516. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Validation of merchant mariners' vital information and issuance of Coast Guard Merchant Mariner's Licenses and Certificates of Registry (MMLs) [Docket No.: USCG-2004-17455] (RIN: 1625-AA85) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7517. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Validation of merchant mariners' vital information and issuance of Coast Guard Merchant Mariner's Documents (MMDs) [Docket No.: USCG-2003-14500] (RIN: 1625-AA81) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7518. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Upper Mississippi River, Mile 183.0 to 183.5 [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0315] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7519. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Eighth Coast Guard District Annual Marine Events and Safety Zones [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0286] (RIN: 1625-AA00; 1625-AA08) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7520. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; America's Cup World Series, East Passage, Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island [Docket No.: USCG-2011-1172] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7521. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; KULLUK, Outer Continental Shelf Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit (MODU), Beaufort Sea, Alaska [Docket No.: USCG-2011-1143] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7522. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zones; Sellwood Bridge Project, Willamette River; Portland, OR [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0131] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7523. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone: NOBLE DISCOVERER, Outer Continental Shelf Drillship, Chukchi and/or Beaufort Seas, Alaska [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0024] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7524. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Alternate Tonnage Threshold for Oil Spill Response Vessels [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0966] (RIN: 1625-AA82) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7525. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Village of Sodus Point Fireworks Display, Sodus Bay, Sodus Point, NY [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0355] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7526. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Baltimore Air Show, Patapsco River, Baltimore, MD [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0076] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7527. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Rocketts Red Glare Fireworks, Ancarrows Landing Park, James River, Richmond, VA [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0114] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7528. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Virginia Beach Oceanfront Air show, Atlantic Ocean, Virginia Beach, VA [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0095] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7529. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Naval Helicopter Association Reunion Helicopter Demonstration, Elizabeth River, Norfolk, VA [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0255] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7530. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone; USS MISSISSIPPI Commissioning; Pascagoula Harbor & Pascagoula River; Pascagoula, MS [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0333] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7531. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Moving Security Zone around escorted vessels on the Lower Mississippi River between mile marker 90.0 above head of passes to mile marker 110.0 above head of passes [Docket No.: USCG-2011-1063] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7532. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zones; Fourth of July Fireworks Displays within the Captain of the Port Charleston Zone, SC [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0384] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7533. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Barrell Recovery, Lake Superior; Duluth, MN [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0491] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7534. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway; North Topsail Beach, NC [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0426] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7535. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Seafair Blue Angels Air Show Performance, Seattle, WA [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0699] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7536. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Fireworks display, Lake Superior; Cornucopia, WI [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0473] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7537. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zones; Multiple Firework Displays in Captain of the Port, Puget Sound Zone [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0488] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7538. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Temporary Change for Recurring Fifth Coast Guard District Fireworks Displays; Northwest Harbor (East Channel) and Tred Avon River, MD [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0251] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7539. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Mentor Harbor Yachting Club Fireworks, Lake Erie, Mentor, OH [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0356] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7540. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Oswego Independence Celebration Fireworks, Oswego Harbor, Oswego, NY [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0481] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7541. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works, Department of Defense, transmitting the final integrated feasibility report and environmental assessment; (H. Doc. No. 112–135); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and ordered to be printed.

7542. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule — Administrative Simplification: Adoption of a Standard for a Unique Health Plan Identifier; Addition to the National Provider Identifier Requirements; and a change to the Compliance Date for the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Edition (ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS) Medical

Data Code Sets [CMS-0040-F] (RIN: 0938-AQ13) received August 27, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. MILLER of Florida: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 4057. a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to develop a comprehensive policy to improve outreach and transparency to veterans and members of the Armed Forces through the provision of information on institutions of higher learning, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112–646). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 6215. A bill to amend the Trademark Act of 1946 to correct an error in the provisions relating to remedies for dilution (Rept. 112–647). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 6189. A bill to eliminate unnecessary reporting requirements for unfunded programs under the Office of Justice Programs (Rept. 112–648). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 4305. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to provide a grant to assist Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies in the rapid recovery of missing individuals; with an amendment (Rept. 112–649). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 1775. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a criminal offense relating to fraudulent claims about military service; with amendments (Rept. 112–650). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 2800. A bill to amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 to reauthorize the Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program; with an amendment (Rept. 112–651). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 6213. A bill to limit further taxpayer exposure from the loan guarantee program established under title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005; with an amendment (Rept. 112–652 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 6131. A bill to extend the Undertaking Spam, Spyware, And Fraud Enforcement With Enforcers beyond Borders Act of 2006, and for other purposes (Rept. 112–653). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. S. 710. An act to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a hazardous waste electronic manifest system; with an amendment (Rept. 112–654). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5544. A bill to authorize and expedite a land exchange involving National Forest System land in the Laurentian District of the Superior National Forest and certain other National Forest System land in the State of Minnesota that has limited recreational and conservation resources and lands owned by the State of Minnesota in trust for the public school system that are largely scattered in checkerboard fashion within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and have important recreational, scenic, and conservation resources, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112–655). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 2706. A bill to prohibit the sale of billfish; with an amendment (Rept. 112–656). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 6007. A bill to exempt from the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 certain water transfers by the North Texas Municipal Water District and the Greater Texoma Utility Authority (Rept. 112–657). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5319. A bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the mainstem of the Nashua River and its tributaries in the commonwealth of Massachusetts for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112–658). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 5865. A bill to promote the growth and competitiveness of American manufacturing; with an amendment (Rept. 112–659 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. NUGENT: House Committee on Rules. House Resolution 773. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5544) to authorize and expedite a land exchange involving National Forest System land in the Laurentian District of the Superior National Forest and certain other National Forest System land in the State of Minnesota that has limited recreational and conservation resources and lands owned by the State of Minnesota in trust for the public school system that are largely scattered in checkerboard fashion within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and have important recreational, scenic, and conservation resources, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5949) to the extend the FISA Amendments Act of 2008 for five years (Rept. 112–660). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 6185. A bill to improve security at State and local courthouses (Rept. 112–661 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 6080. A bill to make improvements in the enactment of title 41, United States Code, into a positive law title and to improve the Code (Rept. 112–662). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. ISSA: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 1974. A bill to require the Public Printer to establish and maintain a website accessible to the public that allows the public to obtain electronic copies of all congressionally mandated reports in one place, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112–663 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on the Budget discharged from further consideration. H.R. 5865 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform discharged from further consideration. H.R. 6185 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology discharged from further consideration. H.R. 6213 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED BILL

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII, the following action was taken by the Speaker:

H.R. 1974. Referral to the Committee on House Administration extended for a period ending not later than October 1, 2012.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. HECK (for himself, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. RENACCI, Mrs. BIGGERT, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio):

H.R. 6361. A bill to exclude from consideration as income under the United States Housing Act of 1937 payments of pension made under section 1521 of title 38, United States Code, to veterans who are in need of regular aid and attendance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FARR, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. SCHRADER, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska):

H.R. 6362. A bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce to issue a fishing capacity reduction loan to refinance the existing loan funding the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Fishing Capacity Reduction Program; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. RENACCI (for himself, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. JONES, and Mr. CAPUANO):

H.R. 6363. A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to clarify Federal law with respect to reporting positive consumer credit information to consumer reporting agencies by public utility companies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. POE of Texas (for himself, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. CLEAVER):

H.R. 6364. A bill to establish a commission to ensure a suitable observance of the centennial of World War I, to designate memorials to the service of members of the United States Armed Forces in World War I, including a National World War I Memorial on the National Mall in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on

Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WEST:

H.R. 6365. A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to replace the sequester established by the Budget Control Act of 2011; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. BACA:

H.R. 6366. A bill to prevent foreclosure of home mortgages and provide for the affordable refinancing of mortgages held by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac through mortgages having 50-year terms to maturity; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 6367. A bill to authorize the placement at the former Navy Dive School at the Washington Navy Yard of a memorial to honor the members of the Armed Forces who have served as divers and whose service in defense of the United States has been carried out beneath the waters of the world; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CANSECO:

H.R. 6368. A bill to require the Department of Justice, in consultation with the Department of Homeland Security, to provide a report to Congress on the Departments' ability to track, investigate and quantify cross-border violence along the Southwest Border and provide recommendations to Congress on how to accurately track, investigate, and quantify cross-border violence; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WOLF (for himself, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, and Mr. MORAN):

H.R. 6369. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to change the membership of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Board of Directors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky:

H.J. Res. 117. A joint resolution making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FATTAH (for himself, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. DICKS, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. COSTA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. RICHARDSON, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. CONYERS):

H. Res. 774. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representative that the Boys & Girls Clubs of America should be commended for their unique role in improving outcomes for millions of youth and thousands of communities; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. KIND, Ms. MOORE, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. PETRI, and Mr. ROYCE):

H. Res. 775. A resolution condemning the shooting that killed six innocent people at the Sikh Temple of Wisconsin in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, on August 5, 2012; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. TURNER of New York:

H. Res. 776. A resolution recognizing and commemorating the importance of Federal law enforcement officers to United States national security and counter-terrorism efforts; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

279. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Senate of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, relative to Senate Resolution memorializing the Congress to pass and send to the States a Constitutional amendment to restore the First Amendment and Fair Elections to the People; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. HECK:

H.R. 6361.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution, to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing Powers, and all other powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or officer thereof.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 6362.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. RENACCI:

H.R. 6363.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 Clause 3—The Congress shall have power to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mr. POE of Texas:

H.R. 6364.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 1, 12, 16, and 18

By Mr. WEST:

H.R. 6365.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 9, clause 7 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. BACA:

H.R. 6366.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3; and Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 6367.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution (Clauses 12, 13, 14, 16, and 17) which grants Congress the power to raise and support an Army; to provide and maintain a Navy; to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces; to provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia; and to exercise authority over all places purchased for the erection of forts, magazines, dock-yards, and other needful buildings.

By Mr. CANSECO:

H.R. 6368.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution which states that Congress shall have the power to provide for our nation's common defense. This legislation would increase our nation's security, which falls under the purview of Congress' granted power to provide for the common defense, as stated above.

By Mr. WOLF:

H.R. 6369.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause three; to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky:

H.J. Res. 117.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: ''No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law. . . .'' In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: ''The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States. . . .'' Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 12: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 24: Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas.
H.R. 25: Mr. MCCLINTOCK.
H.R. 32: Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 35: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 157: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.
H.R. 186: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 192: Mrs. LOWEY.

H.R. 266: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 267: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 288: Ms. HANABUSA.
H.R. 289: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.
H.R. 300: Mr. WATT.
H.R. 333: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
H.R. 531: Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 613: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 718: Mr. CLAY and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 719: Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. LATOURETTE.
H.R. 733: Mr. RENACCI, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. SCHILLING, and Mr. LUJÁN.
H.R. 780: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 814: Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 835: Mr. SHUSTER.
H.R. 854: Mr. ROE of Tennessee.
H.R. 860: Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mr. CARNEY, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. ROONEY, and Mr. CHANDLER.
H.R. 890: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 891: Mr. LANGEVIN and Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 905: Ms. CHU, Mr. BLACK, and Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.
H.R. 972: Mr. SMITH of Texas.
H.R. 1063: Mr. FORBES.
H.R. 1085: Ms. TSONGAS and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1167: Mr. SMITH of Texas.
H.R. 1244: Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, and Mr. GUINTA.
H.R. 1327: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 1370: Mr. AKIN, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. MICA, Mr. BONNER, Mr. JONES, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
H.R. 1464: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 1488: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 1509: Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 1519: Mr. BARBER.
H.R. 1546: Mr. CLAY.
H.R. 1653: Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. HARRIS, Ms. BASS of California, and Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee.
H.R. 1733: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 1755: Mr. SMITH of Texas and Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 1842: Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. RUSH, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. BACA, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. BECERRA, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Ms. MATSUI, and Ms. WOOLSEY.
H.R. 1876: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 1956: Mr. OWENS.
H.R. 2030: Mr. CARSON of Indiana and Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 2033: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 2069: Mr. COBLE and Mr. ISRAEL.
H.R. 2088: Ms. SCHWARTZ, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. FARR, Mr. REYES, Mr. HONDA, Ms. BASS of California, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MORAN, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. DEUTCH, and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.
H.R. 2094: Mr. KUCINICH.
H.R. 2106: Mr. MEEHAN.
H.R. 2123: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 2135: Ms. NORTON and Mr. MCINTYRE.
H.R. 2139: Ms. MCCOLLUM and Ms. GRIFFITH of Virginia.
H.R. 2161: Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 2194: Mr. FILNER AND MRS. LOWEY.
H.R. 2224: Mr. BISHOP of New York.
H.R. 2238: Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 2316: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 2479: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.
H.R. 2499: Mr. WATT and Mr. HANNA.
H.R. 2514: Mr. MILLER of Florida.
H.R. 2524: Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 2557: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 2563: Mr. MCGOVERN and Ms. SCHWARTZ.
H.R. 2600: Mr. KEATING, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. BARTLETT, and Mr. HANNA.
H.R. 2655: Mr. REHBERG and Mr. CARNEY.
H.R. 2672: Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 2695: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 2696: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 2741: Mr. TERRY.
H.R. 2794: Ms. SCHWARTZ and Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 2866: Mr. CONYERS, Mr. TIERNEY, and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 2885: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H.R. 2888: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 2960: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 2978: Mr. SMITH of Texas.
H.R. 3027: Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 3053: Mr. MORAN.
H.R. 3059: Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 3098: Mr. PAUL.
H.R. 3150: Mr. CASSIDY.
H.R. 3199: Mr. KINGSTON.
H.R. 3264: Mr. HUELSKAMP.
H.R. 3269: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 3287: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 3307: Mr. CARSON of Indiana and Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 3308: Mr. MILLER of Florida.
H.R. 3324: Mr. MILLER of North Carolina.
H.R. 3364: Mr. RIBBLE.
H.R. 3395: Mr. WHITFIELD.
H.R. 3415: Mr. STARK.
H.R. 3497: Ms. SCHWARTZ.
H.R. 3506: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 3510: Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 3511: Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 3600: Mr. TOWNS.
H.R. 3624: Mr. KUCINICH.
H.R. 3625: Mr. BACA and Mr. ROSS of Arkansas.
H.R. 3627: Mr. BENISHEK.
H.R. 3634: Mrs. MILLER of Michigan.
H.R. 3798: Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. RUNYAN, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 3831: Ms. BASS of California and Mr. BARLETTA.
H.R. 3855: Mr. STARK.
H.R. 4002: Mr. FINCHER.
H.R. 4010: Mr. BARBER.
H.R. 4017: Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.
H.R. 4037: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 4057: Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 4103: Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. STARK, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 4137: Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. GERLACH, and Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 4165: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 4215: Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. WESTMORELAND, and Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 4228: Mr. WALSH of Illinois and Mr. BROOKS.
H.R. 4229: Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia.
H.R. 4235: Mrs. ELLMERS and Mr. GONZALEZ.
H.R. 4249: Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 4269: Mr. HASTINGS of Washington.
H.R. 4271: Ms. SCHWARTZ.
H.R. 4290: Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.
H.R. 4342: Mr. BACHUS and Mr. CUMMINGS.
H.R. 4345: Mr. ADERHOLT.
H.R. 4373: Mr. CLAY, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, Mr. BARROW, and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 4385: Mr. HERGER, Mr. CRAWFORD, and Mr. WALDEN.
H.R. 4965: Mrs. HARTZLER, Mrs. BACHMANN, and Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana.
H.R. 5129: Mr. HANNA.
H.R. 5186: Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 5684: Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. FILNER, and Mr. STARK.
H.R. 5796: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. MARINO, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. TERRY, and Mr. COLE.
H.R. 5865: Ms. SUTTON and Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut.
H.R. 5891: Mr. TIERNEY and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 5907: Mr. HONDA and Mr. STARK.
H.R. 5914: Mr. WHITFIELD and Mr. BACA.
H.R. 5937: Mr. HARRIS and Mr. TIBERI.
H.R. 5943: Mr. KISSELL.
H.R. 5959: Mr. SCHIFF and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 5978: Mr. KUCINICH.
H.R. 5987: Mr. GRIMM.
H.R. 6007: Mr. FARENTHOLD.
H.R. 6046: Mrs. CAPPS.
H.R. 6097: Mr. ROSS of Florida.
H.R. 6113: Mr. MCKINLEY, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. SHUSTER.
H.R. 6118: Mr. PAUL and Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.
H.R. 6120: Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 6138: Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, and Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 6140: Mr. STUTZMAN and Mr. GERLACH.
H.R. 6155: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.
H.R. 6176: Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 6185: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
H.R. 6194: Mrs. HARTZLER and Mr. KINGSTON.
H.R. 6200: Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. CHU, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. FARR, and Mr. MORAN.
H.R. 6216: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 6226: Mr. GIBBS.
H.R. 6229: Mr. RUNYAN and Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 6241: Mr. SIRES and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 6245: Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 6250: Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas and Mr. AKIN.
H.R. 6260: Mr. BACA, Ms. BASS of California, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BILBRAY, Mrs. BONO Mack, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CARDOZA, Ms. CHU, Mr. COSTA, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. DREIER, Mr. FARR, Mr. FILNER, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. HAHN, Mr. HERGER, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. ISSA, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEWIS of California, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NUNES, Ms. PELOSI, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. ROYCE, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. STARK, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. WATERS, Mr. WAXMAN, and Ms. WOOLSEY.
H.R. 6261: Mr. ROSS of Florida, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. WESTMORELAND, and Mr. LANKFORD.
H.R. 6267: Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. BILBRAY, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. HONDA, and Mr. PLATTS.
H.R. 6275: Mr. ISRAEL and Mr. STARK.
H.R. 6289: Mr. DOLD.
H.R. 6293: Mr. STARK and Ms. BORDALLO.
H.R. 6306: Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.
H.R. 6308: Mr. KUCINICH.
H.R. 6310: Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 6311: Mr. FILNER, Mr. KUCINICH, and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 6313: Mr. BERMAN.
H.R. 6330: Ms. RICHARDSON and Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 6334: Mr. LANKFORD and Mr. GRAVES of Georgia.
H.R. 6335: Mr. MCCLINTOCK.
H.R. 6345: Mr. LATTA.
H.R. 6358: Mr. CUMMINGS.
H.J. Res. 78: Mr. SARBANES.
H.J. Res. 110: Mr. MARINO and Mr. SCHILLING.
H.J. Res. 115: Mr. ISRAEL.
H. Con. Res. 107: Mr. KUCINICH.

H. Con. Res. 122: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.
H. Con. Res. 129: Mr. RANGEL and Mr. BACA.
H. Res. 134: Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. CLAY.
H. Res. 238: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H. Res. 289: Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas.
H. Res. 298: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H. Res. 374: Mr. SCHOCK.
H. Res. 609: Mr. MORAN and Mr. WELCH.
H. Res. 630: Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mrs. ADAMS, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia, and Mr. GRAVES of Georgia.
H. Res. 671: Mr. COOPER.
H. Res. 687: Mr. OLVER.
H. Res. 745: Mr. COSTA and Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California.
H. Res. 756: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
H. Res. 757: Mr. MICHAUD.
H. Res. 763: Ms. RICHARDSON.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. ROGERS OF KENTUCKY

H.J. Res. 117, the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

58. The SPEAKER presented a petition of Alger County Board of Commissioners, Munising, MI, relative to Resolution No. 2012-11 asking the Michigan Delegation to show their support for past and present Michigan service members and their families; to the Committee on Armed Services.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 112th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 158 WASHINGTON, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2012 No. 120

Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, a Senator from the State of Connecticut.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, Your presence fills us with reverential awe for we find a light in Your commands. Even in darkness, your light dawns for those who love You. And so, Lord, as we begin the next phase of the work of the Senate, give us greater confidence in the power of Your providential purposes. Remind our lawmakers that the hearts of governmental leaders are in Your hands, yielding to the wisdom of Your sovereign will. Help us, Lord, to get to know You and love You so we can serve You as we should.

We pray in Your mighty Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable RICHARD BLUMENTHAL led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUYE).

The legislative clerk read the following letter.

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, September 10, 2012.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, a Senator from the State of Connecticut, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUYE,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

WELCOME BACK

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I welcome everyone back, the staff and Presiding Officer. I hope everyone had a restful and productive month. I look forward to this work period, which will be very short and exact, and I hope we can accomplish a few things.

CLEAR PICTURES

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I wish to take a minute to talk about Congressman PAUL RYAN's arithmetic. It is very interesting. He said he ran a marathon. A marathon is 26.2 miles long. While being questioned by the press, he said he ran it in about 2 hours and 50 minutes. Now, that is pretty fast. I would like to take a minute and apply the Ryan math to my marathon times. I will pick just one marathon time.

I ran the Boston Marathon, and using the Ryan math my time would not have been a world record but within minutes of a world record. I could have made the Olympic team. By using Ryan math, I would have been superb. Well, the Ryan math doesn't work in marathons. As we all know, we can always check someone's math, and his math doesn't work for running a marathon or anything else.

The Ryan math doesn't work with his budgets, it doesn't work with Medicare, and it doesn't work with his tax plan. It doesn't work with anything he has suggested and opined. It is no more than his little assertion that I guess he thought no one would check. When people run these races, they keep records. For all of my marathons, they have kept records. So as much as I would like to have the Ryan math apply to my marathons, it doesn't work.

The Senate is going to resume its work in a few minutes on the heels of the two conventions. One was in Florida and one in North Carolina. The Republicans used their virtually fact-free convention to showcase the richest style economic policies.

The Democrats took a different approach. I am sure we all had our favorites. I thought Congressman CLEAVER's speech was so terrific. I don't know how many were able to see it, but it was great. He was up there marching. He was just outstanding.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm from Michigan was so good as she explained to everyone about jobs and why Detroit should not have gone bankrupt.

I thought JOE BIDEN's speech was typical for JOE BIDEN. It was wonderful. I admire him so much. I served with him for a quarter of a century. What a good man. He has contributed such valuable service to his country. While talking about his life story, we saw when his son introduced him. Tears were coming from his eyes.

The President's and Mrs. Obama's messages were very clear. They did so well.

In Charlotte Democrats presented Americans with a clear and honest assessment of the challenges we face as a nation and a concrete plan to overcome the problems we have together. That is why President Obama has seen a significant rise in the polls since that convention and all of those speeches—not just his speech but all of them. Even the Republican-skewed Rasmussen poll had him ahead by 5 points.

In fact, we presented Americans with clear choices. It was not a choice between two candidates or two parties; it

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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was a choice between two visions: the Romney vision and the vision we certainly think was pronounced at that convention, the Obama vision and a vision about America's future.

The Republican vision would return us to the failed economic policies that brought us to the great recession. It would return us to 8 years of wars, rumors of wars, and massive debt, everything unpaid for.

We don't want to go back to that. We can't go back to that. It would further tilt the playing field in favor of those who have every advantage, millionaires and billionaires. They already have an advantage. We don't need to give them any more.

President Obama showed a vision of America where every person has a shot at success, where fairness replaces favoritism. His policies led to 30 straight months of private sector job growth. Would we like more? Of course we would.

I met with Harold Schaitberger this morning, general president of the firefighters. He has been working in the field with firefighters. He started out as a firefighter. As a boy, his father died, and before he was old enough to be a firefighter, he actually lived in a firehouse by himself with the rest of the firefighters. That is where he got the idea that was what he wanted to do with his life's work. He has dedicated so much to making America a better place.

In my conversation with him we discussed how we are approaching 1 million people who have been laid off in the public sector. I am sure it has happened in Connecticut. It has happened in Nevada. It has happened everyplace. We thought we had a way of solving that problem.

Mr. President, you voted, I voted, and we thought we should stop the layoffs of firefighters, police officers, and teachers, and we would pay for it and have no more debt. We would pay for it by having a three-tenths of 1 percent surtax on people making more than $1 million a year. Every Republican voted against public employees. Three-tenths of 1 percent would have taken care of all of that.

I enjoyed my conversation with President Schaitberger. We lamented the fact that all of these public employees have been laid off, and we have to get back to where we can have a public sector where people are not so overworked. I know in Nevada we have too few firefighters, too few police officers, and teachers who have been laid off, and that is a shame.

We have had 30 straight months of private sector job growth. Too bad the numbers are not more than 4½ million, but that is where they are. We lost 8 million jobs in the Bush years, and we have gained more than half of them back. We are making progress. We wish we could do better, and everyone acknowledges that. There is more work to be done. Too many Americans are still hurting.

President Obama has a plan to put more than 1 million people back to work next year. His plan will create jobs for the middle class and not just profits for the CEOs. We all want profits for these companies—and that is good—but we also want to make sure there is a fair program out there and that we do something to stop the middle class from being squeezed so hard. A lot of the CEOs are doing extremely well, and I am happy.

The Dow is up more than 6,000 points since President Obama took office. Meanwhile, Mitt Romney has failed to offer a single concrete idea to get good-paying jobs for American workers.

I watched part of an interview of Congressman RYAN today. It was a replay from yesterday. I think he was on ABC with George Stephanopoulos. All I could see was the back of Stephanopoulos's head, but I think that is who it was. He was saying they want to close these tax loopholes. So Romney has been asked and RYAN has been asked: What loopholes do you want to close? They will not say. It is part of their fictitious math because when they start talking about how fast they ran a marathon or talk about holes they want to plug, they have to give facts. And they have refused to do that.

Do they want to get rid of charitable donations? Do they want to get rid of the deduction for buying a home? They will not say. It is obvious why; they are afraid. So they give the Ryan math and the Romney math, which doesn't add up.

It is no surprise that Governor Romney has failed to offer a single proposal to create a good-paying job. After all, he belongs to the same Republican Party that has put partisan politics ahead of creating jobs for almost 4 years now. In fact, some would say 6 years. We have never had such obstruction in the history of the country. Nothing even comes close.

In the almost 6 years we have had the majority in the Senate, we have had to file cloture 380 times. There were times when the Congress would file cloture a handful of times, maybe 10 times. It has been 380 times in less than 6 years. This is the same Republican Party whose leader has said his No. 1 goal is to defeat President Obama, not create jobs for the American people in the private or public sector.

We have been rolling up our sleeves to put teachers, firefighters, police, and construction workers back on the job. For every $1 billion we spend as a Federal Government for infrastructure, there are 47,500 high-paying jobs. There are other lower paying jobs that spin off of that. These are not government jobs. We don't send a truck out that says ''U.S. Federal Government'' on it to do this work. This money goes to the private sector to create jobs.

So while we have been working to try to create jobs, Republicans have been throwing up their hands—or worse, standing in the way of progress. Our No. 1 goal is to get our economy back on track. I repeat, the Republicans' No. 1 goal is to defeat President Obama. What a shame.

We are resolute in our commitment to restore the economy. That is why we proposed the Veterans Job Corps Act, a measure that fulfills our promise to the brave men and women who dedicated their lives to making our lives safer.

President Obama kept his promise to end the war in Iraq and wind down the war in Afghanistan. The war in Iraq is over, and each year about 200,000 servicemembers reenter the civilian workplace. That is the way it is right now. As this new generation of veterans returns home ready to work, it is our job to make sure they have the opportunity to work and succeed.

The bill that is now before the Senate, the Veterans Job Corps Act, will reinvest in our returning servicemembers, easing the sometimes difficult transition back to civilian life.

The measure will also offer priority hiring for veterans who want to become first responders. As we have talked about already, these include firefighters, police officers, and EMTs. It will also create jobs for veterans restoring forests, parks, coasts, and public lands. These are really good jobs. These are really important jobs. We tried this once before when we were really struggling as a country during the Great Depression. We had the Works Progress Administration. We had the Civilian Conservation Corps. In my little town of Searchlight, NV, there were numerous projects that were developed by these individuals during the Great Depression. They would fix watering holes, put in windmills, build walkways, and many of these things are still in existence. So I commend the senior Senator from Florida, Mr. BILL NELSON, and the junior Senator from Montana, Mr. JON TESTER, for their work on this legislation. Unfortunately, we once again face Republican obstruction.

I repeat something I said a few minutes ago. Since we took control of the Senate in 2006–2007, Republicans have mounted an unprecedented 380 filibusters. This is outrageous. This obstruction exceeds anything we have ever seen before in the Senate. This is not using Romney-Ryan math; these are actual, valid numbers. By comparison, in Lyndon Johnson's 6 years as majority leader—I could ask everyone here to take a guess as to how many filibusters he had to overcome. Remember, these were the years when he was President and we had the civil rights stuff going on and all kinds of problems. Everyone would fail the test. He had to overcome one filibuster. I have been faced with 308.

I hope Republican colleagues will join us tomorrow as we vote to advance this measure. It is too bad we have had to file cloture on moving to proceed to this bill. The heroes who fought for their country overseas shouldn't have to fight for jobs once they get home.

Tomorrow marks the 11th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks. The date is a reminder that through over a decade of war, the bravery and dedication of America's Armed Forces has never wavered. It is a reminder that our commitment to those fine young and women should never waver, either.

VETERANS JOBS CORPS ACT OF 2012—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 476, S. 3457.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 476, S. 3457, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a veterans jobs corps, and for other purposes.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, at 5 p.m. today the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the nomination of Stephanie Marie Rose to be U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of Iowa, with 30 minutes of debate equally divided and controlled. At 5:30 p.m. there will be a rollcall vote on the Rose nomination.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

I ask unanimous consent to have a moment of silence at 4:55 p.m. today for the 40th anniversary of the Munich Olympics massacre.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

Mr. REID. Would the Chair announce the business of the day.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

Under the previous order, Senators are permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

Mr. REID. I note the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONVENTION RESPONSE

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I would like to speak about two claims that were made at the recent Democratic Convention that I believe require a response. Obviously, the Republican Convention went first and they did not have an opportunity to respond to everything that was said, but I think there are two things, as I said, that were claimed that just are not true. The first is that Republican policies caused the economic recession, so that in the Democrats' view electing Governor Romney would simply return us to those same, allegedly, failed policies. Second, it was said by several spokesmen on the Democratic side that there were no new or big ideas coming out of the Republican Convention, so you might as well give President Obama another 4 years in office. I would like to respond to both of those claims.

First, President Obama and his supporters would like Americans to believe that the so-called Bush tax cuts, deficits, and deregulation caused the great recession. Those are the Republican policies that got us into the mess, they say. The facts show this is not true. As James Pethakoukis of the American Enterprise Institute asks, if the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts caused the great recession, then why does President Obama want to keep most of them? And why did he sign a 2-year extension of those tax cuts a year and a half ago? That is a good question.

Obama supporters also claim that huge deficits resulting from these 2001 and 2003 bills caused the recession. But here are the facts. According to the Congressional Budget Office—nonpartisan—the 2001 and 2003 tax relief has only been responsible for 16 percent of the swing from surplus to deficit that they had estimated. If you look at the upper income tax relief only, that relief makes up just 4 percent of the swing. So it is impossible to say the tax cuts on the rich caused the recession. The maximum that the Congressional Budget Office can identify is potentially 4 percent. It is also important to note that since the CBO does not take into account the progrowth effects of marginal tax rate reductions—which all economists agree with—these numbers are even likely smaller than 4 percent.

Over that same period of time, new spending—this is the real problem—and interest on that spending were 12 times as responsible as the upper income tax reductions. So the real culprit here is not reducing the tax rate on Americans and especially those who are in the wealthier brackets but, rather, the new spending in which the Federal Government engaged. That is the cause of the deficits, and that did have an impact eventually on our ability to recover from the great recession.

One other note on this. The rich people, even though their tax rates were cut, ended up paying a far bigger percentage of taxes after the Bush tax cuts. The upper bracket earners paid—according to CBO again, in 2008 and 2009, the years for which they have figures, the top 20 percent of taxpayers paid 90 percent of income taxes—94 percent of income taxes. Before the Bush tax cuts, before 2001, that same top 20 percent paid only 81 percent. So the tax cuts in the upper income tax brackets resulted in an increase in the total dollar amount of taxes paid by the upper income people from 81 percent to 94 percent. So you cannot even make the argument that it was less fair. If anything, the upper income folks obviously paid a lot more—94 percent of all the income taxes paid.

Now, if deficits are the problem the Democrats are talking about, then President Obama would clearly make the problem worse. Pethakoukis notes:

The most recent Obama budget, according to CBO, would add $6.4 trillion more to the federal budget deficit over the next decade, leaving debt as a share of the economy stuck at around 76 percent of GDP versus 37 percent pre-recession.

Think about it. The Obama budget leaves us with 76 percent debt as a share of GDP as opposed to 37 percent before the recession. So if debt and deficits are a problem, it is far worse under President Obama's budget than before. But, again, it turns out that is not really what caused the great recession, nor was it the third item that has been pointed to; that is, deregulation.

Deregulation under President Bush did not cause the problem. Pethakoukis writes:

Glass-Steagall ended during the Clinton administration, and studies have found no evidence that any rule changes by the Bush SEC contributed to the financial crisis.

Glass-Steagall is the law that used to regulate how banks made investments. That law was eventually repealed during the Clinton administration. The Bush SEC—that stands for Securities and Exchange Commission, and there are rules changes in every administration for the SEC—he is making the point that there is no evidence that any particular rule change in the SEC had anything to do with the financial crisis.

So it was not the tax cuts, it was not the deficit, and it was not deregulation. What did cause the recession? AEI's Peter Wallison has put it simply this way:

The financial crisis was a result of government housing policy. . . . Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac were the implementers of a substantial portion of the government housing policy.

Now, I would note that Republicans in Congress tried to reform Fannie and Freddie, but we were opposed by Democratic Members both in the House and in the Senate, including then-Senator Barack Obama.

Most experts, I believe, will agree that the biggest reason for the collapse that occurred after 2006 was the housing market—the sale of all of these mortgages that were not worth the paper on which they were written. When that paper was all added together, bundled together and sold in big chunks to investors, and they found out their investment was not worth what they had paid for it, you had a crash and you had several people on Wall Street who went bankrupt as a result of that crash. That is the reality.

The bottom line is that there is no Republican policy that caused the recession, so it is bogus for the President to keep saying Governor Romney would just return us to the ''same failed policies.''

The second claim is that there were no new big Republican ideas to come

out of the GOP convention. I submit that claim reveals just how radical the Obama team's economic policies are. It is true that Governor Romney's ideas for economic recovery are not new. But they are big. In fact, his faith in the American people and the free enterprise system is a very big idea—not new but tried and tested as the basis for creating the wealthiest Nation ever on Earth.

Capitalism and free markets have lifted the standard of living for more people around the world than any government program or any other system. Planned economies compare very poorly to the free enterprise system of America. Margaret Thatcher once famously observed:

The problem with socialism is that, eventually, you run out of other people's money.

Yes, a key theme of the Republican Convention was freedom, opportunity, and earned success. Americans did build our own success. To the extent that government provided any infrastructure along the way, it was paid for by taxes that Americans paid on what they earned because of their success. And, yes, this is in contrast to the theme of the Democratic Convention that our success comes from the collective, embodied mostly in government, so the bigger the government the better.

The bottom line is this: Returning to free market principles and progrowth policies will move us forward. Continued reliance on more spending, higher taxes, and bigger government will not solve our problems.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ROSE NOMINATION

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, as many of my colleagues know, I am a strong and enthusiastic advocate of Stephanie Rose to serve as a district court judge in Iowa's southern judicial district. I was honored to recommend to the President that he nominate this outstanding attorney. I encourage my colleagues to vote for her confirmation when the vote occurs later this afternoon.

Let me begin by first thanking Senator LEAHY and his staff for their hard work in advancing Ms. Rose's nomination. I also want to thank my senior colleague from Iowa, Senator GRASSLEY, for his invaluable support and assistance. For all the years we have served together here in the Senate, which now goes on, I think, 27 years, Senator GRASSLEY and I have cooperated in a spirit of good will on judicial nominations in our State.

I am proud we are continuing Iowa's tradition regarding judicial selections. I can honestly say that Senator GRASSLEY has never opposed one of my selectees, I have never opposed one of his, even when there has been a different President in the White House, depending upon the party that is in control of the Congress. I think we have both been very judicious, if I might use that word, in our selection of people for the bench. I say that both on behalf of Senator GRASSLEY and myself. So therefore we have worked together in this very close spirit of cooperation.

I also want to thank Senator GRASSLEY's staff, in particular Jeremy Paris, Ted Lehman, and Senator GRASSLEY's Chief of Staff, David Young, for their support and their help in advancing the nomination. On my staff, I want to thank my Chief of Staff, Brian Ahlberg, Dan Goldberg, Derek Miller, and Pam Smith, all of whom have worked very hard to make sure we had a thorough interview process, a thorough vetting of the candidates, and to make sure that we got to the point where her vote will be coming up later this afternoon.

Stephanie Rose possesses in abundance the personal and professional qualities we expect from those we consider to take on the profound responsibilities of a Federal judge. She is a superb attorney. Among jurists, prosecutors, and the defense bar, she has a reputation as someone who is unfailingly fair and ethical and who possesses exceptional legal ability, intellect, integrity, and judgment.

As Charles Larson, the former U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Iowa under President George W. Bush, wrote to the Judiciary Committee, Ms. Rose ''has all the requisite abilities and traits to serve all litigants of the Southern District of Iowa in the manner expected of a federal judge. Ms. Rose would be a distinguished member of the judiciary.''

Ms. Rose was born in Topeka, KS, and moved to Mason City, IA, when she was 4. Both of her parents were public schoolteachers. She and her husband Rob have two children, Kyl and Missy. Ms. Rose has two sisters, one of whom was adopted after coming to the family as a foster child, one of five foster children her parents welcomed into their home.

After graduating from Mason City High School, Ms. Rose earned her bachelor's degree with honors from the University of Iowa in just 3 years. Then she earned her doctorate of jurisprudence from the University of Iowa College of Law in just 2 years, graduating in the top 5 percent of her class.

She could easily have commanded a big salary from a top law firm. Instead she opted for public service and long hours as a Federal prosecutor, working to uphold the rule of law, making our neighborhoods safer, and advancing the cause of justice.

I might add that she served as a Federal prosecutor under district attorneys appointed both by Democratic Presidents and Republican Presidents. In 2009, the Senate unanimously confirmed Ms. Rose to become U.S. Attorney in the Northern District of Iowa, having previously served 12 years as an assistant U.S. attorney.

Even before becoming U.S. attorney, she was lead counsel in 260 felony cases and made 34 oral arguments before the eighth circuit. She received a national award from the Department of Justice for her work in prosecuting the largest unlawful Internet pharmacy case in the United States.

As U.S. attorney, Ms. Rose has helped make Iowa and our Nation safer, reduced violent crime and gang violence, and promoted civil rights. In addition, she has the distinction of serving on the Attorney General's Advisory Committee. It is no surprise that the American Bar Association gave Ms. Rose a unanimous ''well qualified'' rating, the highest rating by the American Bar Association.

Finally, I wanted to comment on the historic nature of her confirmation. Ms. Rose was the first woman to be confirmed as U.S. attorney in Iowa's Northern District, and when confirmed later today, she will be the first woman confirmed as a U.S. district court judge in Iowa's Southern District.

Ms. Rose is a person of truly outstanding intellect, integrity, and character. She is exceptionally well qualified to serve as a United States district judge for the Southern District of Iowa. I urge all of my colleagues to support her nomination.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MANCHIN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to address the Senate as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING OTIS A. BRUMBY, JR.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD an 8-page eulogy that appeared in the Marietta Daily Journal on Sunday of this week.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Mariettta Daily Journal, Sept. 8, 2012]

JOURNAL PUBLISHER DIES AFTER TWO-YEAR BATTLE WITH CANCER

(By Joe Kirby)

Otis A. Brumby Jr. served nearly a half-century as publisher of the Marietta Daily Journal. During those decades he oversaw the transformation of the MDJ from a small-city newspaper into the award-winning flagship of a metro-wide chain of suburban papers; used those publications as ''bully pulpits'' for lower taxes and against political

corruption; crusaded successfully for stronger ''Sunshine Laws''; fought passionately for education reform; and was a widely respected kingmaker in state and local politics. Brumby, who was diagnosed with Stage 4 prostate cancer nearly two years ago and had waged a strenuous fight against it since then, passed away peacefully at his home on Saturday at age 72, surrounded by family and friends.

Said former Gov. Roy Barnes of Marietta, ''I can think of no single person who's had bigger impact on Cobb County and this state than Otis. He excelled as a community leader and in education reform. And I think that a giant oak has fallen that will be very difficult to replace.''

Otis A. Brumby Jr. was born April 9, 1940 in Atlanta, son of the late Otis A. Brumby Sr. and Elisabeth Dobbs Brumby of Marietta. His family had a long history and deep roots in county history. One member (Col. Anoldus V. Brumby) had served as commandant of the Georgia Military Institute on Powder Springs Road in Marietta (now site of the Marietta Hilton and Conference Center). Otis Jr. was the great-grandson of Thomas Micajah Brumby, who with his brother James had co-founded the Brumby Chair Company here just after the Civil War (a company that Otis Jr. would successfully resurrect in the mid-1990s). Both Thomas and his son, Thomas Jr., served as mayors of Marietta, the latter dying in office.

Thomas Jr.'s son Otis Sr. had founded the weekly Cobb County Times in 1916 and acquired the MDJ in 1951.

The publisher and his young family, which also included daughter Bebe in addition to Otis, lived on then-rural Terrell Mill Road just south of Marietta.

Despite growing up around the newspaper, Otis Jr. had planned on a legal career. After graduating from the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn., with a major in political science and a minor in economics, he earned a law degree from The University of Georgia in Athens (where his roommates included future famed criminal defense lawyer Ed Garland, banking tycoon James Blanchard of Synovus and prominent attorney Wyck Knox of Augusta).

But shortly after he returned to Marietta in 1965 as assistant to the publisher (a training period that also included a lengthy stint as a ''cub'' reporter) and two years later was named publisher.

He wasted little time making his mark. In 1969 he launched the Neighbor Newspaper group, which ultimately grew into a chain of 27 free suburban weeklies circling metro Atlanta, with satellite offices in each county feeding copy back to Marietta.

''Otis Jr. was still in his 20s when he made the visionary decision to start the Neighbor newspapers,'' retired Kennesaw State University history professor Tom Scott, Ph.D., told the MDJ. ''In the competitive world of modern reporting, with so many alternatives to print journalism, it's hard to see how the MDJ could have been so profitable without the mass circulation of those suburban newspapers.''

Meanwhile, with delivery issues in mind and with an eye on the need for better access to then-new Interstate 75, Brumby moved the newspaper's offices from their traditional Marietta Square location to a new plant on Fairground Street just downhill from Lockheed.

Brumby's newspaper, with its emphasis on short stories and readability, became a model for the industry. When Gannett began laying plans for what would become USA Today, it sent a team of editors to spend a week in the MDJ newsroom studying the Marietta newspaper model.

The MDJ's meat-and-potatoes was and is coverage of community events that are too routine for bigger media to pay much attention to: the rezonings, the road widenings, the church news, the school news, the new business openings. But unlike many community-oriented newspapers, and unlike many bigger ones as well, the MDJ under Brumby's leadership also kept its editorial eye riveted on the doings of its local governments. The MDJ hammered home through the years the need for leaner government and lower taxes.

''He was always a populist in his views and opposed what he deemed to be wasteful spending on any level of government,'' recalled state Senator and former Cobb school board Chairman Lindsey Tippins.

Added former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, ''Otis was consistently one of the strongest voices for more efficient government, for smaller government and for creating new jobs. He was a passionate advocate for the development of northside Atlanta. Just look at the amount of what in his youth was farmland that now is full of homes and factories and schools. He was integral to the growth of Cobb.''

Said legendary retired Georgia journalist and syndicated columnist Bill Shipp of Kennesaw, ''Of all the publishers and editors I met and worked for, he was far and above the best one. He had a model daily newspaper. He not only reported the news, his newspaper was an active, dynamic watchdog in this county.

''He ran a newspaper that appealed to local newspaper readers and was a cause for community good. And the MDJ is without equal in the entire state in that regard.''

Added Barnes, ''We have not had any major government corruption scandals in Cobb, and the reason is that Otis was a vigilant watchdog making sure the public knew what was going on. We've escaped embarrassment, corruption and scandal because of his efforts.''

Like most editors and publishers, Brumby felt strongly about First Amendment issues. But unlike the perfunctory support sometimes heard from such quarters, Brumby's front-and-center push for government transparency was unwavering.

''His legacy in journalism was his consistent, unrelenting effort to ensure government transparency and open meetings and records,'' said U.S. Sen. Johnny Isakson (R-Ga.) ''There's not a journalist or publisher or editorial writer in this state that did more than Otis to ensure the public's business was done in the open. There wouldn't be an Open Meetings and Open Records Act without Otis.''

Continued Isakson, ''When the publisher of your hometown paper and your personal friend has a passion for open government and you're an elected official, if you don't embrace that concept too, you won't last very long.''

Georgia Attorney General Sam Olens of east Cobb described Brumby as ''a great teacher and mentor. His love of the First Amendment and his desire for elected officials to be held accountable are much appreciated.''

Retired ambulance company owner Bo Pounds was part of a group that successfully brought suit against Cobb EMC regarding misuse of corporate assets, an effort that was fueled by the MDJ's close coverage.

''Otis is the best I've ever seen at letting the public know what in the hell the government is doing,'' he told the MDJ. ''Otis is as responsible for openness in Georgia law as anyone.''

The newspaper went on to win the prestigious annual Freedom of Information Award numerous times from the Georgia Associated Press and the Georgia Press Association.

As Brumby saw it, the Sunshine laws were tools for use by the public and media to help hold elected officials accountable.

Shipp, the retired columnist, said that public officials ''were and are absolutely terrified of the MDJ, and that's a good thing. We don't have much of that kind of journalism anymore. It's the kind of journalism that keeps people in the middle of the road.''

Said Marietta Mayor Steve Tumlin, ''I had one rule with Otis as a politician: Tell the truth early on and hide nothing, as he knew it or was going to know it anyway.''

It's notable that the three Georgia elected officials who arguably worked the hardest and most successfully to strengthen the sunshine laws Barnes, Olens and Isakson—had something in common.

''They were all under tutelage of Otis Brumby,'' Barnes said. ''He impressed upon us and all who would listen the importance of making sure that government is open and conducted in the sunshine. He always argued that was the best way to keep government from becoming too bureaucratic and to try to prevent corruption. I could have had no better ally on that than Otis Brumby. It was not just lip service, but something he was passionate about.''

Former state Sen. Chuck Clay (R-Marietta) recalls Brumby as ''an absolutely uncompromising warrior on behalf of open government and open records. The people of Georgia have been well served by his efforts. I just hope they know what a legal quorum is in heaven or there is going to be trouble, and I bet on Otis.''

Brumby also was passionate about education reform and strong public schools. The result was, first, his appointment to the Marietta School Board by then-Mayor Joe Mack Wilson and the City Council in 1993; and later, his appointment as chairman of the State School Board by Barnes in 1999.

''I went to his house and said, I want you to be chairman,''' Barnes recalled. ''That's a tough job, but he thought about it and said, That's not the job I want, but it's a job I can't say no' to. Education is too important.' He was always willing to serve, and he always gave 100 percent.''

But perhaps Brumby's biggest contribution to public schools was the ''vote of confidence'' in them by virtue of the decision he and wife Martha Lee made to send all five of their children to the Marietta School System, rather than to private schools as many Mariettans were doing.

''He chose to send them to public school when he could have afforded to send them to any private school in the country,'' observed former U.S. Rep. Buddy Darden (D-Marietta).

Brumby was fond of quoting former Mayor Joe Mack Wilson's observation that the city school system ''is the glue that holds Marietta together.''

Brumby was fascinated by politics, an interest honed when he served in the 1950s as congressional page for his cousin, U.S. Sen. Richard B. Russell in Washington, D.C. (Brumby went on to graduate from The Capitol Page School in Washington.)

''Other than his family, which he was more proud of than anything, I think he was most proud of his days as a page for Richard Russell,'' recalled syndicated columnist Matt Towery of Vinings. ''He didn't have as many pages as the other senators, and not many could say they paged for him. And that relationship helped form many of his views on politics and life.''

Russell was one of the most powerful senators and was the intellectual force behind the Southern bloc that then controlled the seniority-driven body. Russell also was a confidante of both then- President Dwight Eisenhower and then-Senate Majority Leader (and future President) Lyndon B. Johnson. The young Brumby would recall in later years that he was routinely designated by Johnson to answer his personal phone on the floor of the Senate.

Cobb and Georgia politics in that era were overwhelmingly Democratic. But Brumby took the reins of the MDJ just as Cobb's previously next-to-nonexistent Republican Party was first beginning to stir. Fueled by an influx of residents from other parts of the country into east Cobb, the county GOP would be a force to be reckoned with by the early 1980s.

''Otis always thought that a strong two-party system was in the best interest of the state,'' said Isakson, who first ran for office in the early 1970s. ''And being part of the minority party early in my career, he gave us the chance to make our case. He didn't prop us up, but he made sure the access was there. We had a chance, and in a lot of communities, you never did.''

Added Gingrich, who in those days represented a district on the southside of Atlanta, ''Otis was a warrior for conservatism who by the creation of the Neighbor Newspapers on top of the MDJ dramatically offset the impact of the Atlanta newspapers. You can't understand Georgia politics over the last 30 years without understanding how important a figure he was.

''It's hard for folks now to remember how dominant the liberal voice of the Atlanta newspaper was back in the 1970s, and how exciting it was to have Otis and his newspaper as a conservative voice. And it was great for our morale, too. Later, when I was Speaker, I always felt like he had my back.''

But Brumby's personal politics remained somewhat amorphous. He endorsed and gave financial contributions to candidates of both parties. Although personalities sometimes figured into the equation, for him the bottom line usually was not party label but whether the candidate was suitably conservative, especially on fiscal matters.

A similar rule of thumb determined whether to editorially support various proposals floated by local officials. The main criterion was whether the project or referendum made financial sense for taxpayers.

''As a politician, I'll miss the question that I've heard over and over, both in Cobb and in the state Capitol: ''What does Otis think about this?''' Tumlin said.

It's hard to be a crusading journalist without making one's share of enemies, and Brumby made his share—and then some. But he not only possessed bulldog tenacity when it came to following a story, but also with the rare gift of retaining the friendship and respect of those who were momentarily feeling the heat.

''He doesn't have a single friend who didn't have a disagreement with him, but we all learned to put those behind us,'' Darden said. ''And he had the ability to move forward. We didn't always agree, but it didn't come in the way of what I consider one of my closest friendships in my entire adult life.''

Said Isakson, ''I'll be the first to say we didn't agree on everything, but I learned that it was best to focus on what we agreed about and move on.''

Numerous others told the MDJ the same thing, including Barnes.

''Johnny and I are two of his close friends and he'd hammer both of us from time to time, but we understood what he was doing,'' he said. ''As I used to kid him, I never forget that you're first and foremost a newspaper man. The ink flowed through his bones and blood. But we remained friends. That is a unique ability, to continue to have a close relationship. I knew his secrets and he knew mine. He never betrayed a confidence of mine or vice-versa. But at same time I understood he had a job to do.

''In my world, loyalty is the coin of the realm, and Otis was loyal to me and I was loyal to him. That does not mean there would not be criticism. But in the end, we remained friends. He told me once that Johnny and I were the only ones that understood completely what the press needs to do and has to do.''

Smyrna Mayor Max Bacon said he understood the awkward position Brumby would sometimes be in.

''Being an editor and living here locally has got to be a tough job.''

There were two sides to Otis Brumby—the one as the publisher that the public saw, and the private one as a man utterly devoted to his community, to his church, to various other charities and, above all, to his family.

He is survived by his wife Martha Lee, daughters Spain Gregory, Lee Garrett, Betsy Tarbutton, Anna Brumby and son Otis Brumby III; 10 grandchildren; and his sister, Bebe Brumby Leonard.

The late Mr. Brumby was a trustee of the University of Georgia Foundation, the Arch Foundation of UGA and the Kennesaw College Foundation. He represented the Seventh Congressional District on the state Board of Transportation from 1985–90. He endowed a professorship of First Amendment Law for journalism and law students at UGA in 2004. He was for decades an avid member of the Marietta Kiwanis Club, serving as its president; and past president of numerous professional organizations.

He remained an avid UGA football fan, and often remarked that there was nothing like enjoying a game at Sanford Stadium ''with 100,000 of your closest friends.''

He was a lifetime member of First United Methodist Church of Marietta.

''Otis was a faithful and generous churchman and he served where he was needed, whether helping plan the church's future or ushering and greeting newcomers on Sunday morning,'' said the Rev. Sam Matthews, pastor. ''I witnessed profound gestures of kindness and consideration from him, gestures that most of us would be challenged to match.

Former Congressman Darden, a fellow member, noted Brumby's steady giving to the church, and quoting the Book of Matthew, said, ''For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.''

Former Georgia Supreme Court Justice Conley Ingram sat in the pew just ahead of the Brumbys for years.

''He did the smallest job to the greatest job at our church,'' he said. ''He was a greeter at the door, or took up collection, but you could always count on him to be there.

''His life was one of love and dedication to his family and his church and to the First Amendment and to UGA. He was a great friend, and he never tried to take credit for the many things he did for our community. He was a great family man and a great church man and above all, a loyal friend. It's not going to be the same without him.''

Many of those who shared their reminiscences for this story remarked on the contrast between Brumby's towering journalistic presence and his personal preference for staying out of the spotlight.

''For all his greatness, the greatest thing about him was that he was so humble,'' Towery said. ''He could be tough in the business place, but when he got out in public, he was shy. You couldn't get him to talk about himself in front of other people.''

Remembered Barnes, ''To have held the position of influence he did in this community, he was one of the most humble guys I've ever been around. He never overstated his influence or importance.''

Brumby also was recalled by Barnes and others as a terrific storyteller.

''He had a lot of fun in him,'' he said. ''A lot of those who didn't know him didn't realize what a great sense of humor he had.''

Brumby's middle name, ''Anoldus,'' had been passed down through the generations, and he joked to an editor this summer in mock surprise that, ''I offered it to all my children to use as a name for their children, and none of them wanted it!''

And Brumby, whose hairstyle and sartorial choices were nowhere close to ''cutting edge,'' could be self-deprecating, too.

''He used to jokingly call himself the Marietta Square,''' Towery said. ''But he wasn't just the Marietta Square.' He was Cobb County. And life without Otis Brumby is not going to be as much fun.''

Added Isakson, ''I'm going to miss my friend Otis.''

A memorial service will be held Wednesday at 11 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church of Marietta.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to First United Methodist Church 56 Whitlock Avenue Marietta, GA 30064 or the Georgia Press Educational Foundation 3066 Mercer university drive Atlanta, GA 30341. Mayes Ward-Dobbins Funeral Home in Marietta is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, this is a poignant eulogy of many of the accomplishments of one of my best and personal friends, Otis Brumby, Jr. I could read all of his accomplishments if I wanted to. There are times we are called on to offer eulogies on the floor of the Senate because we have to or because it is appropriate. There are times we give eulogies for great past leaders of our State, but on rare occasions, such as the one I have today, we do it for someone for whom we have tremendous respect, love, and compassion.

To Otis Brumby, Jr.'s wife Martha Lee, his daughters Anna, Betsy, Lee, Spain, his son-in-law Heath, and his son Otis Brumby III, my love and compassion goes out to each of them during their tragedy.

Wednesday morning I will return to Marietta, GA, to be part of the memorial service to honor Otis Brumby. I thought it would be better to talk about the Otis Brumby I knew rather than the one the papers are writing about. To me he was the epitome of a journalist, a father, a friend, and a husband. Otis Brumby, Jr. got his start in some ways on the floor of the U.S. Senate because in the late 1950s his father arranged for him to page for Richard B. Russell, who, as all of us know, was really the master of the Senate before Lyndon Johnson when he was leader, later Vice President, and finally President.

Otis Brumby learned a lot in this Chamber and on this floor. He has told me what it was like before the cameras were here back in the good old days when there was camaraderie and friendship in the Senate. He also told me about the difficult days of the civil rights era, and particularly as a son of the South and what that meant to him.

He came back to Georgia. After graduating from high school, he went to the University of the South in Sewanee, and then earned a law degree from the University of Georgia. He then headed to his passion, the law, but he didn't make it. Instead he made it to the Marietta Daily Journal as a cub reporter for his father's newspaper. At the age of 27 he was a floor manager

and assistant publisher for the paper. He offered his expertise at a very young age.

At the age of 29 he came up with a unique concept. He said people would like to see their kids' pictures in the paper. They like to have stories about their sports victories. They like to have lots of pictures and stories—but just to them—and not all the fodder that might go with it. He started what became known as the Marietta Daily Journal and the Neighbor Newspaper Group. He created 27 neighborhood newspapers and all 27 of them were weekly.

They were so successful that when Gannett decided it was going to try to do a national paper called USA Today, they sent a team of investigators for 7 days to the Marietta Daily Journal to investigate their template, the way they published their paper, their meat and potatoes. Quite frankly, a lot of credit for USA Today goes to the newsroom at the Marietta Daily Journal and the brilliance of that young 29-year-old reporter who later became a publisher of that newspaper.

Otis Brumby died last week of prostate cancer and the effects of prostate cancer. He suffered for 2 years, and that has been a tragedy. But the tragedy for all of us is that he is gone; he has left a mark on our State, county, and community that can't be easily replaced.

Although he had an affinity for politics, he never served. When called on by Governors for appointments, he took them; first as State board of education chairman and later as board of education chairman for the Marietta public school system. A very wealthy man because of his success and investments, Otis Brumby never sent his children to private schools that he could afford because he believed the public schools needed to be the best, and he thought he would send his children there as a role model. And he did. They all were superstars in their schools whether in academics or athletics. Their father Otis supported those public school systems as a leader, a mentor, and a board member.

To Marietta, GA, Otis Brumby was just about everything. He was its conscience, benefactor, and leader, and from time to time he was its protagonist where he would promote discord and a lack of harmony in order to come up with the right decision.

I can tell my colleagues, as a politician, when he wrote about someone and they heard they were in the paper, the first thing they did was grab the newspaper. In fact, there is a column he wrote called ''Around Town'' that appeared every Saturday morning in the newspaper—a pretty thin part of the paper, but it was a one-page discourse on what politicians in the county were up to. On Saturday morning every politician in Marietta, GA, and Cobb County, GA, went to their mailbox and got their Marietta Daily Journal. They didn't want to see what the football score was; they wanted to see what Otis Brumby had said about them during the previous week. He was the conscience of all the politicians in the community. He was the leader in the community, and he was the benefactor of the community. He made it a much better place.

Otis was not a Republican nor was he a Democrat. He was, if anything, a populist, but he had a fiscally conservative bent to him. Unlike a lot who commentate on politics, Otis put his money where his mouth was. He wrote checks to local politicians and to people in the U.S. Senate. There wasn't a party bent to him, but there was always a fiscally conservative bent.

In fact, I will tell my colleagues when I first ran for office in Cobb County in 1974, we didn't have any Republicans. I ran as a Republican because I was a fiscal conservative. Everybody told me I was crazy. They were right; I got beat. But Otis Brumby took an interest and wrote about the campaign and some of the things we talked about and some of the things we tried to do. He propped me up long enough to get a chance to stand on my own two legs. Sure, he would knock me down from time to time—and some of those times I deserved it—but he gave me a chance. He gave everybody a chance. He was one of those journalists who would comment on what someone did, but he gave them the strength to do what was right.

Wednesday morning I am going to the funeral of my dear friend. I miss him already and will miss him more as the days go by. I love him and his family for all they have done for me, my community, and my country. So at one of those rare times when we come to the floor to eulogize, this time for me it is personal but this time for America we have lost a son, a journalist, a patriot, and I have lost a best friend.

May God bless Otis Brumby and his family, his grandchildren, and our community.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I have been listening to our colleague, the Senator from Georgia, who is one of the real gentlemen of this body. I listened to his warm words about his friend who has passed. Sometimes what people say about others is a better reflection on them than on who they are describing. In many ways, I thought that about what Senator ISAKSON was just saying because what he just said about his friend, any one of us in the Senate could say about him because he is a gentleman.

I was very much moved by the words of my friend. We thank him for all he does to make this a better place.

THE ECONOMY

I have come to the floor on different business, which is to talk about the budget circumstance we are in and to try to answer the question we have heard asked in recent days: Are we better off now than we were 4 years ago? I believe the answer to that question is very clear.

To answer the question we have to take ourselves back 4 years and remember the conditions we faced then. I will never forget as long as I live being called to an urgent meeting in the Capitol late one evening in September 2008. I was the last one to arrive. There were assembled the leaders of the House and the Senate, Republicans and Democrats, the Chairman of the Federal Reserve, and the Secretary of the Treasury of the Bush administration.

The Secretary of the Treasury and the Chairman of the Federal Reserve quickly told us they were going to take over the giant insurer AIG the next morning. They weren't there to ask our approval or seek our support; they were there to tell us what they were doing. They told us if they did not do it, they believed we would have a financial collapse within days.

This was September 2008. Barack Obama was not the President of the United States; George W. Bush was the President of the United States, and we were on the brink of financial collapse, according to the description of his own Secretary of the Treasury.

Let's remember what the economy was doing in the fourth quarter of 2008. The economy was shrinking at a rate of over 8 percent. In fact, it was shrinking at a rate of almost 9 percent. In the first month of 2009, the last month of the Bush administration, we lost 800,000 jobs in 1 month. So when people ask if we are better off today than we were then, just as a factual matter there can be no dispute. We are dramatically better off today than we were 4 years ago.

Four years ago we were on the brink of financial collapse. Four years ago the economy was shrinking at a rate of almost 9 percent, and we were losing 800,000 jobs a month. Those are facts. They cannot be disputed.

Today we are growing, not as fast as we would like; jobs are being created, not as fast as we would like, but that is a dramatic improvement over 4 years ago. Let's remember the housing market was in crisis. Home building and sales were plummeting. There were record foreclosures. The financial market crisis threatened global economic collapse. That was 4 years ago. Anybody who wonders can go back and read the headlines. Those were grim days.

I also remember as though it were yesterday being part of the group who was given a responsibility to negotiate the TARP—the Troubled Asset Relief Program. I remember being in this complex late on a Saturday night, again with the Secretary of the Treasury of the Bush administration, and him telling us if we did not come up with a solution by 5 o'clock Sunday night, the Asian markets would open and they would collapse, and our markets would open the next day and they would collapse.

So when people ask if we are better off today than we were 4 years ago, as a factual matter there really is no question—none. We are dramatically better off.

The other thing we should keep in mind is, what happens after a severe financial crisis such as the one we faced 4 years ago? Dr. Carmen Reinhart, from the Peter Peterson Institute for International Economics, and her husband, Dr. Vincent Reinhart of the American Enterprise Institute—which, by the way, is a pretty conservative place—have done an analysis, and here is what they found: After a severe financial crisis such as the one we suffered 4 years ago, economic recoveries are shallower and take much longer.

Here is the quote from their analysis:

> Real per capita GDP growth rates are significantly lower during the decade following severe financial crises. In the ten-year window following severe financial crises, unemployment rates are significantly higher than in the decade that preceded the crisis. . . .

That is what we had in 2008. Again, Barack Obama was not the President of the United States; George W. Bush was President of the United States, and we had a severe financial crisis. We were on the brink of financial collapse. It takes a long time to dig out from a disaster of that magnitude.

Two of the most distinguished economists in the country—one of whom, by the way, advised JOHN MCCAIN in his most recent Presidential race, and the other who is Deputy Chairman of the Federal Reserve—did an analysis of what would have happened without the Federal response, what would have happened in terms of jobs. Here is what they found: With a Federal response we got 8 million jobs we would not have had otherwise. In other words, if there had been no Federal response, the red line is what would have happened to jobs. The green line is what happened as a result of Federal action: 8 million fewer jobs lost than if there had been no Federal response.

Again, this is work that was done by Alan Blinder, former Vice Chairman of the Federal Reserve, and Mark Zandi, who was one of the economic advisers to JOHN MCCAIN in the last Presidential race.

So when we go back to this question, are we better off now than we were 4 years ago, I think the answer is unequivocally, yes. We are dramatically better off than we were 4 years ago.

Now, those people who are still unemployed don't feel better off. I understand that. That is dreadful, that is painful, and it is painful in every way. Not only does it hurt in the pocketbook, but much more than that: It hurts the way people feel about themselves. It hurts the way people feel about their role in their families. So we have lots of work to do, but if we are going to be honest with people about comparing where we are today and where we were 4 years ago, there really can be no serious question about the answer to that question.

This chart shows the economy in the fourth quarter of 2008—that is the last quarter of the Bush administration—was shrinking at a rate of almost 9 percent. Now the economy is growing at a rate of 1.7 percent, for the most recent quarter. Is that good? No. Would we like it to be stronger? Absolutely. But is this better than almost any other developed country in the world? Yes. The Eurozone is in recession. Their economies are shrinking. Japan is not doing as well as we are doing.

So when we look around the world and compare ourselves, the answer by comparison is we are doing remarkably well given the depth of the financial crisis we experienced.

Not only is it true in economic growth, it is true in terms of private sector jobs. Again, in the last month of the Bush administration, this economy lost over 800,000 jobs—in 1 month. In the most recent month in the United States, we gained 103,000 private sector jobs. That is a turnaround of over 900,000 jobs in a month. That is a dramatic improvement.

And if we look at the stock market, we can answer that question as well. Are we better off now than we were 4 years ago? Well, this chart shows the stock market. In March of 2009, it hit its low of 6547—the low during this period. Look where it is today. More than double what it was 4 years ago.

So, again, if we are seriously asking the question, Are we better off than we were 4 years ago? In terms of economic growth? Yes. In terms of job creation? Yes. In terms of the stock market? Yes. In terms of economic performance? Yes.

I have also heard my colleagues on the other side say at the convention just concluded that there has been no budget here for 3 years. Well, there has been no budget resolution. But there is a budget law that was passed called the Budget Control Act. And a law is much stronger than any resolution. A resolution is purely a congressional document. It never goes to the President for his signature. A law, obviously, has to go to the President for his signature.

So when they say there has been no budget passed, there has been no budget resolution passed, but, instead, Congress passed the Budget Control Act. Look what it said in the Budget Control Act:

> . . . the allocations, aggregates, and [spending] levels set in subsection (b)(1) shall apply in the Senate in the same manner as for a concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2012. . . .

That same language is repeated in the next paragraph:

> . . . the allocations, aggregates, and levels set in subsection (b)(2) shall apply in the Senate in the same manner as for a concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2013. . . .

I say to you, a budget is a limitation on spending. The Budget Control Act contained very clear limitations on spending for 2012 and 2013. So when our friends say there has been no budget passed by this body, oh, yes, there has. There has been a budget passed for 2012, and one for 2013. Instead of a resolution, it was done in a law.

What we do not have is a long-term plan, a 10-year plan. That is what we need. But it is pretty clear both sides are not ready yet, and perhaps will not be until we have had this election, to sit down and agree to the kind of 10-year plan we so desperately need.

The Budget Control Act represented the largest deficit reduction package in the history of the United States. How can that be? Well, because it contained $900 billion in discretionary savings over 10 years, and it included the so-called sequester that we hear so much about that added another $1.2 trillion of spending cuts over the next 10 years, for a total of $2.1 trillion in spending cuts. That is the largest deficit reduction package we have ever passed.

So, again, when people say there is no budget, there has been no action taken, it is not accurate. The Budget Control Act operates in the same way as a budget resolution, and it is a law, not a resolution that is purely a congressional document that never goes to the President. The Budget Control Act passed both Houses of Congress, went to the President for his signature, and cut $2.1 trillion in spending.

People may not like it. There are a lot of things I do not like about it—certainly the sequester. I think we ought to find alternative savings for it. But the fact is, this is now law, and it cut $2.1 trillion. That still leaves us with the problem that we are borrowing 40 cents of every $1 we spend, and that cannot be permitted to continue.

So we have to add a package on top of the Budget Control Act. We have to do more. I would prefer, strongly, to do another at least $3 trillion. I tried to convince the Bowles-Simpson Commission to do a package of $5 trillion of deficit reduction. Actually, I tried to persuade them to do a package of $5.6 trillion of deficit reduction because we can balance the budget if we would do a package that large. The people who were on that commission will tell you I tried repeatedly to convince my colleagues to go big, let's do a package that really balanced the budget.

And we could do it. It is not that hard. I think people sometimes get it in their head this is some impossible task. I told them, let's talk about a 6-percent solution. If we would do 6 percent more revenue than current law provides and 6 percent less spending, we would save $6 trillion over 10 years and balance the budget. I actually would argue for more weighting on the spending cut side of the ledger than on the revenue side. But I do this for illustrative purposes, to indicate we cannot do 6 percent? Come on. We cannot do 6 percent? Sure we can.

The occupant of the chair, the Governor of West Virginia in his previous life in politics, I will tell you, he did not have any trouble making tough decisions, and I will bet you he reduced

spending a lot more than 6 percent. He survived. He is here. He is respected.

We can do this. Hey, we have done much tougher things than this in the past. I hope colleagues think about this carefully.

This next chart is so important because it looks at the spending and the revenue lines of the Federal Government going back to 1950. This is 60 years of our economic history on one little chart.

The red line is the spending line. The green line is the revenue line. And look what it shows. We got to, in 2010, an all-time high in spending for the last 60 years, taking out the effect of inflation, so you have an even-steven comparison over that 60-year period. And we were at a 60-year high in spending—not surprising given the dimensions of the financial crisis we faced. But at the same time, we were at a 60-year low in revenue. When you have record spending and record low revenue, you have record deficits and record additions to the debt. That is exactly what was happening to us.

We have seen some improvement in the last few years. Spending is down as a share of GDP. Revenue is up a little bit. We still have a big chasm.

In the midst of all this comes Representative RYAN and his plan. I would say to those who might be attracted to his plan: Be careful what you wish for—be careful what you wish for—because, first of all, the Ryan plan does not balance the budget, if ever, until 2040, and it only balances in 2040 because of certain assumptions he told the Congressional Budget Office to make about his plan and the revenue contained in it. I personally do not think it ever balances. I do not believe it ever balances. It is absolutely an unbalanced plan. All of the deficit reduction is on the spending side. He actually digs the revenue hole much deeper, extends all the Bush era tax cuts, and then adds hundreds of billions of dollars of more tax cuts, primarily to the most fortunate among us.

There is $1 trillion in tax cuts for the wealthiest. He gives those with an income of over $1 million an average tax cut of $265,000 a year. Somebody is sitting out there saying: How is that possible? A person earning $1 million a year probably does not pay much more than $265,000. How can they, on average, be getting a $265,000 tax cut? Remember, this is the average for everybody over $1 million, so this includes people making $1 billion a year. And there are a fortunate few who make $1 billion a year. So if you take everybody over $1 million, and you average the tax cut they get under the Ryan plan, it is over $265,000 a year.

He has $2.9 trillion in health care cuts. So first of all, he extends all the Bush era tax cuts. Then he adds hundreds of billions more of tax cuts for those who are the most fortunate. And to start to make up for it, he has $2.9 trillion in health care cuts—not million, not billion: trillion. He repeals health care reform. He shifts Medicare to vouchers. And he block-grants Medicaid and cuts Medicaid drastically.

Who benefits from Medicaid? Well, low-income people, disabled people, but also a lot of middle-income people in this country benefit from Medicaid because their folks are in nursing homes and they have spent down their assets, and the only way they can stay in the nursing home is that Medicaid picks up the tab. There are hundreds of thousands of families in America, middle-class families, who have benefited from Medicaid because that is what has paid the nursing home bills for their relatives—their mom, their dad, their grandpa, their grandma. That is the truth.

The Ryan budget also dramatically cuts the safety net for seniors, the children, the disabled. It increases the uninsured by more than 30 million people. It is going to increase the number of uninsured by 30 million. Well, if you are not uninsured, why should you care? I will tell you why you should care. Because if they are not paid for by insurance, they are going to be paid for by all the rest of us. Because the hard reality of how the health care system works in America is this: If you are in a car accident and you do not have insurance and you are taken to the hospital, you are treated. If you do not have insurance to pay for it, and you do not have resources to pay for it, guess who pays for it. All the rest of us pay for it.

That is why it is absolutely in our interest to have as many people insured as is possible. It is not just a nice thing to do; it is a smart thing to do. Because one of the things we have found out is that about a third of the people who do not have insurance can afford it. They can afford it. They just choose not to have it because they know if something drastic happens to them, all the rest of us are going to pay.

There are also large cuts in the Ryan budget for education, for energy, for infrastructure—building roads, bridges, highways, and the rest. Those things undermine the engines of economic growth. So I do not think that is the way to go.

When we look at the Ryan budget plan on revenue, here is what we find. It provides $1 trillion in tax cuts for the wealthiest among us. It gives millionaires an average tax cut of more than $265,000 a year. It does not contribute one dime of revenue to deficit reduction. And the revenues reach 18.7 percent of GDP by 2022. Now why does that matter? Because the last four times we have balanced, the revenue of the country has been 19.6 percent, 19.7 percent, 19.8 percent, 20.6 percent. So, hey, if we are going to be serious about belling this cat, we are going to have to cut spending, we are going to have to reform the entitlements, we are also going to have to raise some revenue, hopefully not in a way that hurts economic growth, because we think we have found ways of doing it.

But the Ryan tax plan, I have to say, I do not think adds up. Why don't I believe it adds up? Well, let's look at what he proposes.

First of all, he says we should reduce individual tax rates to just two—one at 10 percent and one at 25 percent. Right now, the top rate is 35 percent. If you reduce that rate to 25 percent, and you have only one other rate of 10 percent, that package costs $2.5 trillion over the next 10 years. So instead of filling in the hole, you are digging the hole deeper. Then he puts the top corporate rate at 25 percent. Again, that is a significant reduction from the top corporate rate today. That costs another $1 trillion. Then he repeals the alternative minimum tax. That costs another $670 billion. Then he repeals all the tax levies in the health care reform. That costs another $350 billion. Then he allows the stimulus provisions to expire from the Recovery Act, which raises $210 billion.

Before he starts filling in the hole, he has dug the hole deeper by almost $4½ trillion, and he says he is going to offset all of that with individual base broadening and corporate base broadening. We are spending about $1.2 trillion a year in tax expenditures. Over 10 years that is about $15 trillion with inflation.

So we could come up with this $4½ trillion, but what would we have to do in order to do it? Almost every objective observer has said we would have to raise taxes on the middle class—because he says this is going to be somehow, in the Romney plan, revenue neutral. I do not know that the Ryan plan ever claimed to be revenue neutral. But if we are going to pay for this, how are we going to do it, which of the exemptions and the exclusions? Are we going to reduce the mortgage interest exemption? Are we going to reduce the health care tax exclusion? Because those two affect middle-class people. Let's be honest. Let's be straight. So there is no way Congressman RYAN's plan does all the things he claims for it without raising taxes on the middle class.

When he gets to a revenue level of 18.7 percent and says that is the historic average, that is true. The problem with that is we have never balanced the budget, going back to 1969, with that amount of revenue. The five times we have balanced since 1969—that is 43 years ago—revenues have been at 19.7, 19.9, 19.8, 20.6, 19.5. So just getting back to the historic average, I do not think it is going to be enough. If we are looking at what it has taken to actually balance the budget in our history, we can see we have to be very close to 20 percent.

By the way, these levels of revenue were before the baby boom generation, and the baby boom generation, that is not a forecast. That is not a prediction. Those people have been born. They are alive today. They are going to be eligible for Social Security and Medicare. If

we are going to be honest with ourselves, honest with the American people, I do not think what Congressman RYAN is talking about adds up.

If we look at his budget on health care, we see $2.9 trillion in health care cuts. As I indicated, he repeals health care reform. I hear a lot—I hear it in my State: Let's repeal health care reform. Why not? Because the Congressional Budget Office tells us if we repeal it we add over $1 trillion to the debt. We add over $1 trillion to the debt, we deny coverage to 30 million people who would otherwise have it.

His plan also ends the effort to promote quality over quantity of care, reopens the prescription drug doughnut hole that raises costs to seniors by $4,200, allows insurance companies to drop coverage when we get sick. It ends the provision allowing young adults to stay on their parents' plan until the age of 26. It shifts Medicare to vouchers in 2023 and includes, after that, an aggressive cap on payments that most analysts have said would dramatically increase what Medicare beneficiaries would have to pay for their own health care.

Currently, Medicare pays 75 percent of the cost. The beneficiary pays 25 percent. If the Ryan plan were adopted, the original Ryan plan—he has subsequently put out other plans. But his original plan would have stood that on its head. He would have Medicare beneficiaries paying the substantial majority of the cost. Instead of Medicare beneficiaries paying 25 percent, he would have them paying 68 percent of the cost—Medicare beneficiaries.

I have a brother who is gravely ill in the hospital, Medicare eligible. I can tell you, he is getting phenomenal care—very costly. I would say it would break our family. If we had to pay 68 percent of the cost instead of 25 percent, it would break our family. We are a middle-class family. I am talking about the extended family.

These things have real consequences. Anybody who thinks these are just political statements and they do not affect people's lives, oh, yes, they do. They have a profound effect on people's lives.

The Ryan plan block grants Medicaid, shifts the cost to seniors, children, disabled, and States. I do not think that is the path America has in mind. I like PAUL RYAN. I agree with him that we are on an unsustainable course. I was on the Bowles-Simpson Commission with him.

But unlike him, I was one of the 11 who supported the recommendations of Bowles-Simpson. Of the 11 of us who did, 5 are Democrats, 5 Republicans, and 1 Independent. That is about as bipartisan as we can get. There were 18 Commissioners. We had to get 14 to get the recommendations to a vote in the Congress. We got 11.

That is 60 percent of the membership who voted yes; five Democrats, five Republicans, one Independent. PAUL RYAN was part of Bowles-Simpson. He voted no because it was not just the way he wanted it. It was not just the way I wanted it either. I hated things on almost every page of that report. But as I told my staff, the only thing worse than being for it would be being against it because it would have gotten us back on track. It would have lowered our deficit and debt by $4 trillion and have done it with revenue and spending cuts and reform of entitlements, maybe not as much on any one of those areas as I would do, but it would have made a profound difference in the economic future of this country.

Perhaps the most striking thing to me in all the speeches at the Republican convention was the claim by Congressman RYAN and the attack on President Obama for supporting $716 billion in Medicare savings. Why was I so taken aback by that? Because I have read Congressman RYAN's own budget. His budget has precisely that same level of Medicare savings that he now politically attacks President Barack Obama for supporting.

Did you see what former President Clinton said? He said that takes real brass, to attack somebody for something you have done. Congressman RYAN, when you give a speech, make your speech before tens of millions of people listening and you attack the President for supporting $716 billion in Medicare savings and you have the exact same savings in your budget, shame on you. Shame on you.

The Catholic bishops reviewed the Ryan budget. Here is what they said. They said it fails the moral test. These are Catholic bishops in America. Look, they have issues with the President too. I understand that, but this is what they said about the Ryan budget. They said: It fails the moral test. The Nation's Catholic bishops reiterated their demand that the Federal budget protect the poor and said the GOP measure fails to meet these moral criteria. I think they got that right. Here is what a former Reagan economic adviser said about the Ryan budget. This is Bruce Bartlett, former Reagan administration economic adviser. This is what he said about the Ryan budget. Again, this is a former President Reagan economic adviser. Here is what he said about the Ryan budget:

> Distributionally, the Ryan plan is a monstrosity. The rich would receive huge tax cuts while the social safety net would be shredded to pay for them. Even as an opening bid to begin budget negotiations with the Democrats, the Ryan plan cannot be taken seriously. It is less of a wish list than a fairy tale utterly disconnected from the real world, backed up by make-believe numbers and unreasonable assumptions. Ryan's plan isn't even an act of courage; it's just pandering to the Tea Party. A real act of courage would have been for him to admit, as all serious budget analysts know, that revenues will have to rise well above 19 percent of GDP to stabilize the debt.

Mr. Bartlett, I do not know the man. He is telling the truth. He is telling the truth, as painful as it is. He is telling the truth. When we go to the question of are we better off than we were 4 years ago, let's remember where we were 4 years ago. We were on the brink of financial collapse.

Republican policies led the United States to the brink of financial collapse. They cannot rewrite history. We know what happened. We tried their experiment. It did not work. Now things have improved, not as much as we would like, and there is much more work to be done. But I trust in the judgment of the American people. I do not think they have forgotten. I certainly have not forgotten. I will never forget where their policies took us in the fall of 2008. We were on the brink of financial collapse. Let's not repeat that failed experiment.

I yield the floor and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MOMENT OF SILENCE TO OBSERVE THE FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MUNICH OLYMPICS MASSACRE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now observe a moment of silence for the 40th anniversary of the Munich Olympics massacre.

(Moment of silence.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I stand here today with my colleagues to observe 1 minute of silence on the first day of session since the passage of the 40th anniversary of the 1972 Munich Olympic terrorist attack that killed 11 athletes and coaches from the Israeli Olympic team.

Prior to the extraordinary summer games in London, where so many of our athletes excelled and made our country so proud, the Senate passed a bipartisan resolution that I authored with Senator RUBIO. With this resolution, which was supported by more than 30 of our colleagues, the Senate called on the International Olympic Committee to hold a moment of silence in London to honor these 11 slain Israeli Olympians. It is regrettable they chose not to. Today, here in the Senate, we right that wrong. The Munich tragedy was an outrageous attack against innocent athletes and against the unifying spirit of the Olympics. Observing a moment of silence at the 2012 Olympic games' opening ceremony, when the world's attention was focused on this symbol of international cooperation and peace, would have sent such a powerful message of unity in our fight against terrorism.

On September 5, 1972, a Palestinian terrorist group called Black September broke into the Munich Olympic Village, killed an Israeli athlete and coach, and took nine other athletes and coaches hostage. A German police

officer was killed and nine hostages were murdered during a rescue attempt.

In observing this minute of silence, as in our resolution, we commemorate the 40th anniversary of the 1972 Munich Olympic terrorist attack, remember those who lost their lives, and reject and repudiate terrorism as antithetical to the Olympic goal of peaceful competition.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I wish to thank the Senator from New York and my colleague, Senator RUBIO of Florida, for calling this historic tragedy to our attention on the sad 40th anniversary of the killing of the Israeli participants at the Munich Olympics.

Having just witnessed, as the Senator from New York noted, the spectacular Olympics that were staged in London and realizing how the Olympics started as a way to transcend national differences and to create an Olympic global spirit, what happened in Munich was especially heartbreaking. We followed it in those early days of television as it was being reported on by some of the sports announcers who were actually at the Olympics. It was hard to believe, as hostages were being taken, that they would all be killed when it was over.

I sincerely hope we in the world will learn a lesson from this tragedy—a lesson that violence begets violence and we need to end this sort of terrorist activity and stand together in that Olympic global spirit.

Again, my thanks to Senators GILLIBRAND and RUBIO for their efforts to make this part of the London Olympics but also to make certain this day has not been forgotten here on the floor of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I wish to thank Senator GILLIBRAND for bringing this to the attention of the Senate and the American people and to thank Senators RUBIO and DURBIN for being here.

It is hard to believe it has been 40 years since that tragic event in which terrorists had the attention of the world during the Olympics in Munich.

It is hard to believe that over the last 40 years we have experienced so much of the violence from extremists and terrorists.

Tomorrow we will commemorate the 11th anniversary of the attack on our own country. We recognize the only way we could stand up for this type of extremism is to never forget and to rededicate ourselves to do everything we can to root out extremists, to root out terrorists, and to never forget the consequences of their actions.

I wish to thank Senator GILLIBRAND and Senator RUBIO for the resolution we passed in this Congress to let those who were victimized 40 years ago know we will not forget them and that we continue to dedicate our efforts to root out this type of hatred and this type of extremism to make sure the Olympic spirit—which is world competition to bring peace in the world—is alive and well in the Senate and the United States of America. We will continue to commemorate what happened so we don't forget and dedicate ourselves to a more peaceful world.

I yield the floor.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF STEPHANIE MARIE ROSE TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Stephanie Marie Rose, of Iowa, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Iowa.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 30 minutes of debate, equally divided in the usual form.

The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, we are beginning about 3 minutes late. I ask unanimous consent that the time be divided in such a way that the vote still starts at 5:30.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. When the Senate recessed more than a month ago, 22 judicial nominees to fill vacancies in courtrooms around the country were left pending, awaiting a Senate vote. Today, Senate Republicans have agreed to vote on just one of those nominees. I want to commend Senator HARKIN for working with Senator GRASSLEY and the Majority Leader to get this vote on the nomination of Stephanie Rose of Iowa. I urge votes on the other nominees, as well, without further delay.

There are currently 78 Federal judicial vacancies. Judicial vacancies during the last few years have been at historically high levels and have remained near or above 80 for nearly the entire first term of the President. Nearly one out of every 11 Federal judgeships is currently vacant. Vacancies on the Federal courts are more than two and one half times as many as they were on this date during the first term of President Bush. One key reason for these numerous vacancies and for the extensive backlog of nominees is that Senate Republicans allowed votes on just one district court nominee per week for the last seven weeks before the August recess. This unnecessarily slow pace of consideration of judicial nominees has disserved the American people and should not continue.

The across-the-board obstruction and foot dragging from Senate Republicans since day one of President Obama's tenure means that we are likely to complete his first term with more judicial vacancies than when he took office. The partisan obstruction from Senate Republicans has been particularly damaging with respect to Federal trial courts. In a sharp departure from the past, Senate Republicans have stalled Senate approval of district court nominees, including those Republican home state Senators support.

Before the American people elected Barack Obama as our President, district court nominees were generally confirmed within a couple of weeks of being reported by the Judiciary Committee. This was true of those nominated by Republican Presidents and Democratic Presidents. Deference was traditionally afforded to home State Senators and district court nominees supported by home State Senators were almost always confirmed unanimously. During the 18 months that I was chairman of the Judiciary Committee in 2001 and 2002, we confirmed 83 of President Bush's district court nominees, and only one of them received any votes in opposition. Even though some Senate Democrats opposed the nominee, we nevertheless scheduled a vote for him just 11 days after he was reported by the Judiciary Committee.

Indeed, only five district court nominees received any votes in opposition in all 8 years of the previous Republican presidency, and none was a party-line vote. Among those nominees was one so extreme that he had announced that ''concern for rape victims is a red herring because conceptions from rape occur with approximately the same frequency as snowfall in Miami.'' That observation was much like the outrageous recent comments about rape by a Republican House member and Senate candidate.

In all, the Senate confirmed 264 of President Bush's district court nominees, and only five of them received any votes in opposition. Senate Democrats were willing to work with a very conservative Republican President to fill vacancies on our Federal trial courts. We recognized that filling vacancies on district courts is essential to ensuring that the American people have functioning courts to serve them and provide access to justice. We know that it is unacceptable for hardworking Americans who turn to their courts for justice to suffer unnecessary delays. When an injured plaintiff sues to help cover the cost of his or her medical expenses, that plaintiff should not have to wait 3 years before a judge hears the

case. When two small business owners disagree over a contract, they should not have to wait years for a court to resolve their dispute.

In The Atlantic Andrew Cohen has written recently about the ''Human Costs of Judicial Confirmation Delays.'' In that article, the Chief Judge of the Middle District of Pennsylvania describes the costs of vacancies on individuals in Pennsylvania and the pervasive and harmful delays they are suffering because there are not enough judges.

At this point in President Bush's first term, Senate Democrats had worked with Republicans to confirm 165 of his district court nominees. Despite the fact that President Obama has worked with home state Senators of both parties to select moderate, superbly-qualified judicial nominees, Senate Republicans have engaged in unprecedented obstruction of Federal trial court nominees for the last four years.

As Carl Tobias noted last month in a letter to the New York Times:

> Republican senators have created and applied practices that substantially depart from procedures employed in prior administrations, even as recently as that of President George W. Bush. The most important change is the refusal by the G.O.P. leadership to enter voting agreements on well-qualified, uncontroversial district court nominees, so they languish for months on the Senate floor.

Professor Tobias is correct, and the result is that at this point in his first term President Obama's district court nominees have had to wait nearly three times longer for a Senate vote and the Senate has confirmed more than three dozen fewer.

Senate Republicans have made a habit of delaying and opposing President Obama's district court nominees, voting against more than a quarter of them—36 out of 127 to be precise. And they stall confirmations for months of noncontroversial nominees including those supported by home state Republican Senators who are eventually confirmed overwhelmingly.

This extreme partisanship has not just resulted in persistently high vacancies—Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy recently observed that it is also ''bad for the legal system'' as a whole. He indicated: ''It makes the judiciary look politicized when it is not, and it has to stop.'' District courts in particular should not be politicized. The 18 district court nominees currently pending before the Senate were not chosen based on some ideological litmus test. They were selected for their legal excellence, whether as practicing attorneys or sitting judges.

Recently, the Republican Senator from Pennsylvania signaled his newfound willingness to abandon the unprecedented delays and obstruction that his caucus has employed against President Obama's trial court nominees. I only wish he had done so 2 years ago. What Senate Republicans have been doing is wrong and hurts all Americans seeking justice in our Federal courts.

Today, the Senate will vote on the nomination of Stephanie Rose to fill a judicial vacancy on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Iowa. She was rated unanimously well qualified by the ABA Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary, the highest possible rating. She has the bipartisan support of her home state Senators. I worked with Senator HARKIN and Senator GRASSLEY to ensure prompt Judiciary Committee consideration of her nomination, which was reported with a virtually unanimous voice vote by the Judiciary Committee nearly five months ago. The only objection came as a protest on another issue by Senator LEE.

Stephanie Rose currently serves as the first woman U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Iowa, where she has been serving since 2009. Ms. Rose has devoted her entire career to public service, having served for 15 years as a Federal prosecutor and having been promoted to Deputy Criminal Chief in 2008. In her tenure as a Federal prosecutor, she has tried 33 cases to verdict. When confirmed, she will be the first woman to serve as a Federal judge in the Southern District of Iowa and only the second woman to serve on the Federal bench in Iowa's history.

With the elections approaching, the Senate will recess, again, in just a few weeks. When the Senate recessed in 2009, 10 judicial nominees were left without a final confirmation vote. When the Senate recessed in 2010, 19 judicial nominees were left pending without a final confirmation vote. When the Senate recessed last year, in 2011, 19 judicial nominees were left pending without a final vote. I urge Senate Republicans not to continue their practice of stalling qualified nominees from confirmation. I urge them to agree to schedule debate and votes on the 18 district court nominees from California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and Utah who, like Stephanie Rose, could be confirmed with strong bipartisan support and without further delay. A dozen of those nominees would fill judicial emergency vacancies.

Let us act on these nominations. There is no doubt that recent precedent shows we can do this even in September of a Presidential election year. In 2008, the final year of President Bush's presidency, Senate Democrats were willing to confirm 10 of his district court nominees in a single day, all by unanimous consent. It took only a few seconds. Earlier in that Republican presidency, and again with a Democratic Majority, the Senate confirmed 18 judicial nominees in just one day and vacancies went down to 60 throughout the country, on the way down to 28. If we confirm all of the district nominees ready for final Senate action today, we can similarly reduce vacancies back down to 60.

I hope that Senate Republicans will not extend their wrongheaded application of the ''Thurmond Rule'' and further stall confirmation of consensus, well-qualified district court nominees. Given our overburdened Federal courts and the need to provide all Americans with prompt justice, the Senate should be working in a bipartisan fashion to confirm these nominees without further delay.

I ask unanimous consent the article to which I referred be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Atlantic]

IN PENNSYLVANIA, THE HUMAN COSTS OF JUDICIAL CONFIRMATION DELAYS

(By Andrew Cohen)

The William J. Nealon courthouse in Scranton, Pennsylvania. (Wikimedia Commons) Daniel Wasserman had seen enough. An Orthodox rabbi affiliated with Shaare Torah Synagogue in a suburb of Pittsburgh, Wasserman had grown tired of state interference with Jewish funeral rituals, ancient and eternal, which require burial within 24 hours and which prohibit embalming. He resented the threats of fines and penalties he was receiving from state officials trying to enforce a 19th-century funeral director's law. He believed he was being singled out for the practice of his religious beliefs.

And so Rabbi Wasserman did what many people do in America when they believe their constitutional rights—their First Amendment rights, their rights to religious freedom—are being infringed by state action. He sued the state. On August 6th, in federal district court in Scranton, in the Middle District of Pennsylvania, Rabbi Wasserman's lawyers sought an injunction to preclude state officials from continuing to threaten him for what he considers to be the lawful exercise of his religious beliefs. The lawsuit, his attorneys allege, is designed to: preserve and restore the historical right of clergy to conduct religious burial and funeral rites free from interference and harassment by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and professional, secular funeral directors who serve no health or safety interest.

But justice won't come quickly for Rabbi Wasserman—if it comes at all. There simply aren't enough federal judges in the Middle District of Pennsylvania to handle his case. U.S. District Judge John Jones, the well-regarded jurist to whom the Rabbi's case was assigned, couldn't get the urgent injunction hearing onto his schedule until late September. The timing didn't discourage the Rabbi but it clearly frustrated the judge. ''Obviously when you receive something like this you have to move with some alacrity,'' Judge Jones told me late last month. ''But you can only land so many planes in one hour.''

THE DISTRICT

Boundary-wise, the Middle District of Pennsylvania is the largest federal judicial district in the state. It covers the state capital of Harrisburg, which means it is the chief venue for litigation against the state of Pennsylvania. It comprises no fewer than 32 counties, up and down the center of the state, from Adams County to York County, from the state's northern border to New York to its southern border with Maryland, the Mason-Dixon line. There are four courthouses in the district, including one in Williamsport, which is several hours drive away from either Harrisburg or Scranton.

All of this volume and distance would be manageable if the Middle District were fully staffed with federal trial judges. It is not—and it hasn't been for years. ''We are down a third of our active court,'' Judge Jones says. In March 2009, the first vacancy in the Middle District was created when Judge Richard Caputo (more on him later) took senior status. Another vacancy was created in April 2010, when the Senate confirmed the appellate nomination of U.S. District Judge Thomas I. Vanaskie. Two long years later, just this past May, President Obama nominated two men to fill those posts.

Both Middle District nominees—Malachy E. Mannion and Matthew W. Brann—were quickly endorsed by the Senate Judiciary Committee by voice vote, which means there were no substantive objections raised by Republican members of that Committee. Both nominees also have the support of the state's two senators, Democrat Bob Casey and Republican Pat Toomey, who have publicly lobbied their Republican colleagues this year to allow the nominations to come to a vote on the Senate floor. So far, those efforts have failed. But the Senate is expected to take up new judicial nominations in the next week or so.

THE JUDGES

While the Senate fiddles, what's life like for the current judges of the Middle District? Very difficult. Judges frequently have to drive three hours or more a day to handle cases in Williamsport. The aforementioned Judge Caputo, who is in his early 70s, carries the most cases of any of the judges—more than 500 civil and criminal combined—despite his senior status. ''He's hanging in because he feels like he is letting the court down if it doesn't,'' Judge Jones says of his colleague. ''Because of the judge he is he won't relent.'' But compared to some of his other colleagues in the Middle District, however, Judge Caputo is practically a kid.

Sitting in senior status, picking up the slack for the empty full-time benches, are Judge Edwin M. Kosic, Judge William J. Nealon, Judge Richard P. Conaboy and Judge William W. Caldwell—all of these men are at least 86 years old. Two other Middle District Judges in senior status—Judge Sylvia H. Rambo and Judge James M. Munley—are both over 76 years old. ''All have a substantial case load,'' Judge Jones says, ''but we've created this absurdity where we are leaning on aging'' and perhaps frail senior judges. Judge Nealon, for example, a remarkable jurist by any standard, has more than 150 cases—at age 89.

The Middle District today is so understaffed, its current judges so overwhelmed by their relentless workload, that the Chief Judge of the 3rd U.S. Circuit, the federal appeals panel which covers Pennsylvania and other mid-Atlantic states, has authorized trial judges from the Eastern District of Pennsylvania to cross over and help their colleagues in the Middle District. But it's not like the Eastern District has it much better. There are now six judicial vacancies there (five judges have in the past few years taken senior status). President Obama has yet nominated no one—no one—to replace those Eastern District trial judges.

THE PROBLEM

Washington talks ceaselessly about the slow pace of judicial nominations. But few advocates are able to cite specific examples of what judicial vacancies mean for the American people, for litigants like Rabbi Wasserman, who look to the courts to resolve disputes. Part of the reason for this is prudence—current litigants I spoke with for this article were reluctant to publicly complain about how long it is taking their federal civil cases to be resolved. No one wants to tick off their judge. But that doesn't mean such delays aren't real—and pervasive. I ended up asking a federal judge himself to detail the cost of judicial vacancies.

''Inevitably, what it leads to is extra time to decide almost any motion that is filed,'' Judge Jones told me. '' . . . [T]he federal courts are stacked up with motions to dismiss and motions for summary judgment which are very fact specific and require a great deal of time. When you have fewer judges, and the judges who are in service have more motions, everything is delayed.'' The judge calls it the ''justice delayed syndrome'' and it impacts individuals like the rabbi as well as large corporations who must factor into their business plans the ''uncertainty'' inherent in long, drawn-out litigation.

Rebecca Kourlis, a former justice of the Colorado Supreme Court and now executive director of the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System, is even more blunt. ''Vacancies in the judiciary create holes in the judicial system,'' Kourlis told me last week, ''and civil cases are the most likely to fall through those holes. What this means is that civil cases suffer increased continuances and delays and the possibilities of changing judges in mid-stream. For civil litigants, this means untenable disruptions to their lives and businesses, the possibility of increased costs, and overall, a breach of the promise of access to justice.''

THE POLITICS

For this piece, I picked the ''judicial emergency'' in the Middle District of Pennsylvania to make a point. Although I have been a strident critic (see accompanying box) of the Republican use of the Senate filibuster to keep bipartisan-approved nominees off the bench, there is no denying that the Obama Administration has in many cases made a bad situation worse by failing to quickly nominate judges when vacancies occur. There is simply no excuse, for example, for the length of time it took the White House to appoint Mannion and Brann to help fill the void in the Middle District. None.

Sen. Toomey, the Pennsylvania Republican, refused comment for this story. His Democratic counterpart, Sen. Bob Casey, would say only that both sides ''need to come together to fill these critical positions'' and that ''the real-life consequences of delay are unacceptable.'' Both men, it is fair to say, don't want to say anything publicly to tick off the Republican leadership in the Senate, leadership which already has announced to the world that it intends to confirm no more of President Obama's federal appellate nominees by invoking what's become known as the ''Thurmond Rule.''

The story of the Middle District is one of basic governance. It's about the executive branch and the legislative branch failing to perform its constitutional function of ensuring a viable judicial branch. It's about politicians in Washington failing or refusing to provide to the American people—in the Middle District of Pennsylvania, for example—one of the most elemental services a government can provide to the governed—functioning courts of law. It's a disgrace that those old judges in Pennsylvania have to work like that. It's even more of a disgrace that Congress and the White House can't timely agree on their replacements.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I see the distinguished senior Senator from Iowa. I reserve the balance of my time and ask it be under the control of Senator HARKIN.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I thank the chairman of the committee, Senator LEAHY, for his courtesies.

I rise in support of the nomination of Stephanie Marie Rose to be U.S. district judge for the Southern District of Iowa. In addition, she has the support of Senator HARKIN and is well regarded throughout my home State of Iowa. She was reported out of our committee on voice vote. She was previously confirmed by this Senate for her current position, U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Iowa.

Ms. Rose is a Hawkeye through and through, receiving two degrees from the University of Iowa—her B.A. in 1994 and her J.D. in 1996. Obviously, Ms. Rose was on the fast track through law school.

After graduation from law school, she wisely chose to remain in Iowa—and Iowa is fortunate for that decision. She first served as a law clerk in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Iowa. In 1997, she was hired as a full-time attorney in that same office, where she has risen through the ranks and now heads that office.

She served as a special assistant U.S. attorney from 1997 to 1999 and as an assistant U.S. attorney from 1999 to 2009. During this time, she was lead counsel in the prosecution of more than 250 cases. These cases spanned a wide range of legal issues from violent crimes and drug offense to immigration violations and money laundering. Additionally, she has handled approximately 45 Federal civil cases. These cases have included postconviction relief and asset forfeiture matters, as well as Freedom of Information Act and property return lawsuits.

In 2009, Ms. Rose was nominated by the President and then confirmed by the Senate to serve as the U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Iowa. In this role, she oversees most every aspect of the office. This includes overseeing the civil and criminal work completed by office staff and making final determinations regarding charging decisions, plea offers, and civil settlements.

The American Bar Association's Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary unanimously rated Ms. Rose as ''well qualified'' for this position of district judge.

In addition, she is supported by the legal community and judges throughout our State. Newspaper articles published in the Cedar Rapids Gazette on February 2 and February 20, 2012, captured some of that support.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD these two articles.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Gazette, Feb. 2, 2012]

ROSE PICKED FOR FEDERAL BENCH

(by Trish Mehaffey)

CEDAR RAPIDS.—President Barack Obama nominated U.S. Attorney Stephanie Rose late Thursday as the next federal judge in the Southern District of Iowa.

Rose, of Center Point, said she received the call from Sen. Tom Harkin in late afternoon and then got the news release from the White House.

''This has been a really involved process and I'm honored to be selected, especially with the other talented women that were also nominated,'' she said last night. ''If the Senate confirms me, I will be happy to serve and look forward to the diversity of the Southern District and the new opportunities.''

Obama said Rose and Michael Shea, whom he nominated Thursday as a federal judge in Connecticut, have ''demonstrated the talent, expertise, and fair-mindedness Americans expect and deserve from their judicial system. I am grateful for their willingness to serve and confident that they will apply the law with the utmost impartiality and integrity.''

In a news release, Harkin, D-Iowa, said Rose is a ''superb attorney and among jurists, prosecutors and the defense bar has a reputation as an extremely fair and ethical prosecutor who possesses great legal ability, intellect, and judgment.''

''There is no question in my mind that Stephanie Rose would be an outstanding federal judge,'' he continued. ''. . . I urge my Senate colleagues to confirm her for this important position as quickly as possible.''

Rose served 12 years as an assistant U.S. attorney before being appointed the top prosecutor in 2009. She will be the first woman to serve as a federal judge in the Southern District and only the second woman to serve on the federal bench in Iowa's history.

Former Assistant U.S. Attorney Bob Teig, who retired last year after 31 years, said Thursday that Rose will make an ''excellent'' federal judge.

''She has experience in the courtroom and as an administrator,'' Teig said. ''She has a broad view of the federal legal system and she's very intelligent. Stephanie will make a great additional to the federal bench.''

Teig worked with Rose throughout her career with the U.S. Attorney's Office.

[From the Gazette, Feb. 20, 2012]

COLLEAGUES CALL ROSE A GOOD CHOICE FOR FEDERAL BENCH

(By Trish Mehaffey)

The career path of a U.S. attorney and nominee for federal judge could have taken a much different course if she had followed her early passions for music and journalism.

When Stephanie Rose told her parents she was going into law, they were surprised at first. She was the girl who sang and danced, played the piano and oboe, majored in sociology and loved to write.

Stephanie Rose of Center Point, the federal prosecutor for the Northern District of Iowa, has been nominated by President Barack Obama as the next federal judge in the Southern District. (Brian Ray/The Gazette)

But Rose said she started looking at a law career because of her childhood experience growing up with foster siblings. Rose's mother and father were foster parents, and one of the children in their custody had to go through a painful parental termination because her biological mother, who was in and out of jail, fought the proceeding.

Through the appeal process, the Iowa Supreme Court terminated the mother's rights, changing children's rights in Iowa and allowing the girl to be adopted into a permanent home.

That showed Rose how the law can change people's lives.

ACCLAIMED IN FIELD

''Fairness,'' above all else, is the one word judges, prosecutors and even defense attorneys, who have been adversaries of Rose over the years, kept mentioning last week to describe her. They said she is a good choice for the federal bench because she's extremely intelligent, hardworking, compassionate, humble, open-minded and forthright.

President Barack Obama nominated Rose two weeks ago to become the next federal judge in the Southern District of Iowa when U.S. District Chief Judge Robert Pratt retires July 1.

Rose, 39, of Center Point, has worked in the U.S. Attorney's Office since graduating from law school, one of the youngest hired at the time. She worked her way up to the top spot in 2009, prosecuting more than 800 felony cases. She was lead prosecutor on 260 of those cases and has handled another 45 civil cases and 34 appeals.

Assistant Johnson County Attorney Andy Chappell, who has been friends with Rose since law school, said it's difficult to ''imagine anybody more deserving.'' Rose is bright, straightforward and incapable of pretense, he said.

Assistant U.S. Attorney C.J. Williams said Rose's ability to quickly comprehend complex issues has helped her succeed. She received recognition and awards for prosecuting two complicated cases involving Internet pharmaceutical companies, where doctors were prescribing pills online to patients they never treated, he said.

The six-year case spanned many states and required the review of hundreds of documents. Some may have not pursued it, Williams said, but the challenge never deterred Rose.

Her determination paid off. The case ended with 26 convictions in this district, more than $7 million in forfeitures and more than $4 million that went to agencies in Dubuque, Cedar Rapids and Des Moines.

''She is very skilled,'' said U.S. District Judge Mark Bennett, who presided over Rose's first jury trial. ''She learns from any mistakes and doesn't repeat them. She doesn't have a personal agenda. She goes by the law.''

U.S. District Judge John Jarvey of the Southern District said her prosecution record is impressive for her age because not all federal judges have that kind of experience, especially in criminal law.

''Stephanie has won the respect of prosecutors and defense lawyers,'' Jarvey said.

RESPECT FROM DEFENSE

Steve Swift is one of the defense attorneys who say she has earned a good reputation among the defense bar. He joined a dozen other defense attorneys who supported Rose for her U.S. attorney nomination. They said she was fair and went by the law in handling the controversial prosecution of more than 380 illegal immigrants charged in the 2008 Agriprocessors raid.

''She's not politically connected, not active in a party . . . this is based on merit,'' he said. ''She's a great advocate for the government, very forthright—no shenanigans.''

Leon Spies, a defense attorney, said Rose has always been interested in seeing that ''justice is accomplished.'' It's more important for her to ''get it right than to win,'' he said.

Spies, also the president of the Academy of Trial Lawyers, nominated Rose to the academy in 2008 because she exhibited what the organization strives for—the ''highest quality of trial advocacy and ethical responsibilities to clients and the law.''

''It's a quite an honor to be nominated,'' said David Brown, a Des Moines attorney and secretary/treasurer of the academy. ''There are over 8,000 lawyers in Iowa and there are only 250 members. There are less prosecutors and less women, but not by design.''

Rose is one of 15 women in the academy.

Sen. TOM HARKIN said all those qualities are why he recommended Rose for the U.S. attorney job and for the federal bench.

''I was enthralled by her at the interview,'' Harkin said. ''She has such a presence and such eloquence without the window dressing,'' he said laughing. ''She's genuine and sincere.''

Harkin said he doesn't foresee any problems with her being confirmed. More than 80 percent of President Barack Obama's nominees have been confirmed so far.

WHAT'S NEXT

Carl Tobias of the University of Richmond School of Law in Richmond, Va., who analyzes the judiciary, said it's in Rose's favor that she has been through a previous confirmation because it could go more quickly.

''It's kind of murky right now with the presidential election,'' he said. ''The confirmation process could slow down and even stop until after the convention. It's good that she has home state support from Sen. CHUCK GRASSLEY, who's on the Senate Judiciary Committee, but there are 21 others (federal judge nominees) ahead of her.''

However, Tobias didn't rule out the chance that Rose could be confirmed in time to take the bench in July.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Assistant U.S. attorney C.J. Williams described Ms. Rose's ability to quickly comprehend complex issues. Former assistant U.S. attorney Bob Teig, who retired last year after 31 years, said Thursday that Rose will make an ''excellent'' Federal judge. He went on to say:

She has experience in the courtroom and as an administrator. She has a broad view of the federal legal system and she's very intelligent. Stephanie will make a great addition to the federal bench.

U.S. District Judge Mark Bennett said:

She is very skilled. She doesn't have a personal agenda. She goes by the law.

U.S. District Judge John Jarvey of the Southern District said her prosecution record is impressive, noting ''Stephanie has won the respect of prosecutors and defense lawyers.''

Ms. Rose is also a member of the Iowa Academy of Trial Lawyers. Membership in the academy is limited to just 250 attorneys whose primary focus is on trial advocacy. Membership in this distinguished group is by invitation only, with unanimous approval by the Board of Governors. So Ms. Rose is 1 of only 15 women on the academy.

Mr. Leon Spies, the gentleman who nominated Ms. Rose for the academy, said he nominated her because she exhibited exactly what the organization strives for, ''the highest quality of trial advocacy and ethical responsibilities to clients and the law.''

If confirmed—and I am sure she will be confirmed—Ms. Rose will be the first woman to serve as Federal judge in the Southern District and only the second woman to serve on the Federal bench in Iowa's history. I congratulate Ms. Rose and wish her well as she assumes her duties as a U.S. district judge.

With her confirmation today the Senate will have confirmed 156 of President Obama's nominees to the district and circuit courts. The fact is we have

confirmed over 80 percent of President Obama's district nominees. During the last Presidential election year, the year 2008, the Senate confirmed a total of 28 judges—24 district and 4 circuit. This Presidential election year we will have exceeded those numbers. We have confirmed five circuit nominees, and Judge Rose will be the 29th district judge confirmed. That is a total of 34 judges this year versus 28 in the last Presidential election year. Yet even as we make consistent progress in filling judicial vacancies, there are still voices out there claiming otherwise.

For example, early last month the Des Moines Register of my State ran an editorial titled ''Judges Remain Hostages in the Senate.'' They stated in that editorial, in reference to the nomination of Ms. Rose, ''She will be lucky to come up for confirmation when the Senate reconvenes.'' Of course the vote had already been scheduled at that point, but they overlooked that fact.

The Register and other critics who erroneously blame vacancy rates in the Federal judiciary on Republican obstructionism overlook other facts as well. You have heard me say on the Senate floor that the Senate can only confirm judges who have been sent here from the White House. So if the White House has not sent judges here, we cannot, obviously, confirm judges who have not been submitted to the Senate.

In that regard, I would like to point out something from the New York Times—because a lot of times I think the New York Times would not do much to give us a basis for our position that we have done a pretty good job of confirming judges, and why aren't judges up here. An article dated August 17, 2012, sheds some light on this very subject. In that article, ''Obama Lags on Judicial Picks, Limiting His Mark on Courts,'' this newspaper, the Times, points out how President Obama made judicial nominations a lower political priority. The article discusses how two Supreme Court nominations, personnel upheavals, and the President's emphasis upon diversity also slowed the nominations process for lower court judges. In fact, even as we continue to confirm judges, the President continues to lag in nominations, including nominations to so-called judicial emergencies.

Today only 32 of the 78 current vacancies have a nominee here from the White House. Stated differently, nearly 60 percent of the current vacancies are without nominees. That has been the pattern for most of this administration.

Once again, I wanted to set the record straight, and I hope I have set it straight. Republicans have been more than fair to this President and his judicial nominees, considering the fact that we have so many vacancies that have not had a nominee submitted to the Senate for our consideration.

Again, I congratulate Ms. Rose.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I spoke earlier in greater detail about the nomination of Stephanie Rose to serve as a district court judge in Iowa's Southern District. That is the vote that is coming up at 5:30.

As the Senate begins to vote, I want to reiterate what an outstanding nominee she is. It is no surprise the American Bar Association rated her ''unanimously well qualified,'' which is their highest rating.

After graduating from law school in just 2 years in the top 5 percent of her class, she served for 12 years as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Northern District of Iowa under attorneys who were appointed by both Republican Presidents and Democratic Presidents. She was lead counsel in 260 felony cases and made 34 oral arguments before the Eighth Circuit. Most notably, she received a national award from the Department of Justice for prosecuting the largest unlawful Internet pharmacy case in the United States. Her work was so impressive that in 2009 I recommended her to the President to serve as U.S. attorney. In 2009 the Senate unanimously confirmed her, and she has been outstanding in her work as U.S. attorney since then.

Throughout her career of public service Ms. Rose has worked to uphold the rule of law, made our neighborhoods safer, promoted civil rights, and advanced the cause of justice. She possesses all the qualifications necessary to be a remarkably good Federal judge. She is a superb attorney and among jurists, prosecutors, and the defense bar she has a reputation of someone who is unfailingly fair and ethical and one who possesses exceptional legal ability, intellect, and judgment.

Finally, let me reiterate my appreciation to Senator LEAHY, the chairman, but also, again, to Senator GRASSLEY, my senior Senator from the State of Iowa, and to their staffs, especially Jeremy Paris and Ted Lehman, and Senator GRASSLEY's chief of staff, David Young, for their support and all their assistance in getting this nomination through.

I also thank my chief of staff Brian Albert, and Dan Goldberg, Derek Miller, and Pam Smith on my staff and my committee staff.

In essence, Ms. Rose is a person of truly outstanding intellect and character. She is exceptionally qualified to serve as U.S. district judge for the Southern District of Iowa. I urge my colleagues to support her confirmation when the vote occurs in just a few minutes.

I yield the floor. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Stephanie Marie Rose, of Iowa, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Iowa?

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HAGAN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 89, nays 1, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 190 Ex.]

YEAS—89

Akaka	Feinstein	McConnell
Alexander	Franken	Menendez
Ayotte	Gillibrand	Merkley
Barrasso	Graham	Mikulski
Baucus	Grassley	Moran
Begich	Hagan	Murray
Bennet	Harkin	Nelson (NE)
Bingaman	Hatch	Nelson (FL)
Blumenthal	Heller	Pryor
Blunt	Hoeven	Reed
Boozman	Hutchison	Reid
Boxer	Inhofe	Risch
Brown (MA)	Inouye	Roberts
Brown (OH)	Isakson	Rockefeller
Burr	Johanns	Sanders
Cantwell	Johnson (SD)	Schumer
Cardin	Johnson (WI)	Sessions
Carper	Kerry	Shelby
Casey	Klobuchar	Snowe
Chambliss	Kohl	Stabenow
Coats	Kyl	Tester
Cochran	Landrieu	Thune
Collins	Leahy	Toomey
Conrad	Lee	Udall (CO)
Coons	Levin	Udall (NM)
Corker	Lieberman	Warner
Cornyn	Lugar	Webb
Crapo	Manchin	Wicker
Durbin	McCain	Wyden
Enzi	McCaskill	

NAYS—1

DeMint

NOT VOTING—10

Coburn	Paul	Vitter
Kirk	Portman	Whitehouse
Lautenberg	Rubio	
Murkowski	Shaheen	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table. The President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative session.

VETERANS JOBS CORPS ACT OF 2012—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

THE FARM BILL

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, as we come back into session this evening and into September, as Chair of the Agriculture Committee I have one message for colleagues in the House of Representatives—for the Speaker, for the Republican leadership—and that is, we need a farm bill now.

We have 20 days until the farm bill expires—only 20 days. If that happens, if the Republican leadership does not work with us to pass a 5-year farm bill, they are going to reset the clock for rural America all the way back to 1949. Because if the farm bill expires, we go back to Depression-era policies that include government planting restrictions and expensive price supports—absolutely unacceptable.

Some of those policies even reference prices from before World War I. This would be terrible for our family farmers and ranchers. It would throw the markets into complete disarray. There is no reason this should be allowed to happen. The full Senate has worked together and passed a bipartisan farm bill. The House Agriculture Committee worked together and passed a bipartisan farm bill. It is time for the House to complete its work. The House Republican leadership has refused to let the bipartisan bill come up for a vote.

Despite our best efforts in speaking with colleagues and working together over the August break to try to come up with a way to get this done, we find ourselves in a position now where our only opportunity is for the House to take up the bill that was passed by their committee and get this done. I have never seen a situation where a farm bill—this is my fourth one I have been involved with—comes out of committee on a bipartisan basis, and then the House will not take it up, which is exactly where we are.

Instead, they sent us a so-called disaster relief bill that, unfortunately, only helps some livestock producers with the drought this year. It does nothing for the rest of the Nation's farmers who have been hurt so badly this year by frost and freezes. Our farm bill does that. In fact, our farm bill is better for livestock. It is a permanent livestock disaster assistance program with a better structure and support than that which was sent by the House of Representatives.

A full 5-year farm bill gives much more comprehensive disaster assistance to livestock producers and to other farmers who have been hit. Other farmers who have watched as their crops withered under the unforgiving Sun want to know that not only will we have a 5-year policy in place, but that we are going to strengthen crop insurance, which is really the backbone of supporting farmers in these kinds of situations.

We strengthen crop insurance and expand it so more farmers can have access to risk management tools on their farms. That was the No. 1 issue that we heard in all of our hearings, to strengthen crop insurance. And that is what we did. That is one of the reasons we need to get a 5-year farm bill done.

I am looking at my colleague from Iowa, the distinguished Senator who chaired the committee before me. I know he shares the same feeling that I do, that we need to get this bill done in the House of Representatives.

We know our farm bill also fixes dairy support so dairies do not go through what they went through in 2009, when thousands of farms went bankrupt. Frankly, not changing the policy for dairy is a disaster waiting to happen. So we need to get the farm bill done.

We also reform programs. We know we have ended direct payments and altogether four different subsidies, saving $15 billion while strengthening crop insurance. We streamline and address duplication, crack down on waste, fraud, and abuse. In the end, our bill saves $23 billion for taxpayers—$23 billion to pay down the debt. The only real deficit reform we passed in the Senate was our farm bill, which we worked on together.

Unbelievably, the House Republican leadership still stands in the way of passing our bipartisan bill or their own committee's bipartisan bill. On Wednesday we are going to see thousands of farmers around the country coming to Washington with a simple message: We need a farm bill now. Members are going to have visits from farmers and ranchers from their States. House Members will be hearing from members in their districts. They have one simple message. Those farmers knew when there is work to be done you do not put it off to another day. Not if you are going to be successful as a farmer. And we shouldn't be kicking the can down the road either. They can't say: I don't want to harvest my crops right now. I think I will do it in a few months or next year or tell the banker to wait until later so I can figure out what I have to make decisions on for next year. They know that when the crops need to be harvested, the work needs to get done now.

Well, we have 19 days left. This is day 20. We are going to count it down every day because we have to get this done in the House of Representatives. We did our job in the Senate on a bipartisan basis. I was very proud to join with our colleague Senator ROBERTS and all of our committee who worked so well together and worked so hard, and I again thank the leadership on both sides of the aisle for giving us the time to get it done. We got it done, and we did it in enough time to give the House time to do it in July before the August break. But that didn't happen. Now it is time to get it done. The House Agriculture Committee did its job. It is time for the House Republican leadership to schedule a vote to get this done, to support rural America—our farmers and ranchers and families who are counting on the safest, most affordable food system in the world to be able to continue. We don't need to kick this can down the road and create another crisis for farm country.

Madam President, I wish to thank my colleagues who are waiting to talk about another very important subject. I appreciate their giving me the time for a few words.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, would the Senator yield for a question?

Ms. STABENOW. I would be happy to yield.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, I would like to compliment the Senator from Michigan for her great leadership on agriculture policy, food policy. A big part of this bill is making sure that our kids in America get adequate nutrition, that our elderly get good nutrition. Our summer and afterschool feeding programs and feeding programs for our seniors are all wrapped up in this bill too.

I was in Iowa in August and met with a lot of farmers, and they were a little perplexed.

They said: Wait a minute. You passed a bill in the Senate?

I said: Yes.

So I ask the Senator from Michigan, did not that bill have the support of all the major farm organizations?

Ms. STABENOW. Absolutely. We had the support of farm groups and conservation groups all across the country.

Mr. HARKIN. I ask the Senator from Michigan, did not her bill, the bill she engineered and got through here, have the support of consumer groups and parent groups?

Ms. STABENOW. Absolutely.

Mr. HARKIN. It had all that support?

Ms. STABENOW. Absolutely. And because of the wonderful work of the Senator from Iowa on our school nutrition efforts and the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, we had the strong support of families, educators, and schools across the country.

Mr. HARKIN. Conservation groups supported the bill?

Ms. STABENOW. Absolutely.

Mr. HARKIN. Well, what farmers asked me was this: If you had a bill that passed the Senate, a bipartisan bill supported by all the major farm groups, supported by consumer and

conservation groups, why didn't the House just pick it up and pass it?

I didn't have an answer. Does the Senator from Michigan have an answer? Because I don't understand why the House can't take a bill that is so widely supported and is such a bipartisan bill and just pass it.

Ms. STABENOW. Well, the distinguished Senator is absolutely right. One would think this would be the time to just pass it. And frankly, if not, because we know the House committee has a little different view on commodities, we offered to sit down all through August to work that out so we could come back now and come up with something that was a compromise. But the House committee wasn't able to do that because they do not have the support of the leadership to get that done. So here is where we are. What I know is that we have to have movement. We have to have the House act or we are not going to be able to get this done.

Mr. HARKIN. I say to my friend from Michigan, my leader on agricultural policy, she knows there is enough anxiety in farm country now because of the terrible droughts we are having around the country, the shortages that are looming, that now is not the time to add more anxiety to farmers and to farm families and our rural communities across America. So I thank the Senator for her great leadership and for pointing out that as well as acting. Our committee has acted, the Senate has acted, and what the House is doing I just can't figure out.

Again, I compliment the chairwoman of our committee for pointing out that we have 20 days left and we are counting down. I am hopeful the House will hear the voices of our farm country and the bipartisan voices here in the Senate and get a bill passed—or agree to the bill passed in the Senate. I thank the Senator from Michigan.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when I have completed my statement, Senator HARKIN be permitted to take the floor at that time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE RYAN BUDGET

Mrs. BOXER. I wish to thank Senator HARKIN because he and I were spending a little time together in the great State of our Presiding Officer, and he and I agreed that one of the issues that ought to be talked about a little bit more involves the stark choice we are facing in November in large part due to the budget of PAUL RYAN, who is now the Vice Presidential nominee for the Republicans. And Governor Romney has endorsed and embraced the Ryan budget.

I think it was Senator HARKIN's idea that we ought to explain that Ryan budget, so I am going to do my best to talk about it as the chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, which has the jurisdiction of highways, bridges, transportation systems, and the environment, and I will also make a couple of comments about Medicare. I know Senator HARKIN is going to go into that in great depth.

I want to make sure everybody understands that what I am talking about comes straight from the budget. So if you look at page 78 of the report accompanying the Ryan budget resolution, Mr. RYAN makes it clear he wants to make devastating cuts to transportation. What do I mean when I say that? I mean devastating. I mean a 50-percent cut, which means about 1 million jobs would be lost if the Ryan budget were to go into effect. We are talking about construction jobs—an area that has been hit so hard. We still haven't come back from this recession. And if there is one thing we learned when we were in the Presiding Officer's great State at that convention, it was the depth of this recession—the worst since the Great Depression. What a time PAUL RYAN picks to bring devastating cuts to the construction industry. I am talking about businesses and jobs mostly in the private sector, not the public sector.

We have to think about the fact that 70,000 of our bridges are deficient and 50 percent of our roads are not in good condition. We know bridges fail. We have seen it happen. We are not only talking about devastating cuts to the construction industry and its workers but a devastating situation for people who use our bridges—the 70,000 of which are structurally deficient—and our roads, which need help. So no country can lead the world if we can't move people and goods, and we cannot be a world power when it comes to transportation.

The Ryan budget is a jobs killer. I am talking about 1 million jobs that would be lost—in the private sector mostly—and it would put our families at risk by neglecting our bridges, our highways and our transit systems. Now, President Obama, on the other hand—and, frankly, a lot of us here on both sides of the aisle—reject the notion that we can walk away from rebuilding our infrastructure. So this is a very key issue.

I said I wanted to speak as the chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, and I have talked a little bit about public works, but what does the Ryan budget do to the environment? What he does is he undermines the public health protections provided by the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and other landmark laws.

If we look at pages 13 to page 15 of his budget, we can see he cuts $62 billion for activities such as protecting our drinking water, protecting our air, and preserving our public lands. Let's face it: When kids get asthma, when people are too sick to go to work, when children are too sick to go to school, and when people die prematurely from heart attacks because of the air quality, there are no real savings. He says he is cutting $62 billion from the budget. Let me just say that for every dollar we spend on clean air protections, we know we get $30 worth of benefits. In 2010 alone, the Clean Air Act prevented 160,000 premature deaths. Ask a family who stands to lose the breadwinner in that family: Did we save money? No.

Let me cite some numbers: 1.7 million asthma attacks, 130,000 heart attacks, 86,000 emergency room visits, 13 million lost workdays, and 3.2 million lost schooldays. In 2010 the Clean Air Act prevented all that.

So what is the point, Mr. RYAN? What is the point? It will cost the American public dearly out of their pockets and out of their lives if they suffer more asthma attacks, emergency room visits, lost workdays, lost schooldays, and they have more heart attacks and premature deaths. That is shortsighted. The American Lung Association—and they are not Republican or Democratic—says that 40 percent of our population lives in areas with unhealthy levels of smog or toxic soot.

So let's remember that when we look at a budget, there is a set of values that accompany the numbers. And I don't think it is an American value to say to our people that we don't care if they get sick, they miss work, or they go to the emergency room.

Finally, I want to set the stage for Senator HARKIN's very in-depth discussion about health care. I am just going to talk about Medicare and Medicaid as someone who is privileged to represent, along with Senator FEINSTEIN, the largest State in the Union, with the most senior citizens. We have almost 38 million people. So whenever I talk about this Ryan budget and how many people get hurt, believe me, I speak from the heart when I say we can't let it happen.

The American people know Medicare, they like it, and they do not want to change it. Now, the Republicans tell us their plan saves Medicare. But just ask someone. Ask someone who is going to be the victim of the PAUL RYAN plan if we don't stop it. That person will find they are getting a voucher; they are not getting Medicare. Medicare will be gone. They will get a voucher, and experts tell us and the studies show that voucher will be almost $6,000 a year short. Imagine an older person who really is struggling for a quality of life having to have the added worry of not knowing whether he or she will be able to find health insurance.

Look, putting Republicans in charge of Medicare is like putting the Cookie Monster in charge of your favorite bakery. And I am not overstating it. No one would put the Cookie Monster in charge of their favorite bakery. Well, we can't put the Republicans in charge of Medicare, and I will prove why. This isn't just rhetoric. Listen. In 1995 Newt Gingrich said he thought Medicare, in his words, should wither on the vine. In his 1996 Presidential campaign, Senate majority leader Bob Dole bragged:

I was there fighting the fight, voting against Medicare, because we knew it wouldn't work in 1965.

Really? Really. Medicare works. Why would we end it? We are not going to end it. But if PAUL RYAN gets into power, he will have a good chance of ending it with his friend and Presidential candidate Mitt Romney who has endorsed the Ryan budget.

Listen to what Michael Steele, the head of the Republican National Committee, said in 2009:

I mean, the reality of it is this single-payer program known as Medicare is a good example of what we should not have happen.

The Ryan budget at page 53 shreds Medicare. As if he hasn't slammed Medicare enough, look what he does to Medicaid. He cuts it by more than $800 billion. Where are low-income families going to go?

Senator HARKIN is the expert, but I can tell you this. So many of our elderly rely on Medicaid for nursing home costs. It is a disaster. We know that in addition to all these terrible cuts—and by the way, when PAUL RYAN attacks President Obama for cutting money from Medicare, what he isn't telling us is the President has found savings from overpayments to providers. Do you know what he does with the money? He puts it right back into Medicare, extends the life of the program for 8 years, closes the doughnut hole to help seniors, and gives senior citizens preventive health care, well checkups, and the like.

To quote President Clinton, that ''takes a lot of brass.'' Because the fact is, President Obama has strengthened Medicare and has extended the life of Medicare. What PAUL RYAN does is he takes those cuts and he gives tax breaks to millionaires and billionaires.

I yield to my friend.

Mr. HARKIN. I thank the Senator for yielding, and I thank the Senator for her keen eye on the Ryan budget and what it does.

I listened to the Senator's explanation of President Obama's goal to cut down overpayments, fraud and abuse, and to put that money back into helping beneficiaries. I ask the Senator, isn't it true that both Ryan budgets incorporate those very same cuts President Obama wants to do?

Mrs. BOXER. Absolutely. Both his budgets take the same amount. But instead of putting it back into Medicare, he robs Medicare, and Medicare will go broke—my understanding—in 2016 under the Ryan plan; whereas, President Obama puts the money back into Medicare, extends the life 8 years, and gives more benefits.

I am going to finish up and just say this. However you look at this, this Ryan budget is a roadmap for disaster for the American people. He cuts the heart out of things the American people like. The American people want clean air, they want safe drinking water, they want Medicare, they want to make sure our seniors can be safe in nursing homes. The American people want transportation—and they don't want to be worried if a car is on a bridge that is going to fall down into the water below. It has happened.

Here is the deal. If we were to say to Mr. RYAN: Are you cutting all this so you could balance the budget today, he would say: Oh, no; that is 25 years from now.

What is he doing with the ''savings''? He is giving these huge tax breaks. I will close with this. People earning more than $1 million a year are going to receive $400,000 more in tax breaks every year. So he cuts everything to give these tax breaks to the people who already have millions and billions, but it is still not enough. As President Obama has pointed out, he will then have to go after the middle class and take away middle-class tax deductions, such as the home mortgage deduction, because he doesn't even get enough money from these Draconian cuts. He has to go ahead and raise taxes on the middle class.

I watched Presidential nominee Romney be asked this question: What are you going to cut? He said: Well, we will discuss it later. Mr. RYAN, the Republican Vice Presidential nominee, said: We will work with Congress on it. Right.

Listen, they know they have to make Draconian tax increases on the middle class and the working poor. They have to cut the things America wants in order to pay for their tax cuts. No wonder Mr. Romney picked Mr. RYAN. Mr. Romney will be in the 1-percent tax bracket—that is what the experts say—can you imagine?—while his secretaries and everybody else pay through the nose.

These next 60 days or so is an important time for us. I wish to thank my friend from Iowa because I was very interested in laying out some of these issues and he encouraged me to do so. I am very delighted to be here with him.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, let me thank my colleague Senator BOXER for always being on point and for always being very eloquent in her focus and explanation of the fallacies of the Ryan-Romney budget and how it is going to affect our middle-class families in the future.

Since we recessed around the 1st of August and have been out of session, Congressman PAUL RYAN—our colleague in the House—has become the Vice Presidential nominee of the Republican Party, and, of course, Mr. Romney has accepted the nomination to be President. Congressman RYAN is not an unknown quantity. He has been here quite a few years, and as the head of the Budget Committee he has put forward a couple budgets. Budgets are blueprints. If one is going to build a building or a house, they need a blueprint. If you are going to try to move the country in a certain direction, you need a blueprint, and that blueprint is a budget. A budget sort of tells us where it is that the proponent of that budget wants to take us as a country—a Federal budget. If it was a State budget, we would say that is where they want to take the State.

So we on this side intend, over the next several days, couple weeks—however long we are in session—to let the American people know what is in the Ryan budget and where it would take America: What is the blueprint they have for America?

Our Nation faces an absolutely fundamental choice in November: Are we going to rescue, restore, and rebuild the struggling middle class in this country or are we going to continue to shift even more wealth and advantage to those at the top at the expense of the middle class? Republicans have made it very clear where they stand on this critical choice. They did so when nearly every Republican in Congress voted in favor of the Ryan budget plan, and Governor Romney embraced that plan as marvelous—not exactly a word most average Americans would use to describe something they like. But if you are having tea at the Ritz, I guess ''marvelous'' kind of fits for some people. Anyway, he embraced the plan as marvelous.

The very centerpiece of the Ryan budget is a dramatic shift of even more wealth to those at the top, huge new tax cuts for the richest 2 percent. As the Senator from California pointed out, if we take the Bush tax cuts and extend those—which Mr. Romney would do and Mr. RYAN's budget does—then add on to it the tax cuts in the Ryan budget—which Mr. Romney supports, so I can call it the Romney-Ryan budget or the Ryan-Romney budget. If we do that and you make over $1 million a year, you are going to get nearly $400,000 a year in new tax cuts. Think about it. It takes your breath away—$129,000 in the Bush tax cuts would be extended, plus an additional $265,000 that would be in the Ryan budget.

We hear a lot about entitlements; we are going to cut entitlements. But this is an entitlement. Think about it. If someone makes over $1 million a year, they are entitled to that. They don't have to do anything else. They don't have to jump through any hoops. They don't have to show any hurt or anything else. Just if someone makes over $1 million, they are entitled to it. How about this entitlement? Republicans always want to make it seem as though entitlements only go to poor people or the elderly or children. They talk about Medicaid as an entitlement. What about this? This is an entitlement to those who are rich.

How do the Republicans pay for this? They don't want to say how, but all we have to do is look at the Ryan budget and that will tell us how they pay for it. They pay for it by massive Draconian cuts to programs that undergird the middle class and essential to the quality of life in this country, such as

education cuts, student grants and loan cuts, law enforcement, clean air and clean water, food safety, medical research, highways, bridges and other infrastructure that was focused on by the Senator from California—all those would be cut.

The Republican plan would end Medicare, period. It would turn it into voucher care. So now we have a new word, not Medicare but voucher care, that would force seniors to pay nearly $6,000 more per year out of pocket for their health care in future years. We don't get Medicare; we get a voucher. That plan would strip tens of millions of Americans of their health care coverage and cut millions of poor kids from nutrition programs. Their plan would leave America with a less-skilled workforce, a deteriorating infrastructure, making us less competitive in the global marketplace.

Lastly, Republicans offset these big new tax cuts by actually raising taxes on the middle class. That is a dirty little secret you won't find unless you dig into the Ryan budget. It is true. Here is why: Under the Republican plan, under the Ryan-Romney budget, middle-class families are net losers, paying significantly higher taxes. The wealthy are huge net winners. The nonpartisan Tax Policy Center estimates that under the Romney-Ryan budget, middle-class families with children would see their taxes go up, on average, by more than $2,000 a year.

The bottom line is that the Romney-Ryan budget does not reduce the deficit. I hear Congressman RYAN and Mr. Romney out there talking on the stump about the budget and the deficit, and they go on and on. Why don't they own up to it? The Ryan budget keeps us in a deficit for 28 more years. Yes, you heard me right. The Ryan budget keeps us in the red for 28 more years.

When President Clinton was inaugurated in January of 1993 and we put through the Clinton budget—which, I might point out, not one Republican supported—it turned those deficits right around, and within 5 or 6 years we were in a surplus. It doesn't take 28 years. It only took a Democratic President and a Democratic Congress passing the legislation in 1993 to end the slide into deficits and turn it into a surplus in only 5 or 6 years. The Ryan budget keeps us in a deficit for 28 years. Again, the savings they gain by slashing spending and raising taxes on the middle class go to partially offsetting the $4.5 trillion in new tax cuts, most of which goes to the wealthiest Americans.

The truth is Representative RYAN is not interested in balancing the budget. That is not his interest. Even under his most rosy assumptions, the budget would not balance until 2040. The reality is the Ryan budget's overriding goal is not to balance the budget but to reduce taxes on those at the top. Congressman RYAN has turned out to be a true acolyte of former Vice President Cheney, who famously said in an unguarded moment: ''Deficits don't matter.'' Do you remember that? Vice President Cheney, ''Deficits don't matter.'' I guess they didn't to him and President George W. Bush because look at the deficits they plunged us into. Now Congressman RYAN is basically, with his budget—he will not say it publicly, but with his budget he is saying the same thing: Deficits just don't matter. What matters are tax cuts for the wealthy.

Never in our history have we seen a deficit proposal so radical and extreme. I was here. I was in the House and then later in the Senate when President Reagan was President. He was conservative, but he was not radical and as extreme as this budget. When I tell people back in Iowa about the Ryan budget, they say: Come on. That approach is so extreme and unbalanced you must be making it up.

The Romney-Ryan plan is extreme and unbalanced, and I am not making it up. Don't take my word for it. Listen to former House Speaker Newt Gingrich. He criticized the Ryan budget. He called it ''rightwing social engineering.'' All I can say is, Newt, you got that one right.

Representative RYAN believes in radically shrinking the size of government to what it was over a half century ago. His aim is to use the deficit crisis as a pretext for degrading and dismantling everything from Medicare and Medicaid to education, environmental protection, workplace safety, medical and scientific research, and on and on. It doubles down, as President Clinton said—it doubles down on the theory that if we just give more and more of our national wealth to those at the top, it will magically trickle down.

We have tried that before. It sure does not work.

I would like to focus some more of my remarks this evening on the devastating impact of the Romney-Ryan budget on Medicare and Medicaid, but health care more generally. Since he first arrived in Congress, Representative RYAN has consistently pushed a very radical health care program—to end Medicare. End Medicare, as we say, ''as we know it'' but to go to voucher care. Give everybody a voucher. Under his proposal, seniors would no longer have the guaranteed medical benefits they have enjoyed for decades. Instead, they would get a voucher from the Federal Government and they can go out and buy individual private insurance or Medicare.

That is the catchy little thing. We will hear Mr. RYAN and Mr. Romney say they can buy Medicare if they would like to or they can buy private insurance. Let's look at that.

They say this is a tough-minded solution to our debt problem, but it is just a scheme, a scheme to shift costs onto America's seniors rather than making debt reduction a shared sacrifice for all of us.

Again, let's look at this voucher system. They would get a voucher program. A senior could buy traditional Medicare or health insurance. So what is the catch? The voucher will not be enough to cover health care costs. So seniors' out-of-pocket health care costs will steadily increase. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office has projected that the Ryan budget proposal could increase annual out-of-pocket costs for seniors by more than $1,200 in 2030 and $6,000 in 2050.

What this chart shows is the increase in health care costs in today's dollars, constant dollars, that elderly persons will have to pay for during their expected lifetime, their average life expectancy from the time they retire. In 2023 the average senior living an average lifespan would pay $59,500 more. Senator BOXER rounded that off and said $60,000 more. But look what happens when we get to 2030. The average senior will pay $124,600 more over their expected lifespan; in 2040, $216,000 more. By 2050, $331,000 more for their retirement years they would have to pay in health care costs. That is in constant 2012 dollars.

They say: But a senior can go out and buy traditional Medicare or private health insurance. Here is the catch on that. What they do is put Medicare in a death spiral. Here is how.

If a person is a very healthy senior they can go out in the private insurance market and probably get a pretty good deal. If they have no preexisting conditions, if they have never had cancer, no one in their family has had it, if they are very healthy, they have never smoked, they are just in great physical shape, they can probably go out and get a private, cheap private insurance policy with their voucher.

So who stays in Medicare then? The oldest and the sickest, and therefore the costs of Medicare spiral up and spiral up and it becomes untenable. It is a death spiral. That is Mr. RYAN's way of killing Medicare.

Yes, he says people will get a voucher, and they can buy Medicare or they can buy private insurance, but it puts Medicare into a death spiral. The Ryan budget turns this successful, reliable, comprehensive source of health care that seniors have relied on for decades—and have paid into, I might add, during their years of hard work—into some unproven, unpredictable, rightwing, conservative experiment. I do not want to experiment with the elderly. I want them to have good health care they can afford, that is universal, and that they can count on.

President Obama has fought to strengthen Medicare, and he believes, as we do, it is a sacred contract. He has made a commitment to strengthen Medicare in the Affordable Care Act. For example, by eliminating the gaps in coverage, closing the doughnut hole—which we have already started to do—elderly Iowans, I think, received over $600 back this year just from closing the doughnut hole.

Reducing the cost of prescription drugs. According to Medicare's own actuaries, the Affordable Care Act,

ObamaCare, extends the program solvency from 2016 to 2024. Again, how? As the Senator from California said, by fighting waste, fraud, abuse and by getting rid of wasteful subsidies to insurance companies. Our plan for Medicare is basically summed up: Mend it but don't end it.

I was taken a little aback yesterday. Over the weekend Governor Romney stated he would keep some of the popular provisions of the Affordable Care Act. Like what? Well, like kids staying on their parents' insurance plans until they are 26 and ensuring coverage for folks with preexisting conditions.

I said: Wait a second. I thought he said on the first day he was going to repeal ObamaCare? But now he says he wants to keep those. I was a little confused, but my confusion was short-lived because his campaign then came out with a clarifying statement. They clarified what Governor Romney said, and this is the quote:

> Governor Romney will ensure that discrimination against individuals with preexisting conditions who maintain continuous coverage is prohibited.

The Washington Post reports that 89 million Americans would be left out of Romney's preexisting condition plan. Why? They were working and they had a health plan. They were out of work for a month or two—maybe went someplace else to work and got a different plan: Sorry, you didn't have continuous coverage. You don't get covered.

These are the little games that Governor Romney and Congressman RYAN are playing with the American people.

Mr. DURBIN. Will the Senator from Iowa yield for a question?

Mr. HARKIN. I am delighted to yield to my friend from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. I was trying to understand this Republican position. It used to be crystal clear. In 23 debates we heard Republican candidates say, one after another after another: First day in office ObamaCare is gone. But I heard the same thing the Senator did, and I have tried to understand it.

I do give Governor Romney some credence in this regard. I have said, when asked, he is the baby daddy of ObamaCare because it was Governor Romney who created the first version of ObamaCare in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and he understood—I hope the Senator from Iowa can help me to understand, and those listening—he understood the concept of insurance. If everyone who bought an insurance policy wrecked their car or got sick the next day, insurance would not work. The only way it works is most people are safe drivers. They buy insurance and a small percentage use it. So there is a pool of money collected from premiums creating a reserve for accidents.

Here we have a situation where Governor Romney has agreed with us—I commend him—that people with preexisting conditions when it comes to health care should not be discriminated against. But the Senator from Iowa, as chair of the committee that dealt with ObamaCare, knows what adverse selection means. It means if people wait until they are sick to buy health insurance the whole system falls apart. So in Massachusetts they required everybody to buy health insurance.

Mr. HARKIN. I think that is called an individual mandate?

Mr. DURBIN. An individual mandate, some critics might say. Some of us call it individual responsibility. And we did the same, when it came to health care reform, keeping in mind if people currently have health insurance and like their doctor, like their hospital, we are not going to change their lives one bit. But for those who are out in the marketplace, the availability of health insurance would be there, but everyone has the responsibility to buy it.

We don't think twice when we have a closing on a home. We need fire insurance on this home. My home has never burned down, thank goodness, but I buy fire insurance. That is individual responsibility so there is something to pay the mortgage off if the house burns down.

But in this circumstance what I understand Governor Romney to say is we don't think insurance companies should discriminate against people with preexisting conditions. OK, I am with him. But then he goes on to say—I think the point the Senator made—let's kind of bear on this for a minute—what he goes on to say is so long as people have had continuous insurance.

What if a person was unlucky enough to lose a job? Out of luck. Their preexisting conditions just disqualified them from health insurance. They are stuck, under the Romney approach. What if they had any kind of interruption whatsoever in their insurance coverage? They are dead in the water. So when we talk about taking uninsured people, bringing them into insurance that has quality to it, quality coverage where they cannot discriminate against people, we are saying whatever their previous insurance experience we are all going to get into this together. We are all coming into the tent together and they cannot be discriminated against because they are a woman, had a baby—all the different things they have used.

So when we listen closely to it, here was Governor Romney basically saying he is against the discrimination on preexisting conditions, but then footnoted down at the bottom of the page—as long as people have had continuous coverage. It is an empty promise. It doesn't give people anywhere near the protection and insurance that ObamaCare gives. That is what I understand to be the difference.

Is that the way the Senator understands Governor Romney's clarification of his statement of yesterday?

Mr. HARKIN. I thoroughly agree with my friend from Illinois. Governor Romney makes the statement. It is on a very popular well-viewed Sunday talk show, ''Meet The Press.'' So the average American says: Oh, Governor Romney, he is for keeping coverage for preexisting conditions. That is good. That is nice to know.

They do not hear the clarification that came about later because that was not on ''Meet The Press.'' That was sort of under the radar, when they said they wanted to clarify what Governor Romney meant was he would prevent discrimination against individuals with preexisting conditions who maintain continuous coverage. As the Washington Post pointed out, there are 89 million Americans who would be disqualified because they had a plan, they lost it because they moved or something like that, and picked up another plan. There goes their coverage. Just think about that. You are a family. Let's say your spouse has a preexisting condition—it could be diabetes, it could be cancer, it could be anything—but you have been covered under a plan. President Obama, with the Affordable Care Act, ObamaCare, says beginning in 2014, just as we now cover children, no plan can discriminate against you because of a preexisting condition. What Romney is saying with his clarification is only if you have always had that plan. What if you are a family that moved from one State to another due to a job issue? You move and your spouse or maybe one of your children who is perhaps still on your policy and has a preexisting condition won't be covered. They will not cover them. Mr. Romney didn't say that on ''Meet the Press.''

Mr. DURBIN. I say to the Senator from Iowa that I met so many people in my State of Illinois who said, I cannot leave my job because I don't know if I can ever find health insurance again. I am stuck because I have a child or a spouse with a problem. The real world of human experience tells us this happens all the time. It makes me wonder sometimes. There are 8 or 9 million Americans—almost one out of three Americans—not covered by this Romney plan. How does this solve any problems? If we are not going to have health insurance we can count on when we need it, it is worthless. It is a subsidy the insurance company doesn't pay off when the family needs it.

I didn't mean to interrupt the Senator from Iowa, but I wanted to make that point very strongly.

Mr. HARKIN. I want to say one other thing about this idea of the individual mandate then-Governor Romney supported in Massachusetts. We all have it within us—I think especially as Americans—that we don't like to be told anything. We don't like to have a mandate put on us. Well, as the chair of the health committee, and someone who is very much involved in this process of getting the Affordable Care Act through, I want to make it very clear, you don't have to buy insurance. There is no individual mandate that says you have to buy insurance. I want to make that clear, and I want to keep making

that point. I have been making that point for months now. You don't have to buy insurance. It just says if you don't buy it and you get real sick and want to get in line to get health insurance, you pay a penalty. They call it a free-rider penalty.

Have we ever seen that before? How about Medicare? We have it in Medicare. When you turn 65, you don't have to get Part B. No one tells you that you have to do that. If you wait until you are 67, 68, 69, or 70, you pay more. You will pay a lot more than if you picked it up at 62 or 65 when you retired because it is a free-rider penalty. So we have to get rid of this idea that this is some kind of individual mandate that you are forced to do something. No, you are not forced to do it. But if you are a free rider, and you say I will only go when I get sick—like the car accident the Senator pointed out—yes, you pay a penalty. That is all. You don't have a mandate. You just have to pay a penalty. I think when we describe that, I would say that sounds fair. If you are not going to be in the insurance pool—it is as though I am not going to have car insurance, but if I have a wreck, I want to call the insurance company and they will insure me to the moment right before the wreck. That is nonsense. Of course, we don't do that.

Well, as I said, I intend to take the floor today, tomorrow, and for the next several days to point out what the Ryan plan does overall but basically in health care.

We mentioned Medicare. Let's talk about Medicaid. How about Medicaid? What does Medicaid do? Basically, as I have said many times, it is there to give a decent quality of health care and a quality of life to the hopeless, the helpless, and the hapless. It is for people who otherwise sort of fall through the cracks, people who need health care who cannot afford it or who, because of their life situation, have never been able to get any kind of health care coverage.

Well, here is what he does. I will get into this more. The Medicaid funding, which the Senator from California mentioned, over 10 years takes over $810 billion—that is with a ''b,'' not million—out of Medicare. What does that mean? Who does that hurt? Well, 1 out of every 2 Americans with a disability uses Medicaid. That is who is hurt. Services in the Medicaid Program allow our citizens with disabilities to live with dignity and purpose in their homes and in their communities. Three million seniors and people with disabilities use the program to avoid having to go into a nursing home.

How about Medicaid for middle-class families? We always think that Medicaid is just for people with disabilities or just for poor people. How about Americans in the middle class? How about American middle-class families? There are hundreds of thousands of American families who have children with lifelong disabilities such as Down's syndrome or autism. Medicaid gives them a lifeline or middle-class families would be paying out of their pockets for the health care costs of their children for their entire lifetimes. Yes, this is one of the entitlements they want to cut. Medicaid is an entitlement.

Well, how about that tax plan? If you are a millionaire—that is all you have to be. All you have to do is have an income of over $1 million a year and you get huge tax benefits. How about that entitlement? No, they don't touch that one. At the center of the Ryan budget is his promise to repeal the Affordable Care Act, ObamaCare, a commonsense health reform that led the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to have one of the lowest uninsurance rates in the country. ObamaCare—I know the Republicans have been using that as a pejorative. I say it proudly.

I was with President Obama in Iowa a couple of weeks ago when he spoke to a huge group of students at my alma mater, Iowa State University. There was a big sign in the back that said ''ObamaCare.'' President Obama looked at it and said, yes, ObamaCare. Speaking of himself in the third person, he said: Yes, Obama does care. He said, I care about making sure everyone is covered who has a preexisting condition. I want to make sure that kids can stay on their parents' policy while they are in college. Yes, I want to make sure that the elderly have a good, affordable Medicare Program. Yes, I want to make sure that people have good preventive health care systems in America. Obama cares, that is what ObamaCare is. Obama cares, and he cares very deeply that we have a health care system for all and not just for a few. As was said by President Clinton in his speech, an American policy based upon ''we're all in this together is much better than the policy of tough luck, you're on your own,'' which is the Ryan budget philosophy.

When we get past the political theater and look at what the Ryan budget actually means, it is not a very pretty picture. The Ryan budget would repeal the prescription drug doughnut hole closure we are doing. It would allow insurance companies to charge as much as $300 for preventive services. One of the key elements we put in ObamaCare: 86 million Americans received at least one free preventive service last year, and more this year. Almost 1 million Iowans received one free preventive service in 2011. That means they got preventive care so they don't get sicker and cost us more money. Again, the Ryan budget would allow people to deny you coverage or increase your premiums if you have a preexisting condition.

This protection means a lot to this person right here. This is Eleanor Pierce from Cedar Falls, IA. I spoke about her before. She was denied health insurance when she lost her job because of her preexisting condition of high blood pressure. Without coverage she racked up $60,000 in medical debt. The Ryan budget would repeal ObamaCare. They would tell people like Eleanor Pierce: Tough luck, you are on your own. We are not all in this together. You mean you are not worth $1 million? Tough luck, you are on your own.

Repeal will allow insurance companies to put limits on the coverage of more than 100 million Americans, stopping benefits right when they get sick. Repeal would kick more than 3 million young people off their parents' policy.

This is Emily Schlichting who testified before the committee. She is an elegant young woman going to college in Omaha. She said young people are the future of this country and we are the most affected by reform. We are the generation that is most uninsured. We need the Affordable Care Act because it is literally an investment in the future of this country. She suffers from a rare autoimmune disorder that would totally make her uninsurable in the old days and under the Ryan budget, which brings back those old days. Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, she can stay on her parents' policy until she is 26. By 2014, regardless of her preexisting condition, she will get affordable health insurance coverage.

Repeal under the Ryan budget would allow insurance companies to spend America's premium dollars on CEO bonuses, marketing, and fancy buildings rather than actual health care. Under the health reform medical loss ratio requirement, policyholders nationwide will receive more than $1 billion in rebates from insurers this year. That is $1 billion in rebates this year that goes back to policyholders and families; otherwise, that $1 billion would be going into CEO bonuses, marketing, private jets, company planes, fancy buildings, and things such as that. These are just a few of the ways the Romney-Ryan budget would repeal ObamaCare and drag America back to the bad old days.

Again, I will repeat that over the last few weeks Representative RYAN has been telling everyone how the President's health reform plan robs Medicare. That is totally fallacious. First, the nonpartisan economists have certified that ObamaCare strengthens the Medicare Program and extends its solvency by 8 years. What President Obama did—as the Senator from California previously pointed out—was make the program more efficient and save money on wasteful overpayments to private insurance companies and cracking down on fraud.

What Mr. RYAN won't tell us is that the very reforms President Obama has in our Affordable Care Act are the same he has in his Ryan budget plan. What he doesn't tell us is that while President Obama takes those savings and puts them back into Medicare, Mr. RYAN takes those savings—yes, you guessed it—and puts them into more tax breaks for the wealthy.

By repealing the Affordable Care Act, the Ryan plan would again put Americans at the mercy of insurance companies and deprive more than 30 million people of affordable coverage.

I was just going to get the chart for my own State of Iowa. I had one here on Iowa I wanted to point out, because I am obviously very interested in my seniors in Iowa. This chart shows that the Ryan plan means almost 440,000 Iowa seniors would be forced onto vouchers when they retire. We have to get those vouchers, right? Sixty thousand Iowa seniors would be forced back into the prescription drug doughnut hole. The doughnut hole would open again. Four hundred thousand Iowa seniors would pay more for preventive services this year.

I can tell my colleagues our seniors in Iowa are flocking to get their preventive health care services. They know an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. But before those preventive services cost money. Now they get them free. It is going to make their lives better and save us a lot of money.

ObamaCare decreases the deficit by almost $110 billion over the first 10 years and more than $1 trillion in the next decade. Mr. Romney and Mr. RYAN won't tell us that, but it is true. It reduces the deficit. It insures more than 94 percent of all Americans. Over 94 percent of all Americans will have that coverage.

The bottom line is very simple, and I will be talking about this in the days ahead. President Obama will protect Medicare, will protect health care not only for our seniors but for young people, for middle-class Americans and, yes, for those at the bottom rung of the ladder who need Medicaid to sustain them and to give them quality health care. The Ryan budget rolls back all of this. So, again, we are faced with this choice: the Ryan budget or what President Obama has come forward with in his budget and with his ObamaCare to make sure America remains a good middle-class country where people on the bottom, at the lowest rung of the ladder, can get into that middle class; where the middle class knows they can leave a job and go to another job and not lose their health care plan; where someone can start a small business and know they will have health care coverage for themselves and the one or two or three or four or five workers who work for them or small businesses now can become more competitive with the big businesses in America.

I think it is safe to say that if only the American people will study the Ryan budget, the blueprint, they will find that this is where they want to take you and me and all of America—back to an America that our parents moved beyond; where our parents said, no, we are going to move forward; where we have buttressed ourselves in our own lifetimes, in moving America forward to a country where we truly are all in this together; where we are not just a lottery country in which if a person wins the lottery, they are OK, they have it made; if a person doesn't win, then tough luck, sucker, they are on their own. That is not the America our parents fought for in World War II or Korea or Vietnam; it is not the kind of America Martin Luther King, Jr., marched for and died for. It is not the kind of America we want to see for our kids and our grandkids.

We have a choice. The choice is clear. Let's move forward.

I yield the floor, and I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MERKLEY). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, most commissions appointed in Washington—at least in my experience—hardly make a ripple, people hardly notice them. After a lot of hard work, a report is published and that is about it. Some historian at a later date may look at the work they have done and the research they have done and that is about it, that is the extent of it.

There are a few exceptions. I was fortunate enough almost 2 years ago to be appointed to one of those exceptions and that was President Obama's deficit reduction commission, the Simpson-Bowles Commission. I was appointed because I am a member of the Appropriations Committee and Senator REID said we should have someone from Finance, Appropriations, and Budget. I took the assignment of one of the three Democratic Senators. There were three Republican Senators, three Republican House Members, three Democratic House Members, and an additional six public members. The public members consisted of a number of people, including Alice Rivlin, respected in Washington, as well as a number of business and community leaders.

We met for about a year and considered the budget deficit and all of the Federal spending and came to know one another a little bit during that period of time. One of the members of that commission was PAUL RYAN, a Congressman from Janesville, WI, just over the border from my State of Illinois. I knew Paul before and got to know him a little better during the course of that commission. He is a very bright person. We have some common friends in the Janesville area, and I know he worked with Senator Feingold, a Democrat from Wisconsin, on some issues before.

What surprised me at the end of the day was despite his obvious training and knowledge on the budget deficit, when it came time for a vote on this bipartisan deficit commission report, all three House Republican Members, including Congressman PAUL RYAN, voted no. I voted yes. Two out of the three Democratic Senators voted yes. I was surprised, in a way, because I thought that although the Simpson-Bowles plan had its shortcomings—things I disagreed with and said so—it was a dramatic step forward to try to deal with our deficit in a fair fashion.

JEB HENSARLING of Texas was another Republican Congressman, along with DAVE CAMP of Michigan, the chair of the House Finance Committee, and Congressman PAUL RYAN, who all voted no.

I was surprised that at the Republican convention in Tampa, FL, Congressman RYAN, the Republican Vice Presidential nominee, criticized President Obama over the Simpson-Bowles Commission report, saying he had worked hard to implement. I thought that was a curious position for Congressman RYAN to take, because he had voted against it. Now he was criticizing President Obama for not working hard enough on the commission report. But I came to understand that a little more when I took a closer look at Congressman PAUL RYAN's budget plan for America.

Before he was chosen to run as Governor Romney's running mate, 5PAUL RYAN, the Congressman and chairman of the House Budget Committee, issued his vision of what America should be doing over the next several years. One of the most controversial sections relates to Medicare. Medicare, of course, is the insurance policy for the elderly and many disabled in our country. It is a lifeline for 40 million-plus Americans. It means even in their old age they will have good protection for health insurance because they have paid into it during all of their working years. PAUL RYAN observed that the Medicare Program would come to an end if it weren't changed. We know it has about 12 years of solvency left and change will be needed. His proposal, though, would do more than change Medicare; it would end it as we know it. The RYAN approach would create vouchers—coupons—for senior citizens to buy health insurance. It would force them to pay more out of pocket for Medicare. According to the CBO—the Congressional Budget Office—the Romney-Ryan plan would force Medicare beneficiaries to pay up to $1,200 more by 2030 and almost $6,000 by 2050. That is about $500 a month, ultimately.

Congressman RYAN said seniors could choose to stay in traditional Medicare or they could basically go into a private health insurance market. A senior who is both healthy and wealthy would have an option. Those not so healthy or wealthy would find the only option traditional Medicare, and more and more people with a history of illness would be forced into traditional Medicare, making it a very expensive insurance program and difficult to maintain.

The PAUL RYAN voucher plan puts Medicare in competition with private insurance companies and, as I said, many seniors would find that the competition wouldn't want them and they would be stuck with traditional Medicare, much different than it is today.

Medicare would be taking care of the seniors whose care costs more, so Medicare premiums would increase. As they go up and seniors begin to leave Medicare, it causes premiums to rise further, which would cripple the program.

The PAUL RYAN program eliminates all the consumer protections in the Affordable Care Act, putting insurance companies back in the driver's seat. I don't think most Americans believes that is a good place to be, at the mercy of an insurance company, an adjuster who will decide what they are covering and how much one will pay.

Young adults would no longer stay on their parents' insurance plan under the Romney-Ryan proposal to eliminate ObamaCare. People with preexisting conditions would be denied coverage—going back to the conversation I had earlier, my dialog with Senator HARKIN on the floor. Families would once again face lifetime limits on coverage, and seniors would be forced back into the doughnut hole, meaning paying more out-of-pocket expenses for their Medicare prescription drugs.

I don't think this is a good plan for America and I don't think Americans, once they hear the details, are going to like it.

The ObamaCare program has already helped a lot of people. A report today said there was a 16-percent increase in coverage of younger Americans because of ObamaCare. These are younger Americans up to the age of 26 who now can stay on their family plans. And 1.6 million Americans have been added into coverage under their parents' plan because of this change in the law.

Now, those who say ''I will repeal ObamaCare'' would repeal that protection, forcing 1.6 million young people, without jobs or coverage, out of the protection they have today. I cannot imagine 125,000 young adults in Illinois who have benefited from ObamaCare would believe that is a good idea, nor would their families.

Since the Affordable Care Act was signed into law, Medicare beneficiaries in Illinois have saved over $171 million on their prescription drugs.

There was a discussion earlier about the Medicaid Program. Medicaid is an important program in Illinois and most States. I asked Julie Hamos, who administers our program in Illinois, to explain it in a few words. Here is what she said: One out of three children in Illinois is covered by Medicaid. That is their health insurance—one out of three. In Illinois, Medicaid pays for 52 percent of the births; that is, prenatal care and the delivery of the child—52 percent paid for by Medicaid. But those two things—child coverage and coverage for new moms and their babies—do not even represent half the cost of Medicaid in Illinois.

Sixty percent of the cost of Medicaid in Illinois is for the elderly and disabled, many of whom are completely out of luck and out of money. They live on Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. They are in nursing homes and convalescent centers. They do not have anyplace to turn. So Medicaid is a critical insurance program for some of the most vulnerable people in America.

Many seniors and disabled people on Medicare also receive State Medicaid. The ''dual-eligibles'' they are called. That is 15 percent of Medicaid enrollees, but 39 percent of Medicaid spending—low-income elderly people who have no place else to turn.

So when PAUL RYAN, in his budget, suggests he is going to cut back on Medicaid payments each year, giving a smaller amount of money to States, saying: Make do, who is at risk? Children: one out of three in Illinois is on Medicaid; moms having babies: over half of the moms having babies in our State; and the elderly folks who have no place to turn.

Think about what that means. A child without basic health insurance, Medicaid, in my State or anywhere, is less likely to have a doctor, immunizations when needed, and an office visit to avoid a trip to an emergency room. A mother without prenatal care is, unfortunately, more likely to give birth to a child with a problem. And we do not want to see that for the sake of the child first, certainly for the mom, for the family, or for taxpayers, for goodness' sake. There is no money saved by scrimping on Medicare for new moms. The Ryan plan would force that kind of scrimping.

The Ryan plan converts Medicaid into a block grant and cuts Federal funding for the program by 34 percent over the next 10 years—34 percent.

So I would ask Congressman RYAN: Which of those groups do you want to cut back on in terms of coverage? According to CBO, cuts at the level the Ryan plan calls for would mean States would have to reduce eligibility for Medicaid and children's health insurance or cover fewer services.

I might add—I am sure it is true in the State of Oregon; it is certainly true in Illinois—one of the most critical areas of medical need is dental care. I talk to doctors every time I go back home in emergency rooms at hospitals who have people coming in to see them in pain because of problems with their teeth, and they end up getting pain medication but nothing is taken care of.

So when we talk about restricting care, as PAUL RYAN has suggested in his budget, I have to tell you, I think it is extremely shortsighted. A tooth ache can turn into a life-threatening situation for some people, not to mention the pain and discomfort they are going through. So if anything, we ought to review basic Medicaid services to expand at least into dental care. I would support that. I think it is extremely shortsighted for us not to include it.

This Paul Ryan budget would not expand Medicaid. It would cut it back dramatically. States would lower payments to doctors and nurses by one-third. Can you imagine what that would do? It would reduce the number of providers, which makes it more difficult.

Just to give you an example, in the Quad Cities in Illinois, there is a great clinic put together by a friend of mine in the Hispanic section of Moline. They provide basic, basic primary health care. If you need a specialist, you are referred, with at least an hour-and-a-half drive, to Peoria or with an almost 3-hour drive to Chicago. Remember, these are the poorest people living in our towns. Do they make it to the specialist? Usually not. The PAUL RYAN approach, reducing the amount of money that is paid to providers, would mean even fewer specialists would be willing to help those who are poor.

But the thing that troubles me the most about Congressman RYAN is—at least in his budget views and his deficit views—as he talks a good game about reducing the deficit and voted against the Simpson-Bowles Commission report, he comes up with a budget that he produces in the House and says he and Governor Romney are going to protect the Bush tax cuts for the wealthiest people in America and increase defense spending. This does not work. It does not add up. It does not pass what President Clinton called the arithmetic test. You cannot increase tax cuts and increase spending on defense without, as President Clinton said, digging the hole deeper and deeper.

So they sound pretty good when they give the speeches about fiscal conservatism and that we have to be serious about the deficit, but their proposals just do not match. The idea of lowering tax rates, as they proposed, even below the Bush tax cuts—they said: Well, we will use tax reform to get to it. The estimates suggest that the middle-income families will end up losing in that. As a result of tax reform as proposed by Romney-Ryan, they think middle-income families face a higher tax of $2,000 a year to protect tax cuts for the wealthiest people. That certainly is not a positive thing in terms of deficit reduction or helping a lot of working families living paycheck to paycheck.

We have debated Congressman RYAN's plan for 2 years now. The only people who seem to like it are some Republicans serving in Congress. The majority of Americans would oppose the Paul Ryan budget plan to end Medicare as we know it. The majority of Americans certainly oppose his idea of raising taxes on middle-income families to pay for tax breaks for the wealthiest. Congressman RYAN has had his chance to make his case to the American people for his view of where we are going, and it will not work. I wish he had joined us in the bipartisan effort of Simpson-Bowles. His vote in favor of that would have given him more credibility and maybe a better understanding of the reality of budget deficit reduction.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the budget proposed by Congressman PAUL RYAN, which has been approved twice by the House of Representatives.

The Ryan budget, which is purported to be a measure of fiscal responsibility, is in fact an attempt to rewrite the social contract in this country while at the same time adding to the national debt.

Let me explain. There are four major components of the Ryan budget.

The first is another round of tax cuts for the wealthy. According to the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center, the Ryan tax plan would add an additional $4.5 trillion to the Nation's debt. That is on top of the staggering cost of the Bush tax cuts.

Second, the Ryan budget would virtually eliminate spending on domestic programs, imposing debilitating funding cuts for education, air quality, roads, bridges, railways, national parks, first responder programs and a host of other vital national interests.

Third, this budget ends Medicare as we know it and converts Medicaid into a block-grant program with capped funds. The Ryan budget endangers our two most vital sources of health care services for seniors, the poor and those with disabilities.

Finally, the budget repeals the health reform law, reducing the solvency of Medicare and eliminating critical consumer protections.

The tax proposal in the Ryan budget is especially troubling. According to the Tax Policy Center, the Ryan budget would mean a tax windfall of $265,000 a year for millionaires.

At the same time, the middle class and working poor would see few if any benefits.

The Ryan tax plan is very similar to that of Mitt Romney. Both plans would substantially reduce tax rates on the wealthy, and both are supposedly paid for by closing unspecified tax loopholes.

The Tax Policy Center has already analyzed Mitt Romney's plan. In order to substantially lower tax rates and remain revenue neutral, the Romney plan would have to eliminate so many tax credits and deductions that it would actually raise taxes on the middle class.

To make matters worse, the Ryan budget does not stand up to scrutiny. This is a question of basic arithmetic.

How do you reduce the national debt while at the same time handing massive tax cuts to the wealthy? Congressman RYAN already took one option off the table—reducing the Defense Department budget. In fact, his budget proposes to spend even more money on defense, money the Pentagon does not even want.

That leaves deeper cuts to domestic programs and entitlement spending as the only remaining options. And it is important to note that Congressman RYAN refuses to specify what those cuts would be—because they would be so painful to so many Americans.

Medicare in particular would be savaged by the Ryan budget.

Beginning in 2023, his budget ends the traditional guaranteed benefits structure of Medicare, instead offering vouchers to purchase either a private health insurance plan or traditional Medicare.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, that means new Medicare beneficiaries would pay $1,200 more out of pocket by 2030 and $5,900 more by 2050. Experts say the Ryan budget would also likely lead to reduced access to health care and diminished quality of care for beneficiaries.

Essentially, seniors would be forced to purchase more expensive care with less.

Consider that in 2010, half of all Medicare beneficiaries had incomes of less than $21,000 and you can see why this proposal is so dangerous.

The Center for American Progress estimates that if the Ryan budget were to pass, someone who is 54 years old today would face increased costs of $59,450 during retirement. Someone who is 29 years old today would spend $331,000 more over the course of their retirement.

I would also note that the Ryan budget includes $700 billion in Medicare savings the exact same amount that was included in the health reform law he seeks to repeal.

The difference is that rather than applying those savings to lower costs and increased benefits for seniors, the Ryan budget diverts those savings to even more tax breaks for millionaires and billionaires.

Speaking of Congressman RYAN's desire to repeal health reform—his efforts to unwind that law, which has been upheld by the Supreme Court, would add tens of millions of Americans to the ranks of the uninsured, it would eliminate critical consumer protections, and it would hasten the insolvency of Medicare by 8 years.

House Republicans want to put insurance companies back in the driver's seat, able to charge higher rates based on gender and deny coverage to people with preexisting conditions. They would remove protections that guarantee children the right to health insurance.

American families would again be at risk for bankruptcy because of costly illnesses like cancer. More than 12 million Californians would once again face lifetime limits on their health coverage.

The budget would reopen the prescription drug ''doughnut hole,'' forcing 5.2 million seniors to once again dip into their pockets to cover the full cost of prescription drugs.

In California, 3.4 million seniors would be forced to pay more for preventive services, such as cancer screenings and mammograms, meaning fewer seniors would have access to these services.

Let me be clear: the health reform law extended the life of Medicare by 8 years. In addition to forcing seniors to pay more for services, the Ryan budget would place the Medicare Trust Fund on a track for insolvency by 2016.

Medicaid is another big loss in the Ryan budget. He would change Medicaid from a State-Federal match program to a block grant program, including dangerous funding caps. Millions more of the most at-risk Americans would become uninsured or underinsured because of this budget.

Medicaid spending would be slashed by $810 billion over 10 years, a 22 percent cut.

This would jeopardize health care for nearly 7.3 million Medi-Cal beneficiaries in California, many of whom would see reduced eligibility, coverage of fewer services and increased out-of-pocket expenses.

Low-income pregnant women who depend on Medicaid could be dropped from the program, a threat to health of both mother and baby.

Let me be candid: The Ryan budget is just another salvo in the war against the middle class and working poor.

It would mean more tax cuts for the wealthy at the expense of investments in our future, it would lead to greater numbers of uninsured and it would demolish some of the most vital safety net programs in the Nation.

Let's set aside the politics and get to work on real solutions for the country.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNIZING THE CONGRESSIONAL MANAGEMENT FOUNDATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I stand before you today to congratulate the Congressional Management Foundation on its 35th anniversary of service to Capitol Hill. Founded in 1977, CMF is a non-profit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to improving management practices within the Halls of Congress, as well as facilitating better communication between legislators and their constituents. By improving congressional operations, providing institutional research, and educating Americans on how Congress actually works, the Congressional Management Foundation has been a valuable contributor to building trust and effectiveness in Congress.

The Congressional Management Foundation strives to help legislators get off on the right foot even before they are sworn into office. Within 5 days after election day, all incoming freshmen receive a copy of ''Setting Course'' and ''The 90-Day Road Map''—

two experience-driven publications produced by CMF that provide new House Members, Senators, and their staff a detailed outline for setting up and running an effective office. ''Keeping it Local'' stresses the importance of maintaining a strong presence in district offices and the value of effective constituent outreach and interaction at the local level. These publications are time-tested, indispensable resources that provide our leaders with the appropriate tools they need to overcome the challenges of lawmaking on the national stage.

In the past decade, CMF has adapted its mission to keep up with the rapid introduction of new technology on Capitol Hill. Recently CMF has offered guidance on how to design effective and accessible Web sites, culminating in CMF's Gold Mouse Awards for the best congressional Web sites. CMF has helped Senators significantly improve their online operations, resulting in more transparency and accountability in government. Because of CMF's research and guidance in Web sites and online communications, Americans have a better understanding of the Congress and better access to necessary services.

Finally, I wish to congratulate CMF on focusing on improving the Congress in a nonpartisan way. There are only a few places left in Washington where those of us who are in public service can gather and truly engage in problem solving. I congratulate the Congressional Management Foundation on more than three decades of outstanding work and wish them success in all of their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN J. CLOOBECK

Mr. REID. Mr President, I rise to honor my friend Steve Cloobeck of Las Vegas, the chairman of the board for Brand USA. This month, Steve will step down from the board after 2 years of working tirelessly to build Brand USA from the ground up.

Over the past decades, the United States lost valuable tourism dollars as international visitors traveled to other destinations instead of the U.S. In part, the United States lost market share because we failed to promote tourism, while other countries invested in tourism promotion. To encourage tourists to visit the U.S., I worked for the passage of the Travel Promotion Act. This bipartisan legislation established the first-ever United States public-private initiative to promote tourism. The new organization would help attract millions of international visitors by advertising our Nation abroad—all at no cost to the taxpayers.

If this new organization, Brand USA, was going to be successful, it would need a strong leader with a bold vision to promote tourism. Fortunately, we found that leader in Steve Cloobeck. From the moment he joined the board, Steve established aggressive timelines for setting up the new organization. He helped draft the organization's strategic platform and goals, while ensuring that operations continued on schedule.

Steve was also actively engaged in building partnerships with the private sector. Because of his business relationships in the tourism industry, Steve received many large commitments and contributions from companies in Nevada and across the Nation. With a slate of committed partners from Marriott to Best Western to Disney, Brand USA will raise more than $50 million from the private sector this year alone.

Under the direction of Steve and the board, Brand USA unveiled their new advertising campaign. Featuring a song by Rosanne Cash, these ads showcase America as a ''Land of Dreams'' where anything is possible. These advertisements, which have been running in nine key international markets, have created a strong brand identity for the United States abroad.

Today, we can already see that Brand USA is making a difference. So far this year, international visitation to the U.S. has increased 12 percent and we are heading for a record-setting year. And most importantly, during these hard economic times, travel promotion is creating new, good-paying jobs as we welcome millions of new visitors to our Nation's world-class cities, national parks, and tourist attractions.

Under Chairman Cloobeck's leadership, Brand USA has been a tremendous success for our Nation and the travel industry. His enthusiasm and dedication have ensured that Brand USA is well positioned for the future. I am confident that Brand USA will be a critical asset to American tourism for years to come, and I am proud to join everyone at Brand USA and the travel industry in thanking Steve for his important contributions.

TANF

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the GAO opinion letter dated September 4, 2012, and the TANF Information Memorandum dated July 12, 2012.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE,
Washington, DC, September 4, 2012.

Hon. ORRIN HATCH,
Ranking Member, Committee on Finance, U.S. Senate.

Hon. DAVE CAMP,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means, House of Representatives.

By letter of July 31, 2012, you asked whether an Information Memorandum issued by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on July 12, 2012 concerning the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program constitutes a rule for the purposes of the Congressional Review Act (CRA). The CRA is intended to keep Congress informed of the rulemaking activities of federal agencies and provides that before a rule can take effect, the agency must submit the rule to each House of Congress and the Comptroller General. For the reasons discussed below, we conclude that the July 12, 2012 Information Memorandum is a rule under the CRA. Therefore, it must be submitted to Congress and the Comptroller General before taking effect.

BACKGROUND

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant, administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, provides federal funding to states for both traditional welfare cash assistance as well as a variety of other benefits and services to meet the needs of low-income families and children. While states have some flexibility in implementing and administering their state TANF programs, there are numerous federal requirements and guidelines that states must meet. For example, under section 402 of the Social Security Act, in order to be eligible to receive TANF funds, a state must submit to HHS a written plan outlining, among other things, how it will implement various aspects of its TANF program. More specifically, under section 402(a)(1)(A)(iii) of the Social Security Act, the written plan must outline how the state will ensure that TANF recipients engage in work activities. Under section 407 of the Social Security Act, states must also ensure that a specified percentage of their TANF recipients engage in work activities as defined by federal law.

In its July 12 Information Memorandum, HHS notified states of HHS' willingness to exercise its waiver authority under section 1115 of the Social Security Act. Under section 1115, HHS has the authority to waive compliance with the requirements of section 402 in the case of experimental, pilot, or demonstration projects which the Secretary determines are likely to assist in promoting the objectives of TANF. In its Information Memorandum, HHS asserted that it has the authority to waive the requirement in section 402(a)(1)(A)(iii) and authorize states to ''test approaches and methods other than those set forth in section 407,'' including definitions of work activities and the calculation of participation rates. HHS informed states that it would use this waiver authority to allow states to test various strategies, policies, and procedures designed to improve employment outcomes for needy families. The Information Memorandum sets forth requirements that must be met for a waiver request to be considered by HHS, including an evaluation plan, a set of performance measures that states will track to monitor ongoing performance and outcomes, and a budget including the costs of program evaluation. In addition, the Information Memorandum provides that states must seek public input on the proposal prior to approval by HHS.

ANALYSIS

The definition of ''rule'' in the CRA incorporates by reference the definition of ''rule'' in the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), with some exceptions. Therefore, our analysis of whether the July 12 Information Memorandum is a rule under the CRA involves determining whether it is rule under the APA and whether it falls within any of the exceptions contained in the CRA. The APA defines a rule as follows:

''[T]he whole or a part of an agency statement of general or particular applicability and future effect designed to implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy or describing the organization, procedure, or practice requirements of an agency and includes the approval or prescription for the future of

rates, wages, corporate or financial structures or reorganizations thereof, prices, facilities, appliances, services or allowances therefor or of valuations, costs, or accounting, or practices bearing on any of the foregoing[.]''

This definition of a rule has been said to include ''nearly every statement an agency may make.''

The CRA identifies 3 exceptions from its definition of a rule: (1) any rule of particular applicability; (2) any rule relating to agency management or personnel; or (3) any rule of agency organization, procedure, or practice that does not substantially affect the rights or obligations of non-agency parties. 5 U.S.C. 804(3).

The definition of a rule under the CRA is very broad. See B–287557, May 14, 2001 (Congress intended that the CRA should be broadly interpreted both as to type and scope of rules covered). The CRA borrows the definition of a rule from 5 U.S.C. §551, as opposed to the more narrow definition of legislative rules requiring notice and comment contained in 5 U.S.C. §553. As a result, agency pronouncements may be rules within the definition of 5 U.S.C. §551, and the CRA, even if they are not subject to notice and comment rulemaking requirements under section 553. See B–316048, April 17, 2008 (the breadth of the term ''rule'' reaches agency pronouncements beyond those that require notice and comment rulemaking) and B–287557, cited above. In addition to the plain language of the CRA, the legislative history confirms that it is intended to include within its purview almost all rules that an agency issues and not only those rules that must be promulgated according to the notice and comment requirements in section 553 of the APA. In his floor statement during final consideration of the bill, Representative McIntosh, a principal sponsor of the legislation, emphasized this point:

''Although agency interpretive rules, general statements of policy, guideline documents, and agency policy and procedure manuals may not be subject to the notice and comment provisions of section 553(c) of title 5, United States Code, these types of documents are covered under the congressional review provisions of the new chapter 8 of title 5.

Under section 801(a), covered rules, with very few exceptions, may not go into effect until the relevant agency submits a copy of the rule and an accompanying report to both Houses of Congress. Interpretive rules, general statements of policy, and analogous agency policy guidelines are covered without qualification because they meet the definition of a 'rule' borrowed from section 551 of title 5, and are not excluded from the definition of a rule.''

On its face, the July 12 Information Memorandum falls within the definition of a rule under the APA definition incorporated into the CRA. First, consistent with our prior decisions, we look to the scope of the agency's action to determine whether it is a general statement of policy or an interpretation of law of general applicability. That determination does not require a finding that it has general applicability to the population as a whole; instead, all that is required is that it has general applicability within its intended range. See B–287557, cited above (a record of decision affecting the issues of water flow in two rivers was a general statement of policy with general applicability within its intended range). Applying these principles, we have held that a letter released by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to state health officials concerning the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) was of general applicability because it extended to all states that sought to enroll children with family incomes exceeding 250 percent of the federal poverty level in their SCHIP programs, as well as all states that had already enrolled such children. Similarly, the July 12 Information Memorandum is of general, rather than particular, applicability because it extends to all states administering Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) programs that seek a waiver for a demonstration project.

Next we must determine whether the action is prospective in nature, that is, whether it is concerned with policy considerations for the future and not with the evaluation of past conduct. In B–316048, we held that the SCHIP letter was intended to clarify and explain the manner in which CMS applies statutory and regulatory requirements to states that wanted to extend coverage under the SCHIP programs. Similarly, the July 12 Information Memorandum is concerned with authorizing demonstration projects in the future, rather than the evaluation of past or present demonstration projects. Specifically, the Information Memorandum informs states that HHS will use its statutory authority to consider waiver requests, and sets out requirements that waiver requests must meet. Accordingly, it is designed to implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy.

In addition, the Information Memorandum does not fall within any of the three exclusions for a rule under the CRA. As discussed above, the Information Memorandum applies to all states that administer TANF programs, and therefore is of general applicability, rather than particular applicability. The Information Memorandum applies to the states, and does not relate to agency management or personnel. Finally, the Information Memorandum sets out the criteria by which states may apply for waivers from certain requirements of the TANF program. These criteria affect the obligations of the states, which are non-agency parties.

GAO has consistently emphasized the broad scope of the definition of ''rule'' in the CRA in determining the applicability of the CRA to an agency document. Other documents deemed to be rules include letters, records of decision, booklets, interim guidance, and memoranda. See, for example, B–316048, April 17, 2008 (a letter released by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services of HHS concerning a State Children's Health Insurance Program measure, to ensure that coverage under a state plan does not substitute for coverage under group health plans, described by the agency as a general statement of policy, was a rule) and B–287557, May 14, 2001 (a ''record of decision'' issued by the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of Interior in connection with a federal irrigation project was a rule).

Finally, the cases where we have found that an agency pronouncement was not a rule involved facts that are clearly distinguishable from the July 12 Information Memorandum.

We requested the views of the General Counsel of HHS on whether the July 12 Information Memorandum is a rule for purposes of the CRA by letter dated August 3, 2012. HHS responded on August 31, 2012, stating that the Information Memorandum was issued as a non-binding guidance document, and that HHS contends that guidance documents do not need to be submitted pursuant to the CRA. Furthermore, HHS notes that it informally notified Congress by providing notice to the Majority and Minority staff members of the House Ways and Means Committee and Senate Finance Committee on the day the Information Memorandum was issued.

We cannot agree with HHS's conclusion that guidance documents are not rules for the purposes of the CRA and HHS cites no support for this position. The definition of ''rule'' is expansive and specifically includes documents that implement or interpret law or policy. This is exactly what the HHS Information Memorandum does. It interprets section 402(a) and section 1115 to permit waivers for a demonstration program HHS is initiating. We have held that agency guidance, including guidance characterized as non-binding, constitutes a rule under the CRA. See B–281575, cited above. In addition, the legislative history of the CRA specifically includes guidance documents as an example of an agency pronouncement subject to the CRA. A joint statement for the record by Senators Nickles, Reid, and Stevens, submitted to the Congressional Record upon enactment of the CRA, details four categories of rules covered by the definition in section 551. These categories include formal rulemaking under sections 556 and 557, notice-and-comment rulemaking under section 553, statements of general policy and interpretations of general applicability under section 552, and ''a body of materials that fall within the APA definition of a 'rule' . . . but that meet none of procedural specifications of the first three classes. These include guidance documents and the like.'' Finally, while HHS may have informally notified the cited Congressional committees of the issuance of the Information Memorandum, informal notification does not meet the reporting requirements of the CRA.

CONCLUSION

We find that the July 12 Information Memorandum issued by HHS is a statement of general applicability and future effect, designed to implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy with regard to TANF. Furthermore, it does not come within any of the exceptions to the definition of rule contained in the CRA. Accordingly, the Information Memorandum is a rule under the Congressional Review Act.

We note that this opinion is limited to the issue of whether the Information Memorandum is a rule under the CRA. We are not expressing an opinion on the applicability of any other legal requirements, including, but not limited to, notice and comment rulemaking requirements under the APA, or whether the Information Memorandum would be a valid exercise or interpretation of statutes or regulations.

Accordingly, given our conclusions above, and in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1), the Information Memorandum is subject to the requirement that it be submitted to both Houses of Congress and the Comptroller General before it can take effect.

If you have any questions concerning this opinion, please contact Edda Emmanuelli Perez, Managing Associate General Counsel.

LYNN H. GIBSON,
General Counsel.

TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance, Washington, DC.

Transmittal No. TANF–ACF–IM–2012–03, July 12, 2012

To: States administering the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program and other interested parties

Subject: Guidance concerning waiver and expenditure authority under Section 1115

Reference: Section 1115 of the Social Security Act. [42 U.S.C. 1315]; Section 402 of the Social Security Act. [42 U.S.C. 602]

Background: Section 1115 of the Social Security Act provides authority for the Secretary of the Department of Health and

Human Services (HHS) to consider and approve experimental, pilot, or demonstration projects which, in the Secretary's judgment, are likely to assist in promoting the objectives of Title IV-A. Section 1115 allows for waiver of compliance with section 402 of the Social Security Act to the extent and for the period necessary to enable a state to carry out an approved project. The statute also provides authority for costs of such projects which would not otherwise be an allowable use of funds under Part A of Title IV to be regarded as an allowable use of funds, to the extent and for the period approved.

As specified in statute, the purpose of Part A is to increase the flexibility of states in operating a program designed to: (1) provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives; (2) end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage; (3) prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies and establish annual numerical goals for preventing and reducing the incidence of these pregnancies; and (4) encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.

Purpose: HHS is encouraging states to consider new, more effective ways to meet the goals of TANF, particularly helping parents successfully prepare for, find, and retain employment. Therefore, HHS is issuing this information memorandum to notify states of the Secretary's willingness to exercise her waiver authority under section 1115 of the Social Security Act to allow states to test alternative and innovative strategies, policies, and procedures that are designed to improve employment outcomes for needy families.

States led the way on welfare reform in the 1990s—testing new approaches and learning what worked and what did not. The Secretary is interested in using her authority to approve waiver demonstrations to challenge states to engage in a new round of innovation that seeks to find more effective mechanisms for helping families succeed in employment. In providing for these demonstrations, HHS will hold states accountable by requiring both a federally-approved evaluation and interim performance targets that ensure an immediate focus on measurable outcomes. States must develop evaluation plans that are sufficient to evaluate the effect of the proposed approach in furthering a TANF purpose as well as interim targets the state commits to achieve. States that fail to meet interim outcome targets will be required to develop an improvement plan and can face termination of the waiver project.

The demonstration authority provided by section 1115 and sound evaluation of approved projects will provide valuable knowledge that will help lead to improvements in achieving the purposes of the TANF program.

Information: *Scope of Authority*. Section 1115 authorizes waivers concerning section 402. Accordingly, other provisions of the TANF statute are not waivable. For example, the purposes of TANF are not waivable, because they are contained in section 401. The prohibitions on assistance are not waivable, because they are contained in section 408.

While the TANF work participation requirements are contained in section 407, section 402(a)(1)(A)(iii) requires that the state plan ''[e]nsure that parents and caretakers receiving assistance under the program engage in work activities in accordance with section 407.'' Thus, HHS has authority to waive compliance with this 402 requirement and authorize a state to test approaches and methods other than those set forth in section 407, including definitions of work activities and engagement, specified limitations, verification procedures, and the calculation of participation rates. As described below, however, HHS will only consider approving waivers relating to the work participation requirements that make changes intended to lead to more effective means of meeting the work goals of TANF.

Moreover, HHS is committed to ensuring that any demonstration projects approved under this authority will be focused on improving employment outcomes and contributing to the evidence base for effective programs; therefore, terms and conditions will require a federally-approved evaluation plan designed to build our knowledge base. TANF funds may be used to fund an approved evaluation and state funds spent on an approved evaluation may be considered state maintenance-of-effort (MOE) expenditures. In addition, terms and conditions will require either interim targets for each performance measure or a strategy for establishing baseline performance on a set of performance measures and a framework for how interim goals will be set after the baseline measures are established. The terms and conditions will establish consequences for failing to meet interim performance targets including, but not limited to, the implementation of an improvement plan and, if the failure to meet performance targets continues, termination of the waivers and demonstration project.

HHS Priorities. In exercising her broad discretion for waivers, the Secretary is interested in approaches that seek to improve employment outcomes. Accordingly:

Waivers will be granted only for provisions related to section 402.

The purposes of TANF, the prohibitions contained in section 408 (including the time limits on assistance contained in that section), or any other provision of TANF other than those specified in section 402 will not be waived.

The Secretary will not approve a waiver for an initiative that appears substantially likely to reduce access to assistance or employment for needy families.

The Secretary will not use her authority to allow use of TANF funds to provide assistance to individuals or families subject to the TANF prohibitions on assistance.

The Secretary will not waive section 402(a)(5) relating to requirements to provide equitable access to Indians.

Waiver demonstration projects may be conducted in limited geographic areas or statewide. The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is interested in more efficient or effective means to promote employment entry, retention, advancement, or access to jobs that offer opportunities for earnings and advancement that will allow participants to avoid dependence on government benefits. The following are examples of projects that states may want to consider—these are illustrative only:

Projects that improve coordination with other components of the workforce investment system, including programs operated under the Workforce Investment Act, or to test an innovative approach to use performance-based contracts and management in order to improve employment outcomes.

Projects that demonstrate attainment of superior employment outcomes if a state is held accountable for negotiated employment outcomes in lieu of participation rate requirements.

Projects under which a state would count individuals in TANF-subsidized jobs but no longer receiving TANF assistance toward participation rates for a specified period of time in conjunction with an evaluation of the effectiveness of a subsidized jobs strategy.

Projects that improve collaboration with the workforce and/or post-secondary education systems to test multi-year career pathways models for TANF recipients that combine learning and work.

Projects that demonstrate strategies for more effectively serving individuals with disabilities, along with an alternative approach to measuring participation and outcomes for individuals with disabilities.

Projects that test the impact of a comprehensive universal engagement system in lieu of certain participation rate requirements.

Projects that test systematically extending the period in which vocational educational training or job search/readiness programs count toward participation rates, either generally or for particular subgroups, such as an extended training period for those pursuing a credential. The purpose of such a waiver would be to determine through evaluation whether a program that allows for longer periods in certain activities improves employment outcomes.

Note that this is not a comprehensive list, and HHS will consider other projects consistent with the statute and the guidance provided in this IM. HHS is especially interested in testing approaches that build on existing evidence on successful strategies for improving employment outcomes.

Waiver requests must include an evaluation plan. In order to provide the strongest evidence about the effectiveness of the demonstration, the preferred evaluation approach is a random assignment methodology, unless the Secretary determines that an alternative approach is more appropriate in light of the demonstration proposed. All evaluation plans and funds to support them must reflect an adequate level of effort and sound methods to produce credible findings. ACF anticipates actively engaging with states to ensure that evaluation plans are appropriate in light of the nature of the demonstration and that the evaluation findings can reasonably be expected to provide information that will enhance understanding of whether the initiative was successful in furthering HHS priorities. ACF staff members are available to work collaboratively with states to develop further or refine the evaluation plan.

Waiver requests must include a set of performance measures that states will track to monitor ongoing performance and outcomes throughout the length of the demonstration project, along with the evaluation. Waiver applications must specify interim targets for each performance measure, including a framework for how often the measures will be reported, or a strategy for establishing baseline performance on a set of performance measures and a framework for how interim goals will be set after the baseline measures are established. Performance measures must be designed to track improvement across the entire set of families targeted as well as appropriate subgroups. In developing the final terms and conditions for an approved waiver, ACF will work with the state to further refine the appropriate performance measures and interim targets as needed. All approved waivers will include a provision that requires timely reporting to HHS on the agreed upon performance measures and progress toward meeting established interim targets. States that fail to meet interim targets will be required to develop improvement plans. Repeated failure to meet performance benchmarks may lead to the termination of the waiver demonstration pilot.

The request must specify the proposed length of time for the demonstration project. The final terms and conditions will specify the approved length of the project. Absent special circumstances, the length of an approved project will not exceed five years.

A state will need to develop and submit a budget that includes the costs of program

evaluation. TANF and state MOE funds can be used for the costs of evaluation, including third party contributions counting toward meeting a state's MOE requirement.

HHS recognizes the importance of public input into the process of developing and implementing a waiver demonstration project. Therefore, the state must provide the public with a meaningful opportunity to provide input into the decision-making process prior to the time a proposal is approved by HHS. Further guidance concerning this requirement will be forthcoming.

Waivers are subject to HHS and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval and terms and conditions may include additional requirements, such as site visits, before implementation.

Terms and conditions will require periodic reporting on how the implementation and operation of the demonstration is progressing, including reporting on the performance measures, in addition to evaluation reports. To support learning and knowledge development, ACF staff may conduct on-site visits to observe demonstration operations and meet with relevant managers and staff.

Inquiries: Inquiries and applications for projects involving waiver requests should be directed to the appropriate Regional TANF Program Manager.

EARL S. JOHNSON,
Director, Office of Family Assistance.

JULY 12, 2012.

DEAR STATE HUMAN SERVICE OFFICIAL: Today, the Administration for Children and Families' Office of Family Assistance issued an Information Memorandum that informs states that the Department of Health and Human Services will use its statutory authority to consider waiver requests that strengthen the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. This Information Memorandum reflects the Department's commitment to provide states, tribes, and territories with more flexibility to innovate in the TANF program with the goal of helping more families find jobs and move toward self-sufficiency.

On February 28, 2011, President Obama issued a Presidential Memorandum that directed federal agencies ''to work closely with state, local, and tribal governments to identify administrative, regulatory, and legislative barriers in Federally funded programs that currently prevent states, localities, and tribes, from efficiently using tax dollars to achieve the best results for their constituents.''

The Administration for Children and Families took this charge seriously and held a series of consultation meetings with states, tribes, and territories on a variety of topics including TANF. During those consultations, many jurisdictions expressed a strong interest in greater flexibility in TANF and indicated that greater flexibility could be used by states to improve program effectiveness. We also heard concerns that some TANF rules stifle innovation and focus attention on paperwork rather than helping parents find jobs. States offered a range of suggestions for ways in which expanded flexibility could lead to more effective employment outcomes for families. Two states—Utah and Nevada—submitted written comments that specifically identified waivers as one mechanism for testing new approaches to promoting employment and self-sufficiency, and a number of others states—including California, Connecticut, and Minnesota—have asked about the potential for waivers.

As described in more detail in the Information Memorandum, the Social Security Act provides the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services with the authority to grant states waivers of certain TANF provisions for the purpose of testing new approaches to meeting the goals of the TANF statute. The Secretary is interested in using her authority to allow states to test alternative and innovative strategies, policies, and procedures that are designed to improve employment outcomes for needy families. The statute does not permit tribes to receive waivers under Section 1115, however we are committed to using the underlying flexibility in federal law to help tribes innovate in their programs.

TANF Waiver demonstration projects under Section 1115 must be accompanied by a high quality evaluation plan, which is critical to ensuring that the pilots result in rigorous evidence about what works and what doesn't in order to inform future decisions made by policymakers at the federal, state, tribal, territorial, and local levels. In addition, states that apply for a waiver must identify interim performance targets that will be used to hold states accountable for improving outcomes for families. We will work with states interested in developing waiver demonstration projects to design these performance measures and targets.

The Information Memorandum outlines the types of waivers that will and will not be considered. The Secretary is only interested in approving waivers if the state can explain in a compelling fashion why the proposed approach may be a more efficient or effective means to promote employment entry, retention, advancement, or access to jobs that offer opportunities for earnings and advancement that will allow participants to avoid dependence on government benefits.

States have shown their ability to innovate in ways that help parents find jobs. In 2009 and 2010, 42 states used the TANF Emergency Fund authorized under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to create 260,000 subsidized jobs for jobless parents and disadvantaged youth. Over a short period of time, states exhibited enormous creativity as they developed new subsidized employment initiatives that responded to an urgent need for jobs in communities across the country.

It is critical that we work together to develop effective employment strategies that prepare workers for the jobs of the 21st century. We stand ready to work with states interested in developing innovative demonstration projects that test new approaches to helping parents succeed in the labor market.

Sincerely,

GEORGE SHELDON,
Acting Assistant Secretary.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD F. GRIMMETT

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the extraordinary career achievements of Richard F. Grimmett, specialist in international security with the Foreign Affairs, Defense, and Trade Division of the Congressional Research Service, who is retiring on September 30, after 38 years of distinguished government service. A native of Akron, OH, Richard graduated with honors from Kent State University, where he also received a Ph.D. in American history with a focus on recent U.S. national security policy.

Since 1974, when he joined CRS, Richard has been involved in a wide range of major international security policy issues that have confronted the Congress, from questions involving intelligence community oversight, war powers, and the basing and use of U.S. military forces overseas, to the international arms trade and arms export controls. Through his nearly four decades as a staff adviser to the Congress and several of its major committees, his various appearances as a con1mittee witness, and through his authoring of numerous in-depth CRS reports, Richard has become recognized as a national expert in these critical defense and foreign policy issues.

The broad sweep of his intellect is reflected in the substantive reports and memoranda he has written for the Congress. Yet an especially significant part of his contributions to congressional policy debates has been through the numerous consultations and briefings he has provided to major committees of the Senate and House on key issues before them. At the beginning of his career at CRS, Richard provided direct support to major congressional investigations of events of great consequence for U.S. national security interests. Among these were his analytical support for the Senate and House Select Intelligence Committees—the panels chaired by Senator Frank Church and Representative Otis Pike—charged with investigating the activities of the U.S. intelligence community during 1975 to 1976, investigations that ultimately led to the creation of permanent select committees in the House and Senate that oversee the budget and activities of the U.S. intelligence community today. Later, in 1985 to 1987, Richard was a senior coordinator of the support provided by CRS to the House and Senate joint committee investigating the Iran-Contra affair, personally providing advice and suggestions that focused attention on key deficiencies in U.S. law, several of which were later corrected by legislative enactment. Immediately after the attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, he directly assisted the Senate and the House in clarifying its understanding of the legislative options available to the Congress to respond, through use of force, against those responsible for the attacks on this country. His comprehensive understanding of the War Powers Resolution and its provisions have proven invaluable to the Congress when it has needed to consider what actions it might take when the President has engaged the U.S. military in hostile operations overseas. In 2005 Richard provided the Congress with an analytical roadmap that highlighted the common policy suggestions for legislation that the 9/11 Commission and previous similar inquiries had 1nade to bolster U.S. internal security against the threat of terrorism. Subsequently, several of these proposals were enacted into law.

Throughout his career Richard has been the leading specialist at CRS on issues relating to U.S. arms sales to foreign nations, U.S. arms export control law, and the international arms trade in general. From the mid-1970s to the present, he has advised the Congress and its policy committees on

issues associated with every controversial foreign arms sale proposal that has come before them. Since 1982 he has produced a comprehensive annual report for the Congress detailing the agreements and deliveries concluded by the world's conventional weapons suppliers, a work that has set the gold standard on this subject. Richard was also the editor and coauthor of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee print ''Treaties and Other International Agreements: The Role of the United States Senate'' the definitive reference document on this subject.

In the area of arms export control and oversight legislation, Richard has provided continuing expert support and advice to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee, from the original drafting of the Arms Export Control Act in 1976 through its various periods of amendment to the present day. More recently, he directly supported the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's exhaustive review of the Defense Trade Cooperation Treaty between the United States and the United Kingdom. In this endeavor, Richard provided his specialized expertise to the committee on the complex issues posed by this treaty, from its proposal by the President in 2007 through the Committee's consideration and the Senate's advice and consent to it in September 2010.

In all of the examples I have noted, Richard Grimmett's institutional memory and command of the substance of the issues for which he has been responsible has made him an invaluable resource for the U.S. Congress at large and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in particular. I am confident that the Members of the Senate and the House join me in expressing our deepest appreciation to Richard for the extraordinary service he has provided to us over his long and distinguished career.

PRIVATE FLOOD INSURANCE

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I would like to discuss a provision of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 which reaffirms that private flood insurance can be used to satisfy a mandatory purchase requirement. This provision defines the term ''private flood insurance,'' and the definition makes a specific reference to private flood insurance from a surplus lines insurer in connection with nonresidential commercial property coverage. I would note, however, that insurance provided by surplus lines insurers also can cover residential properties—particularly when licensed and admitted insurers are unwilling or unable to provide the desired coverage—and this is authorized under state insurance law. The provision defines private flood insurance to include insurance provided by an insurer ''licensed, admitted, or otherwise approved'' to engage in the business of insurance by a State. Surplus lines insurers, also sometimes known as nonadmitted insurers, are approved to conduct such business by States. Is it the understanding of the Chairman that the ''private flood insurance'' definition includes surplus lines flood insurance coverage?

Mr. JOHNSON. I thank the Senator from Idaho for his question. The answer is yes—the definition of ''private flood insurance'' includes private flood insurance provided by a surplus lines insurer and is not intended to limit surplus lines eligibility to nonresidential properties. While the Senator is correct that surplus lines insurance is specifically mentioned in that context, overall the definition accommodates private flood insurance from insurers who are ''licensed, admitted, or otherwise approved'' in the State where the property is located.

Mr. CRAPO. I thank my friend from South Dakota for this important clarification. This is an important issue, particularly in those limited high-risk areas where surplus lines insurance serves as an essential part of the homeowners insurance market. I agree with his reading of the statute, because state law already sets the parameters as to when surplus lines insurance is acceptable.

HONOR FLIGHT 2012

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the Honor Flight Network and the four Alaskan World War II veterans who are participating in this year's flight: Robert J. Ingram, a veteran of the Navy from Fairbanks; and Louis E. Fessler, a veteran of the Army, Marc Stella, a veteran of the Marine Corps, and Joseph William Nugent, a veteran of the Army Air Corps, all from Anchorage.

The Honor Flight Network is a national program that provides free transportation to aging and ailing veterans to travel to Washington, DC, to visit and reflect at the memorials associated with the war in which they served.

Later this month, these four heroes are scheduled to go to military- and veteran-related museums and tour the Capitol. The highlight of this trip of a lifetime is a long anticipated visit to the World War II Memorial on the Mall. These veterans of the war to end all wars deserve our highest praise for their service. Like so many men of that great generation, they selflessly did their duty and are among the fortunate ones who were able to return to the civilian community and lead long and productive lives.

Mr. Ingram, Mr. Fessler, Mr. Stella, and Mr. NUGENT have our undying thanks and gratitude. Thanks are also in order to the Honor Flight Network for conceiving this program, to the flight guardians Julie Engfer and Heidi Matson from Fairbanks, and Val Stella from Anchorage, and to Alaska Airlines for donating airline tickets to all of the travelers.

I urge all Alaskans and Americans to reflect on the service of Bob, Louie, Marc, and Bill and our other remaining World War II vets and all veterans who have made sacrifices for our Nation throughout its history.

RECOGNIZING LOUISBURG COLLEGE

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I am very proud to extend my recognition and congratulations to Louisburg College in Louisburg, NC as this wonderful academic institution celebrates 225 years of maintaining an engaging and enriching community for its students, faculty, and staff.

This year, marking the 225th anniversary of the founding of Louisburg College, we give the members of the Louisburg community as well as the State of North Carolina the opportunity to pay tribute and homage to a place of academic excellence that has impacted many and helped thousands continue on the journey of excellence in all academic fields.

Louisburg College traces its historical roots back to the 18th century during the American Revolution. Having evolved from three earlier institutions—Franklin Male Academy, Louisburg Female Academy, and Louisburg Female College—Louisburg College is the oldest two-year residential college in the Nation and the only one in North Carolina.

The college is praised for years for its value, personal teaching methods, diversity, familial environment, and the way it prepares its students for future success. Today, Louisburg College is led by Dr. Mark D. LaBranche, who became the College's 27th president in January of 2009.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Louisburg College in Louisburg, NC for its continued outstanding achievement in upholding, protecting, and pioneering academic standards and providing an enriching community for its students, faculty, and staff. May Louisburg College's achievements and successes be recognized and forever appreciated by the citizens of North Carolina as well as this Congress.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HONORING WILLIAM E. SCHULZE

• Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor William E. Schulze, a veteran of World War II.

It is my honor to share the story of William's service in World War II, because no story of bravery—and especially not one from our ''greatest generation''—should ever be forgotten.

Bill was born in Milwaukee, WI. A Golden Glove Boxing Champion, Bill was working for the Pacific Bridge Company at Pearl Harbor as a welder when our Nation came under attack on December 7, 1941. Bill soon joined the Navy and put his skills to use in the

302nd Construction Battalion—known as the Sea-Bees. Bill and his unit went from island to island across the Pacific building floating bridges from cargo ships to landing areas so that supplies could reach American troops onshore. When one mission was complete, Bill and the Sea-Bees packed up their bridges and moved to the next island in support of America's victories in the Pacific. Bill supported U.S. troops in Guam, Saipan, New Guinea and the Philippines, just to name a few. Without Bill's efforts, our troops would have been left without needed arms and supplies as they battled Japan's Imperial Army.

Bill earned the medals we will present today for his service during World War II, but I would be remiss not to mention his service in support of veterans long after the war concluded.

After World War II, Bill headed back to Wisconsin, started a family, and worked for 45 years as an engineer and a welder.

After his wife's passing, his love for the outdoors brought him to Billings where he remarried and made the lives of his fellow veterans a little easier.

Mind you, Bill was getting up in years himself by this point, but that didn't stop him from volunteering as a driver for Disabled American Veterans. In fact, Bill's last award before retiring once again was for driving more than 10,000 miles, taking veterans back and forth to their medical appointments all over Montana.

But today we honor Bill's heroic service during World War II.

After his service, Bill Schulze did not receive all the medals he earned from the Navy. Earlier this month, it was my honor to finally present William's widow Betty with the American Campaign Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, and the Sharp Shooter Rifle Ribbon.

It was also my honor to present the Navy Discharge Button, the Honorable Service Lapel Pin, and an additional Bronze Star to the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal.

These decorations are small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism, sacrifice, and dedication to service.

They are presented on behalf of a grateful nation.●

TRIBUTE TO LEWIS W. HOLZHEIMER

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Lewis W. Holzheimer, a veteran of World War II. Lewis, on behalf of all Montanans and all Americans, I thank you for your service to this Nation.

It is my honor to share the story of Lewis Holzheimer's service in World War II because no story of heroism should ever fall through the cracks.

Lewis was born in Neihart, MT.

He was working as a lineman's apprentice in Cascade County when Pearl Harbor was attacked. He tried to enlist in Seattle but was turned away, because he did not have his birth certificate. He successfully enlisted in Montana and was sent to Fort Benning, GA, where he was trained to operate heavy weapons and was assigned to operate a Browning automatic rifle.

He was assigned to Company G, of the 60th Regiment of the 9th Infantry Division. He arrived in Normandy in early July 1944 on D-day plus 30. On August 8, 1944, Lewis was participating in the Battle of the Hedge Rows when he was wounded in the foot. After recovering, he headed back to his unit, only to find that they had been wiped out by what was believed to be a V–2 rocket attack. It turned out to be friendly fire.

Lewis said the blast made a hole in the ground that looked like a deep mine crater.

Lewis was reassigned to Company B in the same regiment. On December 12, his unit was responsible for an attack on the town of Hoven in Belgium for which they were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation.

Lewis demonstrated outstanding bravery during that attack and was promoted to staff sergeant.

His unit went on to see heavy action in the Battle of the Hurtgen Forest from late 1944 until early 1945. On the 1st of February 1945, Lewis's company was cut off from the rest of his regiment and was pinned down by sniper fire. The members of the company took turns running back toward the nearest American forces. When Lewis ran, he was shot under his left arm. When he informed his scout that he was wounded and would have to seek medical attention, a shell exploded near them. Despite being severely wounded, Lewis insisted that his scout be taken to the hospital first. He was informed that the scout was dead, was carried to a jeep, and was then taken to the nearest field hospital.

Lewis nearly lost his leg and underwent several years of surgery and rehabilitation. He still carries the shrapnel in him today.

After his service, Lewis Holzheimer never received the medals he earned from the Army.

Last month, in the presence of his family, it was my honor to finally present to Lewis his Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart with one Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster, Combat Infantryman Badge, and his Presidential Unit Citation.

These decorations are small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism, sacrifice, and dedication to service.

These medals are presented on behalf of a grateful Nation.●

TRIBUTE TO HERBERT S. KINDSFATER

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Herbert S. Kindsfater, a veteran of World War II. Herb, on behalf of all Montanans and all Americans, I thank you for your service to this Nation.

It is my honor to share the story of Herb Kindsfater's service to our Nation. Herb was born in Rocky Fort, CO. At the age of 17, he tried to join the Navy, but was turned away. He was told he could join the Army or work in the Butte silver mines, and he chose the Army.

Herb was a machine gunner in Company H, 172nd Regiment, 43rd Infantry Division—the ''Green Mountain Boys'' of Vermont. Herb's unit served in the Pacific Theater. He engaged in combat in the Solomon Islands and New Guinea, where he suffered injuries from shrapnel.

In the Philippines, Herb and his fellow soldiers fought mile-by-mile to reach Manila. They then took the island of Luzon. At Ipo Dam, Herb was badly wounded in both arms, and he spent months recuperating in a hospital.

After his military service, Herb moved to Billings where he married his wife Betty and worked for the railroad. During the first several years of their marriage, he still suffered from malaria that he had contracted in the war.

After serving his country with honor, Herb never received all of the medals he earned from the Army.

Earlier this month, in the presence of his wife Betty and his son Bruce, it was my honor to finally present to Herb his Bronze Star, a Purple Heart, and a Good Conduct Medal.

It was also my honor to present a Presidential Unit Citation, an Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with three Bronze Service Stars, and a World War II Victory Medal.

Earlier this month, I also presented to Herb a Combat Infantry Badge First Award, a Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one Bronze Service Star, and a Honorable Service Lapel Button.

These decorations are small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism, sacrifice, and dedication to service.

These medals are presented on behalf of a grateful nation.●

TRIBUTE TO NICHOLAS J. WELLS

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Nicholas J. Wells, a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Nicholas, on behalf of all Montanans and all Americans, thank you for your service to this Nation.

It is my honor to share the story of Nicholas Wells' service in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

After graduating high school in Darby, MT, Nicholas completed basic training at Fort Knox and trained at Camp Irwin, CA. He became an Army scout assigned to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, 2–9 Cavalry Regiment.

Nicholas arrived in Iraq in October 2005. He served in the north and central zones near Baghdad, Mosul, Adwar and

Tikrit. While in country, Nicholas survived gunshots, 24 I.E.D. blasts, and a helicopter crash. He continues to be treated for injuries that he suffered in the war.

Since retiring from the Army in 2008, Nicholas attended the University of Montana and now drives trucks in North Dakota.

After serving his country with honor, Nicholas Wells never received all of the medals he earned from the Army.

Earlier this month, in the presence of his family, it was my honor to finally present to Nicholas his Iraq Campaign Medal with two Bronze Stars. This decoration is a powerful symbol of true heroism, sacrifice, and dedication to service. This Iraq Campaign Medal is presented on behalf of a grateful nation.●

RECOGNIZING PROLITERACY

● Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize ProLiteracy, the world's oldest and largest member organization of adult literacy and basic education programs in the United States representing more than 1,100 community-based organizations and adult basic education programs, which collectively serve more than 286,000 adult learners.

For more than 50 years, ProLiteracy has been headquartered in a suburbanized industrial park in Syracuse, New York. Now, ProLiteracy is moving to the Near West Side of Syracuse. The renovated building is an environmentally and technologically advanced facility that allows the organization to produce and test new and better curricula and educational materials, as well as to develop and implement local training, technical assistance, and professional development projects. The knowledge, best practices, and key findings ProLiteracy will generate through these efforts will be shared locally, nationally, and globally.

Because ProLiteracy's headquarters will be located in an area readily accessible to adult learners, the organization is providing learning experiences such as an adult literacy library housing New Readers Press materials and other resources.

ProLiteracy is to be commended for the work they do and the efforts they support every day to help increase the quality of and access to adult literacy services. An estimated 30 million adults nationwide do not yet have the basic literacy skills to read or write above a fifth-grade level. An additional 60 million American adults do not read or write better than the eighth-grade level. Every day, ProLiteracy works to enable these Americans to receive the necessary resources and skills they need to succeed in postsecondary education, occupational training, and establishing a career pathway.

Thank you to ProLiteracy for being the leader in ending the adult literacy crisis in Syracuse, New York—and in communities around the Nation.●

TRIBUTE TO LLOYD JACKSON

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, today I would like to take a moment to recognize a fellow West Virginian who has devoted himself to the service of our State and the advancement of our education system. As a former college president, I know how invaluable education is to building our communities, growing our economy, and raising and inspiring the next generation. I commend West Virginia State school board member Lloyd Jackson for his enduring commitment to such an important cause.

My friend, Lloyd Jackson served as a State senator for 12 years and he has been a leader in improving both the early and higher education systems of West Virginia. While a senator, he was the primary sponsor of the PROMISE scholarship legislation, a merit-based financial aid program that has helped thousands of West Virginians afford college.

He has also been a vocal advocate for prekindergarten care, and his dedication has led to vast improvements in our State's preschool education. He began his fight through personal experience; his wife had to drive their children long distances to a private day care because of the lack of access in their area. Mr. JACKSON believed that all children should have the same chance to receive a quality early education.

As State senate education chairman, Mr. Jackson championed comprehensive early childhood legislation. In 2002, he helped create West Virginia Universal Pre-K and put the State on track to have universal access by 2012. Thanks to his efforts, West Virginia is today considered a leader in providing public and universal preschool education. In the 2011–12 school year, over 15,000 children were enrolled in prekindergarten, and this year every 4-year-old in the State will have access to quality schooling. In a 2011 report, West Virginia ranked fifth in the Nation in preschool access for 4-year-olds and fourth in spending on prekindergarten programs.

Lloyd Jackson has fought long and hard to make sure our children are receiving the education they deserve. I applaud his commitment to education, and I am proud of the success he has helped West Virginia achieve. Providing our children with a strong education is the greatest investment we could make in the future of our State and of our Nation. Lloyd Jackson deserves our appreciation, and I am proud to have worked with him for years and I am delighted to congratulate him for all he has done for education in West Virginia.●

TRIBUTE TO KENNETH AND VANESE CEDAR

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, every year I have the honor, as a member of the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, to recognize a West Virginia family for its efforts to promote adoption and provide homes for our Nation's vulnerable children. It is a wonderful program that highlights the change one couple can make in the life of a child.

Throughout my career, I have been a strong advocate of legislation that supports adoption and other permanency efforts. I am inspired by the men and women who devote their lives to caring for these children. Today, I would like to recognize one such West Virginian family: Kenneth and Vanese Cedar, who are truly angels in adoption.

Kenneth and Vanese have cared for 57 children over the years, including two biological sons of their own. Currently, they have adopted three children and serve as guardians for two teenagers. They also care for a foster child. They have raised their children in a close and devoted family, taking them to church, teaching them gardening and cooking, and playing sports together.

Even when challenges have arisen, Kenneth and Vanese have remained dedicated to helping their own family and other children in need. In 2009, Kenneth lost his job. Yet the couple took the obstacle as an opportunity to go back to school and earn regents bachelor of arts degrees, which they hope to use in social work and child protective services. When one of their sons nearly passed away from acute respiratory disease syndrome, they stood together as a family until he recovered, and he recently welcomed a child of his own.

Kenneth and Vanese Cedar are a selfless and giving couple who deserve our respect and admiration. They have provided so many children with not simply a home but a family. I would like to thank these angels in adoption for the love and care they have provided to so many. They are truly an inspiration.●

TRIBUTE TO DAVE AND LAURA WHELCHEL

● Mr. JOHANNS. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to a remarkable foster couple from Harrisburg, NE, whom I recently nominated to be 2012 'Angels in Adoption' recipients. Dave and Laura Whelchel are the parents of two grown biological children, Chance and Jenna, as well as four adopted children, Reuben, Josefina, Arielle and San Juan, who are siblings. They are hoping to finalize the adoption of a fifth sibling, Kayleigh, by the end of the year. Each of the adopted children has come into their home with special physical, occupational or speech therapy needs.

Dave and Laura's dedication to providing these children with the love and support they need is incredible. As I witnessed firsthand during a visit to their family farm in August, the Whelchels are doing an outstanding job ensuring their children are able to live full and happy lives.

But the Whelchels' kindness and compassion does not stop with their

children. Three years ago, the couple created Camp Grace, a summer camp for other children with special needs. Held monthly at the Whelchel farm, the camp is designed to help children work toward specific therapy goals. They also donate countless hours of their time coordinating with volunteers, therapists, and other families to ensure the camp's success.

It is an honor to nominate Dave and Laura as 'Angels in Adoption'. The award, which honors those who have enriched the lives of foster and adopted children in the U.S., is a small token of appreciation for the love and compassion they have shown their children over the years. I could not think of a more deserving family for this award. My hope is that more families will follow the wonderful example set by the Whelchels by providing loving homes to deserving children.●

TRIBUTE TO RYAN AND AMBER JOHNSON

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Ryan and Amber Johnson of Sioux Falls, SD, as my nominees for the 2012 Angels in Adoption Award. Since 1999, the Angels in Adoption program through the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institution has honored more than 1,800 individuals, couples, and organizations nationwide for their work in providing children with loving, stable homes.

After being married for only a short time, Ryan and Amber Johnson began to consider expanding their family. After overcoming initial personal setbacks, the Johnson family decided to open their home to children in need by becoming foster parents. The couple quickly accepted the opportunity to become long-term foster parents of three siblings between the ages of 7 months and 6 years, and later, the Johnsons provided a temporary, loving home for a 4-year-old foster child. The Johnsons were soon blessed again with two Native American half-brothers as foster children. It quickly became evident to Ryan and Amber how wonderful the addition of these two boys was to their family. Shortly after, Ryan and Amber adopted Lukias, age 3, and are in the process of finalizing the adoption of his younger brother. During the adoption process, the Johnson family learned that they were pregnant, and on May 1, 2011, welcomed their newest family member, Sophia. The young family now consists of 3 siblings, ages 1, 2, and 3.

Foster homes regularly see children come and go, staying for varying lengths of time. The changing environment often places an emotional toll on the caregivers who develop deep, personal relationships with their foster children. Despite the challenges that foster parents face, the Johnsons have used their life lessons to create a warm, loving home for children in need of a nurturing environment to grow and develop. Ryan and Amber plan to continue taking in foster children and possibly even expand their family by giving other children a place to call home.

National Adoption Day is around the corner, and it is important to recognize the compassionate families who bring joy to the lives of children as foster and adoptive parents. It brings me great pride to be able to honor South Dakotans Ryan and Amber Johnson, my nominees for the 2012 Angels in Adoption Award.●

TRIBUTE TO ALAN HAMEL

● Mr. UDALL of COLORADO. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to a true leader of Colorado's water community, Mr. Alan Hamel. Alan retired from his position on the Board of Water Works of Pueblo, CO, at the end of August after more than 50 years of service for the board.

Alan began his career as a student helper in 1960 working summers for the board. He returned after graduating from Colorado State University in Pueblo to become a full-time pump station operator. Over the next 20 years, Alan worked his way up the ladder through various management positions until he was appointed executive director in 1982.

Under Alan's direction, Pueblo has built one of the most modern water infrastructure systems in the Nation. Because of his leadership, the Pueblo area's future water supplies are sufficient and secure, which is truly impressive given all of the water challenges facing Colorado. The board has also benefited from extraordinary continuity during Alan's 29-year tenure at the helm, which I am confident will continue under new executive director Terry Book's guidance.

Alan has also been a water leader statewide. He is a member of the Colorado Water Conservation Board, CWCB, Colorado Water Congress, CWC, and Statewide Water Supply Initiative. He has also held leadership positions on the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District and Arkansas Basin Roundtable among many others. He also received CWC's top award in 2010, the prestigious Wayne Aspinall Water Leader of the Year Award, for his lifetime of achievement.

On a more personal level, Alan has earned the respect and admiration of the Colorado water community because he is a true public servant in the best sense of the word. He is unflappable, a fountain of knowledge about water, and always seeks common ground with opposing views while fighting fiercely and fairly for the needs of his community. He cares deeply about Pueblo and Colorado and has served both remarkably.

And above all, Alan is a family man who knows none of this could be possible without the support of his wife Mary Kay and children. While he lives and breathes water, his family comes first and foremost.

As with most water warriors, Alan's retirement will only be partial. He will continue his work on CWCB and the Arkansas Basin Roundtable, and I am sure many of us will still call upon his wisdom and experience often. I suppose after more than 50 years of service he has earned the right to switch to part-time work.

I wish him well in his next endeavors and congratulate him on an impressive career.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 5, 2011, the Secretary of the Senate, on August 3, 2012, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives that the Clerk is directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives failed to agree to the resolution of the Senate (S. Con. Res. 56) providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and an adjournment of the House of Representatives.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 5, 2011, the Secretary of the Senate, on August 3, 2012, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 3510. An act to prevent harm to the national security or endangering the military officers and civilian employees to whom internet publication of certain information applies, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 2103(b), and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Speaker appoints the following individual from private life to the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress on the part of the House of Representatives for a term of 6 years: Mr. C. Kurt Dewhurt of Michigan.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 5, 2011, the Secretary of the Senate, on August 7, 2012, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the

House has agreed the following concurrent resolutions, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 58. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 4240.

S. Con. Res. 59. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and an adjournment of the House of Representatives.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 5, 2011, the Secretary of the Senate, on August 7, 2012, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY) had signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 3510. An act to prevent harm to the national security or endangering the military officers and civilian employees to whom internet publication of certain information applies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1402. An act to authorize the Architect of the Capitol to establish battery recharging stations for privately owned vehicles in parking areas under the jurisdiction of the House of Representatives at no net cost to the Federal Government.

H.R. 3670. An act to require the Transportation Security Administration to comply with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.

H.R. 4240. An act to reauthorize the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 5, 2011, the enrolled bills were subsequently signed on August 7, 2012 by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. WEBB).

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 8. An act to extend certain tax relief provisions enacted in 2001 and 2003, and to provide for expedited consideration of a bill providing for comprehensive tax reform, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6233. An act to make supplemental agricultural disaster assistance available for fiscal year 2012 with the costs of such assistance offset by changes to certain conservation programs, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 127. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding actions to preserve and advance the multistakeholder governance model under which the Internet has thrived.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 6233. An act to make supplemental agricultural disaster assistance available for fiscal year 2012 with the costs of such assistance offset by changes to certain conservation programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 127. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding actions to preserve and advance the multistakeholder governance model under which the Internet has thrived; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 3519. A bill to require sponsoring Senators to pay the printing costs of ceremonial and commemorative Senate resolutions.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 8. An act to extend certain tax relief provisions enacted in 2001 and 2003, and to provide for expedited consideration of a bill providing for comprehensive tax reform, and for other purposes.

S. 3522. A bill to provide for the expansion of affordable refinancing of mortgages held by the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation.

S. 3525. A bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on August 3, 2012, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 270. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to Deschutes County, Oregon.

S. 271. An act to require the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into a property conveyance with the city of Wallowa, Oregon, and for other purposes.

S. 739. An act to authorize the Architect of the Capitol to establish battery recharging stations for privately owned vehicles in parking areas under the jurisdiction of the Senate at no net cost to the Federal Government.

S. 3363. An act to provide for the use of National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center Commemorative Coin surcharges, and for other purposes.

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on August 7, 2012, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 3510. An act to prevent harm to the national security or endangering the military officers and civilian employees to whom Internet publication of certain information applies, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–7135. A communication from the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Water and Waste Disposal Loans and Grants'' (RIN0572–AC26) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7136. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Division of Clearing and Risk, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Swap Transaction Compliance and Implementation Schedule: Clearing Requirement Under Section 2(h) of the CEA'' (RIN3038–AD60) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7137. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Division of Clearing and Risk, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''End-User Exception to the Clearing Requirement for Swaps'' (RIN3038–AD10) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7138. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Office of General Counsel, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Further Definition of 'Swap,' 'Security-Based Swap,' and 'Security-Based Swap Agreement'; Mixed Swaps; Security-Based Swap Agreement Recordkeeping'' (RIN3038–AD46) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7139. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Paraquat Dichloride; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9357–1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7140. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Bacillus thuringiensis eCry3.1Ab Protein in Corn; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9357–4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7141. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Residues of Didecyl dimethyl ammonium chloride; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9356–6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7142. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Flutriafol; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9348–8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7143. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,

Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''S-Metolachlor; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9356–9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7144. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fludioxonil; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9357–5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7145. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Flutriafol; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions'' (FRL No. 9349–6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7146. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Cyprodinil; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9359–7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 17, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7147. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Didecyl Dimethyl Ammonium Carbonate and Didecyl Dimethyl Ammonium Bicarbonate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9359–5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7148. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pesticide Tolerance Crop Grouping Program III; Revisions to General Tolerance Regulations'' (FRL No. 9354–3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7149. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a violation of the Antideficiency Act that occurred within the Department of the Air Force and was assigned Air Force case number 10–04; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC–7150. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Defense's 2012 report to Congress entitled ''The Worldwide Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Weapons and Ballistic and Cruise Missile Threat'' (DCN OSS 2012–1272); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7151. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of General Craig R. McKinley, Air National Guard of the United States, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7152. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Frank A. Panter, Jr., United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7153. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral David Architzel, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7154. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Admiral John C. Harvey, Jr., United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7155. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Dirk J. Debbink, United States Navy Reserve, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7156. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of five (5) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of rear admiral (lower half) in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7157. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency with respect to export control regulations; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7158. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the continuation of the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13396 on February 7, 2006, with respect to Cote d'Ivoire; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7159. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Community Planning and Development, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing: Continuum of Care Program'' (RIN2506–AC29) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 8, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7160. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of the Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Supplemental Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Department of Housing and Urban Development'' (RIN2506–AC55) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7161. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.); to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7162. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Final Flood Elevation Determinations'' ((44 CFR Part 67) (Docket No. FEMA–2012–0003)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 2, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7163. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Final Flood Elevation Determinations'' ((44 CFR Part 67) (Docket No. FEMA–2012–0003)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 2, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7164. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Final Flood Elevation Determinations'' ((44 CFR Part 67) (Docket No. FEMA–2011–0002)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7165. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Final Flood Elevation Determinations'' ((44 CFR Part 67) (Docket No. FEMA–2011–0002)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7166. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Suspension of Community Eligibility'' ((44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA–2012–0003)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7167. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''2012 Annual Plan: Ultra-Deepwater and Unconventional Natural Gas and Other Petroleum Resources Research and Development Program''; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–7168. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to granting the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) a 30-day extension of time to file its quarterly reports; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–7169. A communication from the Division Chief of Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Segregation of Lands—Renewable Energy'' (RIN1004–AE19) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2012; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–7170. A communication from the Division Chief of Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Administration of Mining Claims and Sites'' (RIN1004–AE27) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2012; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–7171. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Standards for

Business Practices of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines'' (RIN1902–AE46) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 8, 2012; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–7172. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Energy (Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy), transmitting, pursuant to law, the semi-annual Implementation Report on Energy Conservation Standards Activities of the Department of Energy; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–7173. A communication from the Chief of the Recovery and State Grants Branch, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Revising the Special Rule for the Utah Prairie Dog'' (RIN1018–AW02) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7174. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Changes to the Generic Aging Lessons Learned (GALL) Report Revision 2 Aging Management Program (AMP) XI.M41, 'Buried and Underground Piping and Tanks''' (LR–ISG–2011–03) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 2, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7175. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endorsement of Nuclear Energy Institute Guidance for Using an Alternative Method to Manage Cumulative Fatigue at Nuclear Power Reactor Sites'' (RIS 2012–09) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 13, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7176. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Guidance for Evaluation of Diversity and Defense-in-Depth in Digital Computer-Based Instrumentation and Control Systems'' (BTP 7–19 Rev. 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7177. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endorsement of Nuclear Energy Institute Guidance for Developing Seismic Hazard Information Requested in the 50.54(F) Letter Dated March 12, 2012'' received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7178. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Hawaii; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference'' (FRL No. 9712–2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 2, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7179. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; Hawaii; Infrastructure Requirements for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone and the 1997 and 2006 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards'' (FRL No. 9711–1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 2, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7180. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Oklahoma: Incorporation by Reference of Approved State Hazardous Waste Management Program'' (FRL No. 9701–7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 2, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7181. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Mojave Desert, Northern Sierra, Sacramento Metropolitan and San Diego Air Pollution Agencies'' (FRL No. 9687–8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 2, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7182. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District'' (FRL No. 9687–3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 2, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7183. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Wisconsin; Volatile Organic Compound Emission Control Measures for Milwaukee and Sheboygan Ozone Nonattainment Areas'' (FRL No. 9689–8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 2, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7184. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Federal Implementation Plan for Oil and Natural Gas Well Production Facilities; Fort Berthold Indian Reservation (Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nations), North Dakota'' (FRL No. 9710–4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7185. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''New Source Performance Standards Review for Nitric Acid Plants'' (FRL No. 9667–3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7186. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Determination of Failure to Attain the One-Hour Ozone Standard by 2007, Determination of Current Attainment of the One-Hour Ozone Standard, Determinations of Attainment of the 1997 Eight-Hour Ozone Standards for the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island Nonattainment Area in Connecticut, New Jersey and New York'' (FRL No. 9696–2) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7187. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''South Dakota: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions'' (FRL No. 9712–3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7188. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances'' (FRL No. 9358–1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7189. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Final Confidentiality Determinations for Nine Subparts and Amendments to Subpart A and I under the Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gases Rule'' (FRL No. 9706–6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7190. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Arkansas: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision'' (FRL No. 9713–3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7191. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Operating Permits Program; Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; Administrative Changes'' (FRL No. 9714–5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7192. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Illinois; Ozone'' (FRL No. 9712–8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7193. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Source Specific Federal Implementation Plan for Implementing Best Available Retrofit Technology for Four Corners Power Plant: Navajo Nation'' (FRL No. 9715–9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7194. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air

Quality Implementation Plans; New Hampshire; Hot Mix Asphalt Plants'' (FRL No. 9719–1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 17, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7195. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; New Hampshire; Regional Haze'' (FRL No. 9716–7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 17, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7196. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Tennessee; Knoxville; Fine Particulate Matter 2002 Base Year Emissions Inventory'' (FRL No. 9717–5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 17, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7197. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island; Reasonable Further Progress Plans and 2002 Base Year Emission Inventories'' (FRL No. 9672–5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 17, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7198. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Nevada; Regional Haze State and Federal Implementation Plans; BART Determination for Reid Gardner Generating Station'' (FRL No. 9700–4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 17, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7199. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Oregon; Regional Haze State Implementation Plan'' (FRL No. 9718–9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 17, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7200. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District'' (FRL No. 9691–1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 17, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7201. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''LAND DISPOSAL RESTRICTIONS: Site-Specific Treatment Variance for Hazardous Selenium-Bearing Waste Treated by U.S. Ecology Nevada in Beatty, NV'' (FRL No. 9715–3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7202. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutant Emissions: Hard and Decorative Chromium Electroplating and Chromium Anodizing Tanks; and Steel Pickling—HC1 Process Facilities and Hydrochloric Acid Regeneration Plants'' (FRL No. 9709–9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7203. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Deductions for Entertainment Use of Business Aircraft'' ((RIN1545–BK34) (TD 9597)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–7204. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fast Track Settlement for TE/GE Taxpayers'' (Announcement 2012–34) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 20, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–7205. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Update of Weighted Average Interest Rates, Yield Curves, and Segment Rates'' (Notice 2012–53) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 20, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–7206. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Medicare Competitive Acquisition Ombudsman's 2010 Annual Report to Congress; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–7207. A communication from the Senior Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Departmental Offices, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Department of the Treasury Acquisition Regulation; Internet Payment Platform'' (RIN1505–AC41) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 8, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–7208. A communication from the Program Manager, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Medicare Program; Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities Prospective Payment System—Update for Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2012 (FY 2013)'' (RIN0938–AR22) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 2, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–7209. A communication from the Program Manager, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Medicare Program; Prospective Payment System and Consolidated Billing for Skilled Nursing Facilities for FY 2013'' (RIN0938–AR20) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–7210. A communication from the Program Manager, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Medicare Program; Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Prospective Payment System for Federal Fiscal Year 2013'' (RIN0938–AR21) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–7211. A communication from the Program Manager, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Administrative Simplification: Adoption of Operating Rules for Health Care Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) and Remittance Advice Transactions'' (RIN0938–AR01) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 8, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–7212. A joint communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Legislative and Public Affairs, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Joint Summary of Performance and Financial Information for Fiscal Year 2011''; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7213. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2012–0097—2012–0111); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7214. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the establishment of a Danger Pay Allowance for Mali; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7215. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the International Labor Organization Recommendations concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers (Nos. 189 and 201), adopted by the 100th session of the International Labor Conference at Geneva; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7216. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an addendum to a certification, transmittal number: DDTC 12–069, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country regarding any possible affects such a sale might have relating to Israel's Qualitative Military Edge over military threats to Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7217. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an addendum to a certification, transmittal number: DDTC 12–101, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country regarding any possible affects such a sale might have relating to Israel's Qualitative Military Edge over military threats to Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7218. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an addendum to a certification, transmittal number: DDTC 12–066, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country regarding any possible affects such a sale might have relating to Israel's Qualitative Military Edge over military threats to Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7219. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military

Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an addendum to a certification, transmittal number: DDTC 12–091, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country regarding any possible affects such a sale might have relating to Israel's Qualitative Military Edge over military threats to Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7220. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an addendum to a certification, transmittal number: DDTC 12–096, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country regarding any possible affects such a sale might have relating to Israel's Qualitative Military Edge over military threats to Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7221. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, notice of proposed permanent transfer of significant military equipment pursuant to section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. RSAT–12–2993); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7222. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, notice of proposed permanent transfer of significant military equipment pursuant to section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. RSAT–12–2991); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7223. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, notice of proposed permanent transfer of significant military equipment pursuant to section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. RSAT–12–2992); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7224. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12–075); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7225. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12–110); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7226. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12–034); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7227. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12–039); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7228. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12–052); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7229. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12–057); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7230. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12–063); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7231. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12–097); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7232. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12–076); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7233. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12–101); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7234. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to sections 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12–081); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7235. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to sections 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12–085); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7236. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to sections 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12–099); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7237. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to sections 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12–073); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7238. A communication from the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's 2012 Annual Report for fiscal year 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–7239. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Annual Report to Congress on Food Facilities, Food Imports, and FDA Foreign Offices Provisions of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act''; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–7240. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Performance Report of the Food and Drug Administration's Office of Combination Products for fiscal year 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–7241. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Implementation of Device Registration and Listing Requirements Enacted in the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002, the Medical Device User Fee and Modernization Act of 2002, and Title II of the Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act of 2007'' ((RIN0910–AF88) (Docket No. FDA–2009–N–0114)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2012; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–7242. A communication from the Deputy Director for Policy, Legislative and Regulatory Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits'' (29 CFR Part 4022) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 8, 2012; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–7243. A communication from the Director, Directorate of Construction, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Cranes and Derricks in Construction: Demolition and Underground Construction'' (RIN1218–AC61) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2012; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–7244. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR)—Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects and Centers Program—Rehabilitation Research Training Center (RRTCs) on Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) and Developing Strategies to Meet Employer Needs in Changing Economic Environments'' (CFDA No. 84.133B–1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2012; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–7245. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 8, 2012; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–7246. A communication from the General Counsel, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Cost Accounting Standards: Cost Accounting Standards 412 and 413—Cost Accounting Standards Pension Harmonization Rule'' (48 CFR Part 9904) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–7247. A communication from the General Counsel, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, (4) four reports relative to vacancies within the Office of Management and Budget, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–7248. A communication from the Executive Director for Operations, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL)

for the Commission's commercial activities inventory; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–7249. A communication from the Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Fiscal Year 2011 Annual Report on The Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–7250. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 19–416, ''Wrongful Death Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–7251. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 19–431, ''8th Street Plaza Condominium Association, Inc. Clarification Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–7252. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 19–432, ''Closing of Public Alleys in Square 901, S.O. 11–5228, Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–7253. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 19–433, ''Downtown BID Amendment Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–7254. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 19–434, ''Sign Regulation Temporary Amendment Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–7255. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 19–435, ''Residential Parking Protection Amendment Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–7256. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 19–436, ''Criminal Penalty for Unregistered Motorist Repeal Amendment Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–7257. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 19–437, ''Taxicab Service Improvement Amendment Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–7258. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 19–438, ''Collaborative Care Expansion Amendment Act of 2012''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–7259. A communication from the Senior Counsel to the Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''National Standards To Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape'' (RIN1105–AB34) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2012; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–7260. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Federal Bureau of Investigation Anti-Piracy Warning Seal Program'' (RIN1110–AA32) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2012; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–7261. A communication from the Federal Liaison Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revision of Patent Term Adjustment Provisions Relating to Appellate Review'' (RIN0651–AC63) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 17, 2012; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–7262. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Surety Guarantees, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Surety Bond Guarantee Program—Quick Bond Application and Agreement'' (RIN3245–AG39) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 8, 2012; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC–7263. A communication from the Attorney, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Kemah Boardwalk Summer Season Fireworks, Galveston Bay, Kemah, TX'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0240)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7264. A communication from the Attorney, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Alexandria Bay Chamber of Commerce, St. Lawrence River, Alexandria Bay, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0353)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7265. A communication from the Attorney, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Alexandria Bay Chamber of Commerce, St. Lawrence River, Alexandria Bay, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0353)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7266. A communication from the Attorney, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; City of Tonawanda July 4th Celebration, Niagara River, Tonawanda, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0352)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7267. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Electric Zoo Fireworks, East River, Randall's Island, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0588)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7268. A communication from the Attorney, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Bay Village Independence Day Fireworks, Lake Erie, Bay Village, OH'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0553)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7269. A communication from the Attorney, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Independence Day Fireworks Celebration for the City of Richmond, Richmond Inner Harbor, Richmond, CA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0419)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7270. A communication from the Attorney, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; City of Tonawanda July 4th'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0352)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7271. A communication from the Attorney, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Belle Pass Dredge Operations, Belle Pass, Mile Marker 1.0 to Mile Marker (-0.2), Prot Fourchon, Lafourche Parish, LA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0392)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7272. A communication from the Attorney, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; International Bridge 50th Anniversary Celebration Fireworks, St. Mary's River, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Locks, Sault Sainte Marie, MI'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0200)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7273. A communication from the Attorney, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Upper Mississippi River, Mile 183.0 to 183.5'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0315)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7274. A communication from the Attorney, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Olcott Fireworks, Lake Ontario, Olcott, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0351)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7275. A communication from the Attorney, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Marine Week Cleveland, Lake Erie, Cleveland, OH'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0462)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7276. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department

of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; City of Ogdensburg Fireworks, St. Lawrence River, Ogdensburg, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0608)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7277. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Port Valdez, Alaska Maritime Highway System Ferry Terminal'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0641)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7278. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Village of Sodus Point Fireworks Display, Sodus Bay, Sodus Point, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0355)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7279. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; NOBLE DISCOVERER, Outer Continental Shelf Drillship, Chukchi and/or Beaufort Seas, Alaska'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0024)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7280. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zones; Sellwood Bridge Project, Willamette River; Portland, OR'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0131)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7281. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; KULLUK, Outer Continental Shelf Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit (MODU); Beaufort Sea, Alaska'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2011–1143)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7282. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Skagway Harbor, Skagway, Alaska for 4th of July Fireworks'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0512)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7283. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Temporary Change for Recurring Fifth Coast Guard District Fireworks Displays, Cavalier Golf and Yacht Club Independence Day Fireworks Display, Broad Bay; Virginia Beach, VA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0227)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7284. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Village of Sackets Harbor, Lake Ontario, Sackets Harbor, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0464)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7285. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Mentor Harbor Yachting Club Fireworks, Lake Erie, Mentor, OH'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0356)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7286. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone for Fifth Coast Guard District Fireworks Display Currituck Sound; Corolla, NC'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0358)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7287. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Wrangell Harbor, Wrangell, Alaska for 4th of July Fireworks'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–00565)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7288. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Port of Dutch Harbor; Dutch Harbor, Alaska'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0545)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7289. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Newburgh to Beacon Swim, Newburgh, Hudson River, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0538)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7290. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Sacramento River Closure for Aerial Cable Installation, Sacramento, CA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0376)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7291. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Fireworks for NC NENA/APCO Conference, Cape Fear River, Wilmington, NC'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0624)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7292. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Fireworks for NC NENA/APCO Conference, Cape Fear River, Wilmington, NC'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0699)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7293. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Conneaut 4th of July Festival, Lake Erie, Conneaut, OH'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0480)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7294. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Canal Fest of the Tonawandas, Erie Canal, Tonawanda, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0609)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7295. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Flying Magazine Air Show, Lake Winnebago, Oshkosh, WI'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0635)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7296. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Tom Graves Memorial Fireworks, Port Bay, Wolcott, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0584)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7297. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Buffalo July 4th Fireworks, Lake Erie, Buffalo, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0554)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7298. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Sea World San Diego Fireworks, Mission Bay; San Diego, CA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0497)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7299. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; San Diego Symphony POPS

Fireworks; San Diego, CA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0490)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7300. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Keweenaw Waterway, Hancock, MI'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0469)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7301. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Can-Am Festival Fireworks, Black River Bay, Sackets Harbor, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0617)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7302. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Old Fashioned 4th of July Fireworks, Presque Isle Bay, Erie, PA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0465)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7303. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Cleveland Yachting Club Fireworks, Lake Erie, Rocky River, OH'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0567)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7304. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Wicomico Community Fireworks Rain Date, Great Wicomico River, Mila, VA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0425)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7305. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone and Special Local Regulation; 2012 Macy's 4th of July Fireworks and Spectator Viewing Areas, Hudson River, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA00 and RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0405)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7306. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Hudson Valley Triathlon, Ulster Landing, Hudson River, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0537)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7307. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Sea World San Diego Fireworks, Mission Bay; San Diego, CA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0435)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7308. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone, Naval Helicopter Association Reunion Helicopter Demonstration, Elizabeth River, Norfolk, VA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0255)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7309. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zones: Catawba Island Club Fire Works Catawba Island Club, Port Clinton, OH; Pacing for Recovery, Lake Erie, Sterling State Park, Monroe, MI; Put-In-Bay Fireworks, Fox's the Dock Pier, South Bass Island, Put-In-Bay, OH'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0374) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7310. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Seafair Blue Angels Air Show Performance, Seattle, WA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2012–0699)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of August 2, 2012, the following reports of committees were submitted on August 28, 2012:

By Ms. STABENOW, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:

Report to accompany S. 3240, An original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112–203).

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1002. A bill to prohibit theft of medical products, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112–204).

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1515. A bill to permit certain members of the United States Secret Service and certain members of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division who were appointed in 1984, 1985, or 1986 to elect to be covered under the District of Columbia Police and Firefighter Retirement and Disability System in the same manner as members appointed prior to 1984 (Rept. No. 112–205).

H.R. 915. A bill to establish a Border Enforcement Security Task Force program to enhance border security by fostering coordinated efforts among Federal, State, and local border and law enforcement officials to protect United States border cities and communities from trans-national crime, including violence associated with drug trafficking, arms smuggling, illegal alien trafficking and smuggling, violence, and kidnapping along and across the international borders of the United States, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112–206).

By Mr. AKAKA, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 3193. A bill to make technical corrections to the legal description of certain land to be held in trust for the Barona Band of Mission Indians, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112–207).

By Mr. BAUCUS, from the Committee on Finance, without amendment:

S. 3521. An original bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions (Rept. No. 112–208).

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BAUCUS, from the Committee on Finance, without amendment:

S. 3524. An original bill to deter the evasion of antidumping and countervailing duty orders, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112–209).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS DURING ADJOURNMENT

On August 28, 2012, under the authority of the order of the Senate of August 2, 2012, the following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BAUCUS:

S. 3521. An original bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions; from the Committee on Finance; placed on the calendar.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. REED, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 3522. A bill to provide for the expansion of affordable refinancing of mortgages held by the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation; read the first time.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. KOHL, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. SNOWE, and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 3523. A bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to extend protection to fashion design, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BAUCUS:

S. 3524. An original bill to deter the evasion of antidumping and countervailing duty orders, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Finance; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 3525. A bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing,

and shooting, and for other purposes; read the first time.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 32

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 32, a bill to prohibit the transfer or possession of large capacity ammunition feeding devices, and for other purposes.

S. 35

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 35, a bill to establish background check procedures for gun shows.

S. 202

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 202, a bill to require a full audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks by the Comptroller General of the United States before the end of 2012, and for other purposes.

S. 503

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 503, a bill to declare English as the official language of the United States, to establish a uniform English language rule for naturalization, and to avoid misconstructions of the English language texts of the laws of the United States, pursuant to Congress' powers to provide for the general welfare of the United States and to establish a uniform rule of naturalization under article I, section 8, of the Constitution.

S. 565

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 565, a bill to establish an employment-based immigrant visa for alien entrepreneurs who have received significant capital from investors to establish a business in the United States.

S. 641

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 641, a bill to provide 100,000,000 people with first-time access to safe drinking water and sanitation on a sustainable basis within six years by improving the capacity of the United States Government to fully implement the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005.

S. 645

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 645, a bill to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a permanent background check system.

S. 697

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 697, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for amounts paid by a spouse of a member of the Armed Services for a new State license or certification required by reason of a permanent change in the duty station of such member to another State.

S. 778

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 778, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to physician supervision of therapeutic hospital outpatient services.

S. 829

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 829, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the Medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 845

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 845, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the logical flow of return information between partnerships, corporations, trusts, estates, and individuals to better enable each party to submit timely, accurate returns and reduce the need for extended and amended returns, to provide for modified due dates by regulation, and to conform the automatic corporate extension period to longstanding regulatory rule.

S. 932

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 932, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a $1,000 refundable credit for individuals who are bona fide volunteer members of volunteer firefighting and emergency medical service organizations.

S. 998

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 998, a bill to amend title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, in the case of airline pilots who are required by regulation to retire at age 60, to compute the actuarial value of monthly benefits in the form of a life annuity commencing at age 60.

S. 1108

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1108, a bill to provide local communities with tools to make solar permitting more efficient, and for other purposes.

S. 1171

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1171, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the exclusion from gross income for employer-provided health coverage for employees' spouses and dependent children to coverage provided to other eligible dependent beneficiaries of employees.

S. 1278

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1278, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on indoor tanning services.

S. 1301

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1301, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2012 through 2015 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, to enhance measures to combat trafficking in persons, and for other purposes.

S. 1463

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1463, a bill to amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to protect breastfeeding by new mothers and to provide for reasonable break time for nursing mothers.

S. 1512

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1512, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to expand the availability of employee stock ownership plans in S corporations, and for other purposes.

S. 1718

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1718, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to the application of Medicare secondary payer rules for certain claims.

S. 1723

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1723, a bill to provide for teacher and first responder stabilization.

S. 1872

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 1872, a

bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1882

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WEBB) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1882, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ensure that valid generic drugs may enter the market.

S. 1910

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1910, a bill to provide benefits to domestic partners of Federal employees.

S. 1983

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1983, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate the per-country numerical limitation for employment-based immigrants, to increase the per-country numerical limitation for family-sponsored immigrants, and for other purposes.

S. 2160

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2160, a bill to improve the examination of depository institutions, and for other purposes.

S. 2234

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2234, a bill to prevent human trafficking in government contracting.

S. 2246

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2246, a bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to provide off-base transition training, and for other purposes.

S. 2346

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2346, a bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to modify the definition of the term ''biobased product''.

S. 2364

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2364, a bill to extend the availability of low-interest refinancing under the local development business loan program of the Small Business Administration.

S. 2374

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2374, a bill to amend the Helium Act to ensure the expedient and responsible draw-down of the Federal Helium Reserve in a manner that protects the interests of private industry, the scientific, medical, and industrial communities, commercial users, and Federal agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 2620

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2620, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an extension of the Medicare-dependent hospital (MDH) program and the increased payments under the Medicare low-volume hospital program.

S. 3192

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3192, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act by establishing an F–4 nonimmigrant visa for aliens pursuing an advanced degree in mathematics, engineering, technology, or the physical sciences in the United States, to authorize such aliens to become permanent residents if they obtain employment in the United States related to their field of study, and for other purposes.

S. 3235

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3235, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require, as a condition on the receipt by a State of certain funds for veterans employment and training, that the State ensures that training received by a veteran while on active duty is taken into consideration in granting certain State certifications or licenses, and for other purposes.

S. 3243

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3243, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the amount of the low-income housing credit that may be allocated in States damaged in 2011 by Hurricane Irene or Tropical Storm Lee.

S. 3378

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3378, a bill to establish scientific standards and protocols across forensic disciplines, and for other purposes.

S. 3391

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3391, a bill to amend section 353 of the Public Health Service Act with respect to suspension, revocation, and limitation of laboratory certification.

S. 3394

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3394, a bill to address fee disclosure requirements under the Electronic Fund Transfer Act, to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act with respect to information provided to the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and for other purposes.

S. 3442

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3442, a bill to provide tax incentives for small businesses, improve programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 3452

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3452, a bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to establish a national usury rate for consumer credit transactions.

S. 3457

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 3457, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a veterans jobs corps, and for other purposes.

S. 3463

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 3463, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reduce the incidence of diabetes among Medicare beneficiaries.

S. 3472

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3472, a bill to amend the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 to provide improvements to such Act.

S. 3486

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3486, a bill to implement the provisions of the Hague Agreement and the Patent Law Treaty.

S. 3498

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 3498, a bill to provide humanitarian assistance and support a democratic transition in Syria, and for other purposes.

S. 3516

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Minnesota

(Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3516, a bill to encourage spectrum licenses to make unused spectrum available for use by rural and smaller carriers in order to expand wireless coverage.

S.J. RES. 39

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 39, a joint resolution removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment.

S. CON. RES. 48

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 48, a concurrent resolution recognizing 375 years of service of the National Guard and affirming congressional support for a permanent Operational Reserve as a component of the Armed Forces.

S. CON. RES. 50

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 50, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding actions to preserve and advance the multistakeholder governance model under which the Internet has thrived.

S. RES. 88

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 88, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that businesses of the United States should retain the option to organize as those businesses choose, including as flow-through entities, and not be forced to reorganize as C corporations.

S. RES. 448

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 448, a resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc.

S. RES. 543

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 543, a resolution to express the sense of the Senate on international parental child abduction.

S. RES. 546

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 546, a resolution designating the week of September 10, 2012, as ''National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week''.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2780. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3457, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a veterans jobs corps, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2780. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3457, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a veterans jobs corps, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. ___. CREDIT FOR STATE LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION COSTS OF MILITARY SPOUSES ARISING BY REASON OF A PERMANENT CHANGE IN THE DUTY STATION OF THE MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES TO ANOTHER STATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart A of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after section 30D the following new section:

''SEC. 30E. STATE LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION COSTS OF MILITARY SPOUSE ARISING FROM TRANSFER OF MEMBER OF ARMED FORCES TO ANOTHER STATE.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an eligible individual, there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year an amount equal to the qualified relicensing costs of such individual which are paid or incurred by the taxpayer during the taxable year.

''(b) MAXIMUM CREDIT.—The credit allowed by this section with respect to each change of duty station shall not exceed $500.

''(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—The term 'eligible individual' means any individual—

''(A) who is married to a member of the Armed Forces of the United States at the time that the member moves to another State under a permanent change of station order, and

''(B) who moves to such other State with such member.

''(2) QUALIFIED RELICENSING COSTS.—The term 'qualified relicensing costs' costs—

''(A) which are for a license or certification required by the State referred to in paragraph (1) to engage in the profession that such individual engaged in while within the State from which the individual moved, and

''(B) which are paid or incurred during the period beginning on the date that the orders referred to in paragraph (1)(A) are issued and ending on the date which is 1 year after the reporting date specified in such orders.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for such subpart A is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 30D the following new item:

''Sec. 30E. State licensure and certification costs of military spouse arising from transfer of member of Armed Forces to another State.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2011.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate an the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will be held on Wednesday, September 12, 2012, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD–366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on S. 3469, the Nuclear Waste Administration Act of 2012.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510–6150, or by email to Abigail_Campbell@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Sam Fowler at (202) 224–7571 or Abigail Campbell at (202) 224–4905.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet during the session of the Senate on September 13, 2012, in room SD–628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, at 2:15 p.m., to conduct a business meeting to consider S. 675, the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act of 2011; S. 1345, the Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation Grand Coulee Dam Equitable Compensation Settlement Act; and S. 1684, the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 2011 to be followed immediately to conduct a hearing entitled ''Addressing the Costly Administrative Burdens and Negative Impacts of the Carcieri and Patchak Decisions''.

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee (202) 224–2251.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet during the session of the Senate on September 14, 2012, in room SD–628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing on the President's Nomination of Kevin K. Washburn to be Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior''.

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at (202) 224–2251.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Courtney Zinter and Jessica Cullen be granted floor privileges for the duration of today's proceedings.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Mac LeBuhn and Ladimir Geake of my staff be granted floor privileges for the duration of today's session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR STAR PRINTING

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senate report No. 208 be star printed with the changes at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 3519

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I understand that S. 3519 is at the desk and due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3519) to require sponsoring Senators to pay the printing costs of ceremonial and commemorative Senate resolutions.

Mr. DURBIN. I would object to any further proceedings with respect to the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be placed on the calendar.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 8, S. 3522, S. 3525

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I understand there are three bills at the desk. I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bills by title for the first time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 8) to extend certain tax relief provisions enacted in 2001 and 2003, and to provide for expedited consideration of a bill providing for comprehensive tax reform, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 3522) to provide for the expansion of affordable refinancing of mortgages held by the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation.

A bill (S. 3525) to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

Mr. DURBIN. I now ask for a second reading en block and I object to my own request en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bills will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., on Tuesday, September 11, 2012; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that the majority leader be recognized, and that the first hour be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the majority controlling the first half and the Republicans controlling the final half; that at 11 a.m. there be a moment of silence in observance of the 11th anniversary of the attacks on September 11, 2011; further, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, the first rollcall vote will be at 2:15 p.m. on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 3457, the Veterans Jobs Corps Act.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:54 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, September 11, 2012, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (APHIS) FOR PROMOTION WITHIN AND INTO THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE TO THE CLASSES INDICATED:

CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER COUNSELOR:

GARY T. GREENE, OF GEORGIA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED PERSONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OF THE CLASSES STATED.

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE TO BE CONSULAR OFFICERS AND SECRETARIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

MICHAEL LEWIS, OF VIRGINIA
GEORGE LIN, OF VIRGINIA
SCOTT LINDSAY, OF MICHIGAN
JARED RAGLAND, OF MARYLAND
CAROLYN SHUCKEROW, OF VIRGINIA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED PERSONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OF THE CLASSES STATED.

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS FOUR, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

BRIDGET C. BITTLE, OF NEW YORK
CHRISTOPHER CANELLAKIS, OF MASSACHUSETTS
DANIEL MICHAEL PATTARINI, OF VIRGINIA
DAVID A. BROCK, OF CALIFORNIA
DONALD BURTON CORDELL, OF VIRGINIA
EDWARD HOWARD WINANT, OF WEST VIRGINIA
HOLLY D. WILKERSON, OF TENNESSEE
JENNIFER G. HANDOG, OF NEVADA
KRISTINA R. HAYDEN, OF VIRGINIA
REBECCA CATHERINE ALPER, OF FLORIDA
SKYE SPENCER JUSTICE, OF WEST VIRGINIA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE TO BE CONSULAR OFFICERS AND SECRETARIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

KATIE MARIE ADAMSON, OF COLORADO
ANI A. AKINBIYI, OF MARYLAND
CARLTON B. AMMONS, OF VIRGINIA
LAURA ANIKOW, OF VIRGINIA
BENJAMIN D. ARTERBURN, OF KENTUCKY
OSCAR ALEJANDRO BAEZ MEJIA, OF MASSACHUSETTS
GROVER R. BATTLE, OF NORTH CAROLINA
DREW DAVID BAZIL, OF COLORADO
DANIEL ALEXANDER BOEHMER, OF MASSACHUSETTS
EVELINA BOZEK, OF CALIFORNIA
DIANA BRAUNSCHWEIG, OF CALIFORNIA
SHANNON S. BROWN, OF FLORIDA
ELISE BRUMBACH, OF PENNSYLVANIA
SEAN THOMAS BUCKLEY, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
NATALIE CALVANO, OF KENTUCKY
BARRAK JEFFREY CHAABAN, OF VIRGINIA
SCOTT I. COHEN, OF VIRGINIA
JAMES TRENTON CORE, OF UTAH
SYDNEY ALEXIS CROSS, OF MISSOURI
THOMAS LOUIS CZERWINSKI, OF TEXAS
RANYA DAHER, OF VIRGINIA
ALEKSANDER DAIGLE, OF VIRGINIA
EION MICHAEL DANDO, OF MINNESOTA
QUAZI RUMMAN DASTGIR, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JAMES DAVIS II, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PAUL W. DEGENNARO, OF VIRGINIA
MERRICA DOMINICK, OF ILLINOIS
ALEXANDER FAIRBANKS DOUGLAS, OF VIRGINIA
DANIEL A. DURAZO, OF CALIFORNIA
BRIAN B. DUTY, OF CALIFORNIA
PATRICK R. ELLIOT, OF VIRGINIA
CHRISTOPHER FRANK ESTOCH, OF FLORIDA
CAVAN FABRIS, OF CALIFORNIA
REBECCA E. FOX, OF ARIZONA
DESTINY L. FREEMAN, OF VIRGINIA
JOSEPH FREEMAN, OF VIRGINIA
KATHERINE DIANE GARRY, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JONAS B. GIL, OF NEVADA
BRIAN GILLIGAN, OF VIRGINIA
GAYSHIEL FAYANDY GRANDISON, OF NEW YORK
JULIA GROEBLACHER, OF KANSAS
JOSHUA J. HACK, OF VIRGINIA
MATTHEW J. HAFNER, OF MISSOURI
CAITLIN B. HARTFORD, OF WASHINGTON
THOMAS M. HARTMAN, OF VIRGINIA
JEFFREY W. HENRY, OF VIRGINIA
MARK JAMES HITCHCOCK, OF CALIFORNIA
GREGORY EARL HOLLIDAY, OF VIRGINIA
NINA ELIZABETH HOROWITZ, OF VIRGINIA
PHILLIP CHRISTOPHER HUGHEY, OF VIRGINIA
IRINA ITKIN, OF INDIANA
SHAYMA JANNAT, OF CONNECTICUT
ANTON PHILIP JONGENEEL, OF CALIFORNIA
JEHAN KHALEELI, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
TRACI THIESSEN KIDWELL, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DANIEL EDWARD KIGHT, OF OHIO
JOSEPH KIM, OF MICHIGAN
ERIN LEIGH KIMSEY, OF NORTH CAROLINA
ERICA SAMONA KING, OF TEXAS
KRISTINE M. KNAPP, OF SOUTH DAKOTA
LEANNE N. KOONTZ, OF VIRGINIA
SHEELA E. KRISHNAN, OF VIRGINIA
JON R. LARSON, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JAMES E. LASTER, OF VIRGINIA
KRISTIN R. LASTER, OF VIRGINIA
JOSEPH N. LEAVITT, OF OREGON
JAMES S. MANLOWE, OF NEW MEXICO
MICHAEL JOHN MARBLE, OF VIRGINIA
MICHAEL MARCOUS, OF FLORIDA
BRIA MATHEWS, OF MISSOURI
DWAYNE T. MCDAVID, OF NEVADA
SHAUN M. MCGUIRE, OF NEVADA
SEAN P. MCKEATING, OF TEXAS
MICHAEL JAMES METHOD II, OF ALASKA
SHAY SUZANNE MILLER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
M D MITCHELL, OF MAINE
ANGELA C. MIZEUR, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JOSEPH M. MORBACH, OF VIRGINIA
KHANH P. NGUYEN, OF MASSACHUSETTS
KEVIN J. O'CONNOR, OF CALIFORNIA
MATTHEW D. PARRY, OF ALASKA
DREW NATHANIEL PETERSON, OF VERMONT
STEPHANIE W. PETERSON, OF MINNESOTA
RICHARD T. PHILLIPS, OF SOUTH DAKOTA
MARISSA JOY POLNEROW, OF NEW JERSEY
DANIEL CHARLES RHODES, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
LOIS L. RIBICH, OF VIRGINIA
MIRNA S. RIVAS, OF VIRGINIA
AMANDA ROBERSON, OF ARIZONA
WILLIAM L. ROMINE, OF FLORIDA
STEPHEN V. SASS, OF NEW JERSEY
BRYAN SCOTT SCHILLER, OF FLORIDA
SHILOH ANNE SCHLUNG, OF ALASKA
JILLIAN SCHMITT, OF MONTANA
LYNN MARIE SEGAS, OF CALIFORNIA
SHAN SHI, OF WISCONSIN
COLLEEN SMITH, OF WASHINGTON
ERIC L. SMITH, OF VIRGINIA
MARCO SHERWOOD SOTELINO, OF MASSACHUSETTS
HANNAH TABER, OF MICHIGAN
JETT THOMASON, OF TENNESSEE
MICHELLE B. THORNBURGH, OF VIRGINIA
KHARMIKA K. TILLERY, OF NORTH CAROLINA
THAO AHN NGUYEN TRAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
HOLLY D. TURNER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MELISSA P. TYBOROWSKI, OF CONNECTICUT
STEPHEN E. WALSON, OF VIRGINIA
DAVID KARL WESSEL, OF NORTH CAROLINA
JAMES L. WEST, OF VIRGINIA
BRAD MICHAEL WILKINSON, OF VIRGINIA
LISA MARIE WILKINSON, OF VIRGINIA
ANTON LEE WISHIK II, OF WASHINGTON
ANGELA JEAN WYSE, OF MICHIGAN

DUDEN YEGENOGLU, OF GEORGIA
MATTHEW JUNE YI, OF CALIFORNIA
STEVEN D. ZACK, OF VIRGINIA
DAVID J. ZANNI, OF VIRGINIA

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. DONALD P. DUNBAR

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. CALVIN H. ELAM
COL. NATHANIEL S. REDDICKS

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. GERARD F. BOLDUC, JR.

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. MATTHEW P. JAMISON

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL R. SMITH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. DAVID J. CONBOY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. FREDERICK B. HODGES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. JODY J. DANIELS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. MARK S. BOWMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. URAL D. GLANVILLE

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203(A):

To be colonel

STEPHEN P. ROBERTS

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

JASON R. PURVIS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY NURSE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be major

GEORGE C. STURGES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

DAVID W. ACKER
WILLIAM A. ADLER
JAMES R. ALBANO
CLINTON D. ALEXANDER
CHRISTOPHER S. ALFEIRI
RANDY G. ALFREDO
SCOTT ALLEN
MARK W. ANDERS
BRANDON C. ANDERSON
BRIAN E. ANDERSON
ERIC D. ANDERSON
ANTHONY J. ASBORNO
WILLIAM C. ASHMORE
JOHN A. ATILANO II
ANDREW G. ATTAR, JR.
ALBERT A. AUGUSTINE, JR.
JULIAN E. AVENT
NICHOLAS E. AYERS
BRYAN L. BABICH
TIMOTHY M. BAER
MICHAEL D. BAGULLY
ANTHONY I. BAILEY
MARK C. BAILEY
MICHAEL J. BAIM
EDWARD J. BALLANCO
FRANKLIN F. BALTAZAR
DANIEL T. BARD
JOHN M. BAREFIELD
DEREK C. BARKER
WILBUR L. BARNES, JR.
ROBERT L. BARNEY, JR.
JEREMY A. BARTEL
GABRIEL W. BARTON
FREDERICK D. BASKIN
WALLACE K. BATES
KEVIN S. BEAGLE
GARY W. BEARD, JR.
ERIC D. BEATY
ANTHONY J. BEHRENS
JAMES P. BEKURS
JESSE W. BELL III
MICHAEL P. BENTLEY
JEFFREY S. BERGMANN
VALENT P. BERNAT III
BRADLEY S. BIGGS
MICHAEL R. BINETTI
JAMES B. BIRD
MARC C. BLAIR
MICHAEL J. BLANKARTZ
JAMES F. BLANTON
MICHAEL A. BLISS
W M. BOCHAT
THOMAS J. BOCZAR
PETER C. BONIN
JASON BORG
ROBERT G. BORN
STEPHANIE L. BOUNDS
BRADLEY L. BOYD
THOMAS K. BREDE
GARLAND L. BRIAN, JR.
DEANNA L. BRIDENBACK
JOHN B. BROAM
WILLIAM P. BRODANY
DEXTER M. BROOKINS
KOREY E. BROWN
LELAND B. BROWN, JR.
MATTHEW W. BROWN
STEVEN U. BRUNER
JAY A. BRUNS
MICHAEL D. BUCHHEIT
KENNETH J. BURGESS
THOMAS F. BURRELL IV
VIDA T. BURRELL
BRADFORD M. BURRIS
DAVID P. BURRIS
TERRY A. BUTCHER
JASON A. BYRD
CHRISTOPHER O. CADIGAN
MYLES B. CAGGINS III
JONATHAN A. CAMPBELL
TOMMY L. CARDONE, JR.
BRIAN J. CARLSON
SCOTT W. CARPENTER
BRADLEY M. CARR
RAY A. CARR
JOHN G. CARVAN
DEAN J. CASE II
JOHN H. CATHELL
SHANE D. CELEEN
MATTHEW G. CHAMBERS
JUANITA A. CHANG
DOUGLAS P. CHIMENTI
VERONICA A. CHINN
JONATHAN M. CHUNG
TERRY L. CLARK
TODD J. CLARK
GLEN E. CLUBB
MICHAEL W. COBB
MATTHEW D. COBURN
JOHN H. COCHRAN
TIMOTHY L. COCHRAN
FRANK S. COLASANTO
LISA D. COLEMAN
DANIEL T. COLLINS
JAMES M. COLLINS
RICHARD L. COMITZ
JASON W. CONDREY
SEAN S. COOK
JORGE O. CORDEIRO
JACK D. CRABTREE III
RICHARD T. CRANFORD
CHRISTOPHER W. CRARY
CLIFTON B. CRIBB
GREGORY C. CROMWELL
HOBY F. CUPP
KEVIN R. CUTRIGHT
PATRICK J. DAGON
JEFFREY S. DAHLGREN
CHRISTOPHER R. DANBECK
ANTHONY E. DANIELS
JULIE A. DANNUNZIO
PATRICK S. DAULTON
MARTY R. DECKARD
DAVID M. DEFELICE, JR.
HENRY E. DELACRUZ
BRIAN V. DELEON
DAVID A. DEMARTELAERE
RICHARD K. DEMBOWSKI
SHANE A. DENTINGER
BRIAN P. DESANTIS
LINN K. DESAULNIERS
JOSEPH A. DEWEY
BRANDON L. DEWIND
FRED I. DIXON
JAMES R. DOEMEL
SAMUEL T. DONNELLY
SHAVOKA D. DOUGLAS
JON A. DRAKE
WILLIAM D. DRIVER
TIMOTHY E. DRUELL
JONATHAN L. DUE
MELANIE A. DUGAR
BRADFORD T. DUPLESSIS
J K. DURKIN
JAMES P. DYKES
WILLIAM R. EDMONDS
NATHANIEL M. EDWARDS
JAMES T. ELDRIDGE
DANIEL L. ELLIOTT
BURLIN L. EMERY
JEFFREY G. ERTS
EDWIN H. ESCOBAR
JOSEPH M. EWERS
STEVEN C. FAHLENKAMP
STUART L. FARRIS
KONE C. FAULKNER
GRANT S. FAWCETT
ALBERTO R. FELICIANO
DAVID E. FIELDER, JR.
BRADLEY M. FISHER
JOHN A. FIVIAN
RICHARD J. FONYI
DAMIEN E. FOSMOE
CHRISTOPHER D. FOUST
DAVID A. FOWLES
ALRIC L. FRANCIS
WILLIAM E. FREEMAN
JASON R. FREIDT
KENNETH J. FREY
THOMAS L. GALLI
JAMES K. GANT
ROGELIO J. GARCIA
WHITNEY B. GARDNER
RONALD A. GARST
RICHARD J. GASH
LARRY V. GEDDINGS, JR.
HISE O. GIBSON
STEPHEN M. GILBERTSON
MARK A. GILMORE
ISSAC G. GIPSON
JEREMY T. GLAUBER
BURTON C. GLOVER
JOSEPH C. GOETZ II
KEVIN R. GOLINGHORST
TRINIDAD GONZALEZ, JR.
MICHAEL A. GORRECK
SCOTT D. GOULD
CHAD D. GOYETTE
MATTHEW R. GRAGG
CAREY R. GRAHAM
PAUL GREEN
SCOTT C. GREENBLATT
WILLIAM J. GRIFFIN
MICHAEL T. GRISSOM
MONIQUE G. GUERRERO
GUILLERMO GUILLEN
NIKOLAUS F. GURAN
ALLEN G. HAHN
WAYNE A. HALE
GREGG M. HALEY
ETHAN L. HALL
TIMOTHY D. HAMILTON
JAMES J. HANDURA
WILLIAM C. HANNAN, JR.
KEVIN F. HANRAHAN
GREGORY P. HARDY
MICHAEL G. HARRIS
DAVID P. HARVIE
JONATHAN P. HASTINGS
PAUL R. HAVERSTICK, JR.
DOUGLAS J. HAYES
JAMES A. HAYES
REBECCA D. HAZELETT
SHAWN M. HELM
GLENN A. HENKE
BART G. HENSLER
ARMANDO HERNANDEZ
PATRICK W. HERRIFORD
JOHN J. HERRMAN
PAUL J. HILASKI
ADAM W. HILBURGH
TREVOR W. HILL
ROBERT A. HILLIARD
GERALD E. HIMES, JR.
JADE E. HINMAN
TIMOTHY D. HOCH
DERIC J. HOLBROOK
SCOTT L. HOLLAND, JR.
EDWARD K. HOOKS
MARK H. HOOVESTOL
RYKER E. HORN
HARRY A. HORNBUCKLE
CHRISTOPHER G. HOSSFELD
THOMAS M. HOUGH
MARTIEN G. HOUTKOOPER
CHRISTOPHER L. HOWSDEN
EDWARD C. HUDSON III
JAMES W. HUFFMAN III

FRED L. HUH
MARK E. HUHTANEN
SHANNON S. HUME
MICHAEL L. HUMMEL
TIMOTHY D. HUMMEL
BRYAN W. HUNT
KENNETH F. HUTCHISON
KEVIN D. INGRAM
VINCENT P. INTINI
IAN J. IRMISCHER
MATTHEW L. ISAACSON
MICHAEL R. IVY
KEVIN L. JACKSON
STUART M. JAMES
KARL D. JANSEN
JOSEPH D. JASPER
KEVIN E. JEFFERSON
JEREMY E. JELLY
BARTON L. JOHNKE
DAVID D. JOHNSON
DERRICK T. JOHNSON
JENNIFER R. JOHNSON
PETER H. JOHNSON
THEODORE A. JOHNSON
TIMOTHY W. JOHNSON
WILLIAM A. KAHMANN
JAMES A. KARCANES
CHRISTOPHER J. KEESAL, JR.
KEVIN D. KELLER
JOSHUA C. KENNEDY
JASON E. KERR
MICHAEL W. KIELPINSKI
JOHN P. KILBRIDE
MICHAEL J. KIMBALL
ADAM J. KIMMICH
LATONDRA M. KINLEY
IOANNIS E. KIRIAZIS
MERRELL D. KNIGHT, JR.
SCOTT P. KNIGHT, JR.
SIDNEY A. KNOX
MICHAEL J. KOLINSKI
DONALD A. KORPI
MICHAEL J. KOVACEVIC
GLENN E. KOZELKA
PAUL T. KRATTIGER
KEVIN M. KREIE
CHARLES E. KRIEGER, JR.
DAVID M. KRZYCKI
JOHNATHON M. KUPKA
JACKSON A. KURTZMAN
DONALD B. LAAUWE
CHESS P. LAMM
GORDON LANDALE
ANDREW H. LANIER IV
RONALD M. LARGE
JACOB J. LARKOWICH
JONATHAN C. LAUER
BROOK G. LEE
STEPHEN H. LEE
FRANCISCO J. LEIJA
MARK S. LENT
PHILIP V. LENZ
PHILLIP R. LENZ
THEODORE J. LEONARD
VYLIUS M. LESKYS
MARK S. LESLIE
MAURICE S. LEWIS
ROBERT S. LEWIS
MARTIN E. LEWTON
JASON S. LIGGETT
ROSS F. LIGHTSEY
JOHN D. LITCHFIELD
ERIC E. LOCHNER
JAMES R. LOCKRIDGE II
BRYAN L. LOGAN
LUIS O. LOMAS
EDWARD M. LOPACIENSKI
JEFFREY A. LOVELL
DAVID M. LOW
CHRISTOPHER W. LOWE
JAMES F. LOWE
JOHN W. LUBAS
SONISE LUMBACA
BENJAMIN R. LUPER
TIMOTHY J. MACDONALD
CORY J. MACK
OSCAR MALAVE
MARTY MALDONADO
JOSEPH J. MALIZIA, JR.
MICHAEL C. MANNER
DANIEL K. MARK
DAVID A. MARKIEWICZ
JASON L. MARQUISS
BRAD K. MARTIN
GRANT M. MARTIN
TIMMY R. MARTIN
NOMATHEMBI MARTINI
SCOTT R. MASSON
CHARLES L. MATALLANA
LEE C. MATTHEWS
COLLIS D. MAYFIELD
PHILLIP W. MAZINGO
RYAN E. MCCORMACK
ROBERT L. MCCORMICK
DAVID P. MCCOY
KELLIE J. MCCOY
MATTHEW Y. MCCULLEY
JOHN F. MCDANIEL
JACKIE D. MCDOWELL
JAMES T. MCGAHEY
DENNIS J. MCGEE
THOMAS M. MCGRATH
JOHN A. MCLAUGHLIN
DAVID M. MCNEILL
AARON M. MCPEAKE
CLAYTON D. MEALS
BRANDON G. MENO
JEFFREY P. MERSIOWSKY
EDWARD MEYERS
MARK D. MILLER
ZACHARY L. MILLER
NATHAN A. MINAMI
MATTHEW C. MOBLEY
WILLIAM B. MOEN
JERRY A. MOON
TOBIN C. MOORE
ANDREW J. MORGAN
KEALII T. MORRIS
SCOTT B. MORRIS
RUSSELL W. MORTON
JUSTIN T. MUFALLI
TIMOTHY R. MUNGIE
STEPHEN F. MURPHY
ANTHONY T. MURTHA III
JON P. MYERS
SCOTT A. MYERS
JUAN P. NAVA
ALEXIS A. NEAL
JOHN J. NEAL
BYRON C. NEEDUM
CHAD B. NEIDIG
ROSS F. NELSON
DON A. NESTOR, JR.
JOEL D. NEWSOM
LOI M. NGUYEN
KURT R. NIELSON
FRANK L. NIETO
ERIC M. NOE
EDWIN W. NORDAN, JR.
RONALD G. NOVAK, JR.
ANDREW J. NOVITSKE
BRIAN J. NOVOSELICH
JACK W. NOYES
CHRISTOPHER M. NYLAND
JAMES M. OBRIEN II
RYAN P. OCONNOR
ERIC A. OGBORN
SHERIFF A. OLALEKAN
MARK A. OLSEN
RICHARD B. ONDERKO
JEFFREY ORTOLI
RALPH W. OVERLAND
JEFFREY O. PAINE
JAMES G. PANGELINAN
JASON M. PAPE
ANDREW Y. PARK
DUANE M. PATIN
PAUL E. PATTERSON
TIMOTHY P. PAYMENT
MICHAEL L. PEELER
THEODORE J. PELZEL
FELIX A. PEREZ
JOHN M. PERRINE
JACOB A. PETERSON
ERIC J. PIAZZA
CHRISTOPHER L. PITMAN
WILLIAM D. PITTMAN
STEPHEN J. PLATT
DAVID M. POLIZZOTTI, JR.
CARL A. POPPE
VINSTON L. PORTER, JR.
CHRISTOPHER D. PRATT
SCOTT S. PRESTON
WILLIAM H. PRIVETTE
TOBY W. PRUDHOMME
JOSEPH A. PUSKAS II
RICHARD J. RACHOW
FRANZ L. RADEMACHER
RALPH W. RADKA
MICHAEL J. RADKE
JOSHE E. RAETZ
TAGE J. RAINSFORD
ROBEL RAMIREZBERRIOS
DARREN A. RAPAPORT
BRIAN R. RAUEN
JAMES S. RAWLINSON
NATHANIEL S. REDDEN
BETH C. RICHARDSON
JOSEPH C. RICHEY
JAMES G. RIELY
TREVOR O. ROBICHAUX
TERRY D. ROBINSON
CHRISTOPHER L. ROBISHAW
WILLIAM A. ROCKEFELLER III
WILLIAM A. RODGERS
RAFAEL A. RODRIGUEZ
ELLIOTT L. ROGERS
SAMUEL E. ROGERS III
AARON K. ROOF
ROBERT J. ROULEAU
EDWARD D. ROUSE
DAVID M. ROZELLE
PETER S. RUSSO
RENEE D. RUSSO
JONATHAN P. RUTGERS
KEVIN C. SAATKAMP
AMADO SANCHEZ IV
MELVIN E. SANDERS
JOHN W. SANNES
ANDREW O. SASLAV
ERIC G. SAYER
CHRISTOPHER L. SCHILLING
TODD A. SCHMIDT
TROY A. SCHNACK
JENNIFER M. SCHROEDER
JENNIFER L. SCHULKE
TODD SCHULTZ
JASON A. SCHUYLER
JOHN G. SCHWEMMER, JR.
DANIEL A. SEGURA
ERIC C. SELF
MICHAEL L. SELLERS, JR.
DAVID S. SENTELL
SCOTT A. SHAW
TIMOTHY R. SHAW
JOHN T. SHERWOOD
JONATHAN A. SHINE
ANDREW J. SHORT
BILLY D. SIEKMAN
JONATHAN K. SIMMONS
APRIL D. SKOU
ANNA M. SLEMP
TIMOTHY A. SLEMP
JARED A. SLOAN
KENNETH D. SLOVER
CHRISTOPHER W. SMITH
DIRK H. SMITH, JR.
KURT J. SMITH
MICHAEL R. SMITH
RANDY A. SMITH
RICHARD F. SMITH
STEVE M. SMITH
JOSEPH A. SOKOLOSKI
TRAVIS C. SOUTHWICK
JAMES R. SPIES
MICHAEL T. SQUIRES
SAIPRASAD SRINIVASAN
CHRISTOPHER M. STALLINGS
ROBERT W. STEFFEL
NICHOLAS A. STERNBERG
TERRY L. STEWART
PATRICK T. STICH
MARK W. STOUFFER
CHARLES S. STRICKLER
LEVI J. SUTTON
STEVEN L. TABAT
JOHN D. TABB
JASON C. TALIAFERRO
ANDREW K. TAPSCOTT
MICHAEL R. TAYLOR, JR.
WILLIAM B. TAYLOR
BRANDON S. TEAGUE
JONATHAN D. TESSMANN
DARRIN E. THERIAULT
CHEVELLE THOMAS
SCOTT THOMAS
TODD G. THORNBURG
MICHAEL S. THORNTON
PATRICK G. TOBEY
NILDA T. TORO
JOSEPH M. TORRAIN
FREDERICK J. TOTI
PHILIP S. TOWNSEND
MICHAEL F. TREMBLAY
TIMOTHY G. TRIMBERGER
JOHN C. TUCKER
JOHN T. TUCKER III
KATHLEEN T. TURNER
STEVEN A. TURNER
JASON B. TUSSEY
DONALD R. TWISS
CHADWICK L. UHL
TRENT D. UPTON
TIMOTHY R. VAIL
LANCE K. VAN ZANDT
KRAIG S. VANVLECK
JOSE M. VARGAS
ANIBAL VAZQUEZCARRASQUILLO
JAMES P. VELESKY
JONATHAN M. VELISHKA
DANIEL J. VOGEL
MICHAEL J. VOLPE
DAVID L. WAKEFIELD
MERLE T. WALKER
JAMIE L. WALLACE
BENJAMIN M. WALLEN
JAMES N. WALSER
GEORGE WALTER
KEITH R. WALTERS
LAWRENCE R. WALTON
DAVID R. WATERS
ANDREW J. WATSON
CHRISTOPHER M. WEATHERS
WILLIAM D. WEAVER
BRYAN T. WEBINGER
MATTHEW J. WEINRICH
CHRISTOPHER B. WELLS
JOHN T. WHELAHAN, JR.
CHRISTINE M. WHITMER
ERIN A. WHITNEY
GEOFFREY A. WHITTENBERG
STEPHEN A. WICKERSHAM
PAUL J. WILCOX
RUSE M. WILEY
WILLIAM H. WILKINS III
CATHERINE T. WILKINSON
WILLIAM T. WILLEY
COLIN L. WILLIAMS
JASON T. WILLIAMS
KEVIN D. WILLIAMS
KEVIN J. WILLIAMS
JEREMY R. WILLINGHAM
JENNIFER R. WILLIS
MICHAEL S. WILLIS
CHRISTOPHER W. WILLS
JAMES T. WILSON
LUCINDA R. WILSON
THOMAS G. WILSON, JR.
ARMIN K. WINDMUELLER
ERIC J. WINTERROWD
MALCOLM L. WISE
MICHAEL L. WISER
THADDEUS A. WOJTUSIK
DAVID C. WOODRUFF, JR.
SOLOMON WOODS
STEPHEN N. WOODSIDE
CHRIS A. WOODY
RYAN L. WORTHAN
ERIC M. WRIGHT
LEO J. WYSZYNSKI
MATTHEW J. YANDURA

DAVID G. YOUNGBLOOD
KEVIN C. ZAMMERT
JEFFREY S. ZANELOTTI
JAMES E. ZOPELIS
STEVEN P. ZYNDA
D010514
D010185
D006007
D011310
D005484
D010893
D010090
D011058
D006335
D010133
D006311
D004464
D011235
D011031
D006284
D011083
D010630
D004938
D006293
D002849
D003917
D003093

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SPECIALIST CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be major

JOSEPH R. NEWCOMB

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be major

MOROHUNRANTI O. OGUNTOYE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SPECIALIST CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be major

AUGUST SEEBER

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant colonel

JEFFREY R. ALTHOFF
MARSHALL S. HUMES

To be major

GREGORY T. MCCAIN

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AS CHAPLAINS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be colonel

ERIC J. ALBERTSON
SAMUEL K. GODFREY
PAUL K. HURLEY
JOSEPH H. MELVIN
MARK B. NORDSTROM
MATTHEW P. PAWLIKOWSKI
CHARLES E. REYNOLDS
RAYMOND A. ROBINSON, JR.
PETER R. SNIFFIN
SCOTT A. STERLING
JEFFREY L. VOYLES
JEFFREY D. WATTERS
JEFFREY L. ZUST
D010088
D011234

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

STUART N. BURRUSS
PERRY A. CARTER
TONI L. COATS
MICHAEL L. JOHNSON
JOHN P. MORETH
CAROL K. OLSON
ROBERT J. QUINKER III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

ANDRE B. ABADIE
WILLIAM T. ADAMS
JEREMIAH A. AESCHLEMAN
ADAM A. ALBRICH
LUIS G. ALVARADOCOLON
MATTHEW A. ANDERSON
SCOTT D. APPLEGATE
JOEL R. ARELLANO
MATTHEW J. ARMSTRONG
ROBERT C. ARMSTRONG
JORGE A. ARREDONDO
KARL M. ASMUS
ADONTIS ATKINS
PACE R. AVERY
JEFFREY B. BACON
KEVIN S. BADGER
FRANCISCO R. BAEZ
RICHARD R. BALESTRI
BENJAMIN S. BANE
CARRIE L. BARHORST
CHRISTOPHER B. BARKER
DANIEL J. BARNARD
AARON A. BAZIN
RONALD BEADENKOPF
JOSEPH D. BECKER
MICHAEL R. BELTON
AMOS R. BENNETT
CLAUDE A. BENNETT, JR.
JOHN R. BILLMYER
DUSTIN D. BISHOP
BENJAMIN L. BLACKMAN
CHARLES R. BOLES
KEVIN G. BOLKE
HESTON F. BOWER
BRIAN J. BRANDT
DAN R. BRUE II
REGINALD E. BRYANT
MICHAEL P. BUCHKOSKI
JUSTIN W. BUDD
DAVID L. BUFFALOE
GEOFFREY R. BULL
WILLIAM W. BURCH
ANDRE L. BURKS
CURTIS R. BURNS
PHILLIP G. BURNS
DEREK F. BURT
JON A. BUSHMAN
JOHN R. BUSSOLARI
MICHELE P. CALLAHAN
VICTORIA J. CAMPBELL
CRAIG B. CARDON
GILBERT M. CARDONA
GWYN A. CARVER
ELIZABETH A. CASELY
DAVID J. CHANG
TEDROSE H. CHARLES
JAMES F. CHASTAIN, JR.
JOHN C. CHECCO
GABRIEL A. CHINCHILLA
KEITH A. CHISOLM
SUNG H. CHON
JAMES E. CHRISTMAN
JAMES B. COGBILL
CECILIO R. COLEMAN
TONYA L. COLLINS
TERENCE J. CONNOLLY
CHRISTOPHER H. CONWAY
REX A. COPELAND
RANDY R. COTE
ROBERT E. CROFT
PATRICK E. CURRY
JARED K. CZAP
MATTHEW F. DABKOWSKI
ANDRE W. DANCY
ROBERT S. DAVIDSON
SOPHIA L. DAVISREID
WAYNE T. DAWSON
DAVID L. DE ATLEY
MICHAEL E. DEBOER
AIMEE S. DEJARNETTE
DOROTHY L. DELEON
JASON W. DICKERMAN
BRIAN S. DIETZMAN
ALAN H. DINERMAN
LUKE R. DONOHUE
RODNEY E. DRAYTON
ALYSSA G. DREW
ANTHONY R. DUBAY
JOHN A. DUDA, JR.
SEAN D. DUNCAN
DAVID S. EATON
KEITH D. ELLIOTT
PAUL F. EVANGELISTA
EDIE M. FAIRBANK
MICHAEL J. FEELEY
BRAD D. FENSKE
JONATHAN E. FLANAGAN
MATTHEW J. FOULK
GREGORY FREY
JOHN A. FRICK
LUIS G. FUCHU
JOSHUA J. FULMER
DANIEL M. GADE
ANDREW P. GAMBLIN
CHARLES V. GATES II
JOSEPH C. GELINEAU
RICHARD L. GEREN
CHAD A. GIACOMOZZI
DAVID W. GILL
ANTHONY G. GLAUDE
ROBERT A. GLECKLER
ADELAIDO GODINEZ III
LUCIANO GONZALEZ
GARY L. GOOD
JAMES I. GREENLEE II
EUGENE J. GREGORY
LEMAR R. HALL
JAMES M. HALLORAN
STEWART S. HAMBLEN
SANG D. HAN
MARILYN HARRIS
REGINALD M. HARRIS
JOSH W. HELMS
EDWARD R. HERRMANN
JASON L. HESTER
JAMES N. HICKMAN III
PAUL D. HICKS
JAMISON R. HINES
BRETT J. HISSAM
CHARLES L. HITER
RANDALL W. HOBERECHT
DANIEL A. HOLLAND
ANDREW M. HOLMES
ROBERT E. HOLMES
RICHARD A. HOOVER
KRISTOFER D. HOPKINS
WILLIAM W. HORN
CHARLES E. HORNICK, JR.
ALBERT S. HORVATH III
TREVOR W. HOUGH
JOEL L. HOUK
THOMAS H. HOWARTH
BLUE HUBER
HARRY D. HUNG
CHRISTOPHER A. INGELS
KIRK A. INGOLD
FRANCIS W. IRWIN III
HEATHER A. JACKSON
MARCUS W. JACKSON
ERIC M. JAMISON, JR.
JAMES E. JENKINS II
JEREMIAH J. JETTE
GREGORY J. JOHANEK
ANTHONY N. JOHNSON
BRAD A. JOHNSON
CHRISTOPHER G. JOHNSON
TIMMY E. JOHNSON
CHRISTOPHER P. JONES
DANIEL D. JONES
GARRETT P. JONES
STEVEN J. JONES
DEXTER A. JORDAN
CARLA T. JOYNER
DOUGLAS C. JUDICE
CHRISTOPHER E. KEESHAN
DANIEL W. KIDD
MINDY A. KIMBALL
LARRY D. KIMBRELL, JR.
CAYLA W. KING
DAVID M. KIRKLAND
ERIC T. KISS
DAVID C. KNAPP
MARK D. KOLVA
JACK L. KOONS III
CHRISTOPHER M. KORPELA
GARY R. KRAMLICH II
MICHELLE A. KRAWCZYK
MICHAEL J. KUZARA
KRISTOFER S. LABOWSKI
ROBERT A. LAFLAMME
JEFFREY T. LAKEY
JAMES A. LAMBORN
SEAN M. LAVIGNE
NORMAN S. LAWRENCE
BRYAN C. LECLERC
JAMES W. LEE
JAIMIE E. LEONARD
STEVEN W. LIBBY
SHANE F. LIPTAK
JEFFERY L. LONG
ALJONE D. LOPES
BRYAN M. LOVE
AARON B. LUCK
CHRISTOPHER S. LUTZKANIN
H C. LYLE
KEVIN M. MACNEIL
MARK H. MADDEN
MARY L. MAGSINO
AMANDA L. MANLEY
BENJAMIN J. MARLIN
LAWRENCE D. MARTIN
CARLOS I. MARTINEZ
BRIAN J. MARZAN
ERIC P. MCALLISTER
SIM J. MCARTHUR
THOMAS J. MCCARRON III
JOSHUA MCCAW, SR.
DEMETRIUS R. MCCLARTY
RAY D. MCDONALD III
WILLIAM C. MCDOWELL
THOMAS J. MECCIA
JOHN W. MEEK
ROBERT E. MEINE
GLENN O. MELLOR
CHASE G. METCALF
BENJAMIN D. MILLER
TERREL L. MILLER
DARIN W. MILLS
KEVIN L. MITCHELL
TODD A. MOE
DAVID J. MOLINARI
DELFIN L. MONROY, JR.
RICK L. MONTANDON
HAROLD S. MONTOYA
JOHN C. MOORE
BRENT D. MORROW
LAWRENCE A. MULLANY
RONALD F. MYERS
RICHARD J. NAMETH
WALID R. NASR
OCTAVIO NAVEDOCORTES
PAMELA A. NEWBERN
JASON B. NICHOLSON
WAYNE O. NITZSCHNER
DELTON NIX, JR.
PAUL NIX
BRIAN C. NORTH
CURTIS W. NOWAK
DEXTER C. NUNNALLY
LUIS G. OAKLEY, JR.
CANDICE E. OBRIEN
CHRISTOPHER M. OBRIEN
BUCKLEY E. ODAY III
JACQUELYN K. OLSA

ERIC R. OLSON
MATTHEW N. OLSON
JASON B. ORLICH
OSVALDO N. ORTIZ
SANTIAGO J. OTEROORTIZ
CHRISTOPHER E. OXENDINE
TYLER J. OXLEY
ROBERT J. OZANICH
REBECCA D. PATTERSON
MICHAEL K. PAVEK
ANDREW F. PEKALA
PHILIPPE R. PERSAUD
JESSE A. PHILLIPS
RODGER PITT
ALANA L. POMPA
MICHAEL J. PONCHAK
COREY S. PRESSLEY
SCOTT L. PREUSSER
TERRENCE C. PURNELL
ROBERT C. RAMSEY
CHRISTOPHER C. RANKIN
DAVID J. RAPONE
MARK G. RASMUSSEN
JOSEPH D. REAP
MICHAEL A. REARDON
MICHAEL C. REMBOLD
WESLEY P. RICHARDSON
DAVID M. RICHKOWSKI
WILLIAM RILEY
BENJAMIN A. RING
STUART C. RINKLEFF
ARMANDO RIVERON
JENNIFER K. ROBERSON
GLENN S. ROBERTSON
CHRIS E. ROBINSON
ISMAEL R. RODRIGUEZ
ALBERTO RODRIGUEZCRUZ
JONATHAN W. ROGINSKI
JAE C. ROOD
GREGORY S. ROSS
JASON L. ROSS
AMANDA M. ROSSI
MARK W. ROWELL
ANTHONY J. RUDD
DANIEL W. RUECKING
SANDRA RYGALSKI
JACK W. SANDER III
ADAM R. SANDERSON
BLAIR J. SAWYER
TODD A. SCATTINI
ANTHONY SCHEVALIER
MICHAEL P. SCHOCK
TODD A. SCHOEBERL
JEFFREY L. SCHULTZ
GREGORY E. SCHWARZ
MANUEL D. SEPULVEDA
DAVID A. SETTJE
GREGORY K. SHARPE
ERIC A. SHAW
MICHAEL A. SHEKLETON
BRIDGETTE K. SIMMONS
CRISTIAN J. SIMON
ANTHONY W. SIPPERT
LAWRENCE E. SKELLY III
JAMES L. SMALLWOOD
SUSAN A. SMELTZER
CANDY S. SMITH
CRAIG C. SMITH
ERIC J. SMITH
JENNIFER J. SMITHHEYS
JAMES L. SNYDER
MATTHEW C. SOBER
KHOT SOUIMANIPHANH
BRYANT D. SPRINGER
GREGORY D. STALLINGS
THOMAS M. STEVENSON
JOSHUA W. STEWART
SEAN F. STINCHON
BRADY L. STOUT
ERIC N. STROM
JOHN D. SUGGS, JR.
CHARLES A. SULEWSKI, JR.
STEVEN S. SWANSON
STEVEN J. SWINGLE
THOMAS E. SWITAJEWSKI, JR.
JOHN P. SWOOPES
JOHN T. TATOM
MICHAEL D. TAYLOR
MICHAEL F. TEASTER, JR.
SIRIANOSAC THEPSOUMANE
GERALD S. THOMPSON
LARRY E. TINDELL
JAHAN TOLLIVER
CHRISTOPHER L. TOMLINSON
MANUEL A. UGARTE
THADDEUS L. UNDERWOOD
TIMOTHY VALADEZ
JOHN F. VANSTEENBURGH
GILBERTO R. VAZQUEZ
BRETT J. VERNETTI
CRAIG W. VIETH
TOBIAS O. VOGT
ERIC C. VOIGT
ROBERT D. WAGNER
DARRELL E. WALKER
JASON E. WARNER
KRISTA L. WATTS
STEPHEN T. WELLEIN
JONATHAN M. WILEY
BLAIR S. WILLIAMS
DAVID M. WILLIAMS, JR.
JOSEPH E. WILLIAMS
KENNETH A. WILLIAMS
TROY H. WINCAPAW
STEVEN M. WINKLEMAN
SUNG H. WON
MANUEL S. WONG
ROBYN D. WOOD
JOHN H. WOODCOCK, JR.
GEOFFREY W. WRIGHT
DILLARD W. YOUNG
MATTHEW M. ZAIS
ROBERT C. ZANCA
JONATHON L. ZAVORKA
DAVID M. ZELKOWITZ
DANIEL M. ZERBY
TODD S. ZWOLENSKY
D010902
D011200
D004451
D010534
D005833
D003656
G001164
G001407
G001052
D001273
D010657
D010354
D011140
D010729
D005697
D010196
D005349
G001060

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

JOHN J. ACEVEDO
FREDDY L. ADAMS II
JOHN D. ADAMS
RYON F. ADAMS
JASON P. AFFOLDER
KEVIN J. AGEN
ALEXANDER B. ALEJO
MARK L. ALLEN
KATHY L. ALLISON
MAURICE O. ALSING
LEITH A. AMES
MICHAEL C. ANDERSON
WYETH S. ANDERSON
ALEXANDER D. ARNOLD
EDWARD P. AUSTIN
KENNETH J. BABCOCK
HEIDI A. BAIRD
KEVIN M. BAIRD
TERRIE L. BAISLEY
JASON L. BAKER
RAYMOND T. BANKS
FREDRICK L. BARBER
MARTIN A. BARR, JR.
DANIEL A. BARTLETT
STEPHANIE A. BARTON
ARCHIE L. BATES III
CARY A. BATHRICK
JULIA BELL
MYRON L. BELL
CORY N. BERG
ARICAI M. BERRY
PATRICK J. BERRY
JEFFREY BIGGANS
JOSEPH R. BLANTON
CYNTHIA J. BLEVINS
HECTOR M. BONETGUTIERREZ
ANTHONY J. BONIFACE, JR.
CRAIG P. BOSTON
RICHARD M. BRATT
MICHAEL A. BRAULT
MATTHEW S. BRESKO
JOHN R. BRETTHORST
ANGEL M. BRITO
ZARA R. BROADENAX
STEPHEN H. BROCK, JR.
DEMETRIUS D. BROOKS
CLARENCE T. BROWN IV
HALBERT BROWN
JOSEPH D. BROWN
KATHY M. BROWN
JOHN T. BRYAN
MICHAEL D. BURCHAM
JAMES T. BURGESS
CHRISTOPHER M. BYRD
COLEEN CARR
LISA L. CARTER
RAYMOND C. CASHER
JUAN C. CERVANTES
JAMES Y. CHONG
ROBERT B. CHURCH
JAMES L. COE II
JOSEPH M. COLACICCO
STEPHEN M. COLLINS
JOHN S. COMBS
JOHN M. COOPER
MALCOLM S. CORNISH
MICHAEL C. CROSSLEY
JUSTIN C. CRUPPER
WILLIAM T. CUNDY
BOBBY H. DAVIS
V J. DEBOER
DARYL G. DEVERAWADEN
PATRICK A. DISNEY
MITZI L. DIX
STEPHEN P. DONDERO
MARC C. DORRER
STEPHEN D. DORRIS
KEISHA R. DOUGLASS
MARY O. DRAYTON
WILLIAM P. ECKSTEIN
RONALD L. EGGELSTON
REBECCA L. EGGERS
CHRISTINE V. ENRIQUEZ
STEVEN A. ERICKSON
PHILIP J. ETZKORN
ERIC J. EVERTS
STEPHEN A. FABIANO
DONALD A. FAGNAN
CARL J. FAISON
SYLVIA FARMER
STEVEN R. FARRELL
DONALD R. FERGUSON, JR.
CHARLES A. FISHER, JR.
MICHAEL S. FLEMING
AMANDA H. FLINT
JOEL D. FRANKLIN
TIMOTHY B. FRANKLIN
ALEXANDER GALLEGOS
BENJAMIN C. GARNER, JR.
GREGORY S. GATRELL
KERRY L. GEORGE
GREGORY K. GIBBONS
DERERICK D. GILES
RANDY J. GILLESPIE
ANDREW L. GILMAN
TROY S. GLASSMAN
SAMUEL B. GLOVER, JR.
AMY L. GOUGE
JOHN F. GOVAN III
JOSEPH W. GREENLEE
LADD O. GREGERSON
GREGORY J. GRUSENMEYER
BARBARA G. HAINES
BRIGITTE R. HAMPTON
JOHN W. HANKINS
KENNETH S. HANLEN
COREY W. HARRIS
JEFFERY D. HARRIS
MICHAEL J. HARVEY
NICOLE B. HAYES
DAWN D. HAYMAN
GORDON A. HEAP
KENNETH G. HECKEL
COREY P. HEMINGWAY
MARTIN J. HENDRIX III
DAVIEN L. HEYWARD
ERIK E. HILBERG
DAVID T. HILLS
YOLANDA M. HINES
KRISTA M. HOFFMAN
THOMAS J. HOLLAND III
SHAWN R. HOLZHAUSER
JASON R. HOUSE
DANIEL R. HUBBARD
ADRIAN L. HUGHLEY
JOHNATHAN M. HURWITZ
JAMES E. INGUAGIATO
ROBERT S. JARZYNA
JON E. JECKELL
JEREMY J. JEFFERY
BENJAMIN F. JOHNSON
CHRISTOPHER R. JOHNSON
HERMAN L. JOHNSON, JR.
MICHAEL W. JOHNSON
HUMBERTO I. JONES
SAMANTHA M. JONES
GBENGA B. KAFFO
THEOPHILE KANG
GARY L. KASAVICHA
JEFFREY L. KEATING
THOMAS D. KELLEY
JOSEPH D. KELLY
TINA KIM
MATTHEW J. KIME
SCOTT B. KINDBERG
CLETIS R. KING, JR.
LOUIS L. KING
RANDALL L. KLINGENSMITH
BRANDON C. KLINK
PAUL A. KOPELEN
JASON K. KRISTOLAITIS
KEITH R. KRUELSKI
CURT E. KUETEMEYER
ROBERT K. LAMBERT
TIMOTHY J. LANCASTER
CALVIN J. LANE
ERIC D. LARSEN
MARC F. LEDUC
JAMES R. LEE
ARTURO Z. LINCON
DONALD T. LOGSDON
JEFFERY P. LUCAS
DAVID E. LUTTRELL
JAMES F. LYNN
HEATHER L. MACK
FREDRIC R. MADDOX
LANDIS C. MADDOX
YOLANDA B. MADDOX
SUSAN E. MANION
WHEELER R. MANNING
BRYON L. MANSFIELD
SCOTT E. MARIHUGH
JEANETTE A. MARTIN
REGINALD G. MARTIN
JOHN T. MASTERNAK
BRIAN D. MATTHEWS
MICHAEL P. MCCLEISH
JOHN W. MCDONALD
ROBERT L. MCDONALD, JR.
DAVID H. MCDOWELL
REBECCA B. MCELWAIN
SCOTT L. MCKEE
MONDREY O. MCLAURIN
JASON A. MEAD
CHRISTIAN B. MEISEL
ROBERTO J. MERCADOROMERO
MARCI D. MILLER
MICHAEL F. MINAUDO
TODD D. MITCHELL
GEORGIA E. MONCAYO

BUCKY L. MOORE
FELICIA R. MOORE
FRANK A. MOORE
KEVIN L. MOORE
LARRY D. MOORE, SR.
LARRY R. MOORE
WENDELL S. MOORE
RAYMOND H. MORGAN III
ROBERT C. MORRIS III
DARYL R. MORSE
JOHN M. MOTSZKO
MICHAEL G. MOURITSEN
KURT A. MUELLER
AUGUST MULLER IV
JASON J. MURPHY
CHARLES A. MUSANTE
TODD A. MYERS
KIMBERLY D. NASH
KATHLEEN P. NEUMANN
CHRISTOPHER D. NOE
BRIAN S. OLSON
GARY R. OSULLIVAN
CARL R. OTT
LUIS A. PARILLI
JOHN R. PARKER
MICHAEL A. PATRICK
SCOTT A. PEACHEY
SCOT D. PEARS
JAMES R. PECKHAM, JR.
JASPER E. PENNINGTON
BRENDA F. PERRY
JUSTIN C. PERUSEK
KARL R. PFUETZE
MATTHEW A. PHELPS
FREDERICK R. PHILIPP
SHARLENE M. PIGG
KENNETH D. PINDELL, JR.
CYNTHIA L. PITTMAN
WARREN L. PITTMAN
DANIEL R. POWERS
BRYAN K. PREER
SEAN P. PUTNAM
STEVEN E. PUTTHOFF
SHELLEY A. RAYMOND
HATTIE L. RICHARDSON
JOHN E. RICHARDSON
KIRK M. RINGBLOOM
MICHAEL E. RIVERA
ANGEL D. ROJAS
PHILIP J. ROOT
JASON W. ROSS
PHILIP G. ROTTENBORN
CHRISTOPHER J. RUGA
TERRY S. RUSSELL
MICHAEL A. SABB
BOBBY L. SADLER, JR.
SANDRA J. SANCHEZ
EARL B. SCHONBERG, JR.
STEVEN P. SCHULTZ
STEVEN D. SCHWANTES
DOMINIC M. SCOLA
JOHN H. SENSLEY
BRADY M. SEXTON
SHERRI L. SHADROCK
MARC N. SHAFER
JEFFREY A. SHANER
MARGARET J. SHARPNACK
JONATHON C. SHEPARD
ANDREW D. SHERMAN
JACK E. SHIELDS III
SEAN M. SMITH
ROBERT J. SOLTIS
PATRICK A. STAMM
BRIAN P. STEELE
THOMAS W. STOCKS
ANTHONY A. STOEGER
JONATHAN L. STUDER
MARCOS J. SUAREZMORALES
JOE J. SUDDITH, JR.
MICHAEL G. SUMMERS
ELIZABETH A. SWEENEY
BRADLEY C. TANDE, JR.
JACK S. TAYLOR
JOSE R. TERRONES
JASON P. TOEPFER
DAVID E. TOMPKINS, JR.
PON V. TRAN
ANDREW P. TURNER
JOHN T. TURNER, JR.
STEPHEN D. TURNER
DOUGLAS M. TWITTY
SHANE M. UPTON
MARK W. VANDERSTEEN
DAMON S. VARNADO
WILLIAM R. VENABLE
CLINTON D. VERGE
JOSHUA S. VOGEL
MARVIN L. WALKER
YOULANDA M. WALKER
ANTHONY T. WALTERS
BENJAMIN J. WALTERS
CHARLES W. WARD
DAVID A. WARE
YULONDA D. WASHINGTON
WALLACE E. WEAKLEY, JR.
LATHESSA A. WHITAKER
JEFFREY R. WHITE
CHRISTOPHER W. WHITMARK
ROBERT D. WIGGINS
ISAAC A. WILLIAMS
JOSEPH WILLIAMS, JR.
ROBERT M. WILLIAMS
DAVID C. WOOD
TROY W. WORCH
GREGORY R. WORLEY
J B. WORLEY III
WILLIAM B. WYLES
GUY YELVERTON III
ABEL E. YOUNG
MARK E. YOUNG
ALEXANDER R. ZEHNDER
TIMOTHY R. ZETTERWALL
D010977
D011277
D011097
D010780
D010778
D004271
D010397

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JEFFREY S. BELL
DANIEL R. BURRIS
ERIC L. EBB
SAMUEL C. GIESE
THERON E. GUNN
WILLIAM D. JENKINS
MARK R. THORNTON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be lieutenant colonel

STEVEN E. BATTLE
FRANK T. BRYANT
MARIAISABEL HERRAN
RAFAEL NUNEZ

To be major

OWEN M. GROSSMAN
PAUL B. HILL
LUZMIRA A. TORRES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

ANTHONY H. ADRIAN
GLEN D. CHANCELLOR
JAMES P. COLEMAN
JOE C. COMBS
WILLIAM T. CONWAY
ROBERT J. M. HARRIS
BENJAMIN F. JONES III
NORMAN P. C. LIMTIACO
DEREK N. LIPSON
ERIC D. MAXON
CYNTHIA A. MILLONZI
KATRINA G. PILLOW
RODNEY G. SWANN
JOHN F. WOYTE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

FREDRIC N. AMIDON
JAMES E. ANDERSON, JR.
JAMES R. ARNESON
JERRY H. BARTLETT
HOWARD H. BOND
MICHAEL J. BOYKIN
FLOYD M. BURGHER, JR.
VITO CIARAVINO
WILLIAM G. COSTELLO
FRANK J. DEANGELO
GREGORY E. DOERFLER
DAVID E. DOLLENS
DAVID A. DOUD
EDWARD M. DRAPER
LAWRENCE A. EDWARDS
CONSTANCE A. ESSEX
ROBERT J. FERRY, JR.
LARRY D. FLETCHER, JR.
DELBERT FORD
JOHN W. GALLASPY
JOHN T. III GANT
TIMOTHY P. GARNER
ANDREA D. GAYLEBENNETT
ROBERT L. III GEAR
BETTY K. HATFIELD
KONARD O. HAUFFE
CARL F. HAUSLER
SUSANNE J. HILLMAN
JESSE T. HUFF
MICHAEL A. JACQUES
DEBORAH M. KENNEDY
VICTORIA S. KILCAWLEY
JOHN A. KING
RODNEY K. KOERBER
MICHAEL K. LANDADIO
THOMAS E. LEE
ARNOLD B. LEEKS
MATTHEW M. LUKE
PERRY R. MALCOLM
CRISTOBAL V. MANDRY
RICHARD J. MCKIM
PHILLIP B. MONAGHAN
PATRICIA A. NEELAND
ALAN S. NELSON
TIMOTHY R. NEWCOMB
DARRELL R. OVER
JOHN K. PETRERA
RICHARD W. PINSKER
RYAN R. REICHENBACKER
KEVIN J. REICHMUTH
STEPHEN A. ROBERTS
ARTHUR A. RUSSELL
JANET L. SAWYER
REBECCA A. SEGOVIA
DAVID M. SENESE
JAMES M. SHELLEY
DWAINE A. SIADE
CHALLIS H. SMITH
JAMES A. SMITH
PATRICK J. TANGNEY
DEANNA L. THOMAS
MARIVEL VELAZQUEZ
DUANE E. WESTBERG
MATHYN D. WILLIAMS
DANIEL J. WILTZ
MARK S. WRIGHT
ANNE E. YOUNG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

ELIZABETH A. BAKER
TANYA S. BAKER
AVA C. DAVIS
JOHN P. EDDY
GREGORY A. KOLB
JIMMY R. PERKINS
KATHRINE S. PONDER
IAN J. TOLMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

PATRICK M. ARIDA
MICHAEL A. ARIZMENDI
MICHAEL J. BACHMANN
PERRY A. BALL
DEBORAH C. BARRETTE
ROBERT W. BATTS, JR.
DONALD L. BECKETT
CATHERINE J. BENHAM
SANDRA V. BERMUDEZ
JERRY L. BETZLER
NARENDRA S. BHAGWANDIEN
HENRY E. BOHNE
SANJEEV R. BONGU
JOE M. BRAY
JAMES M. BRUCE
JAMES R. BRUCE, JR.
DENNIS B. CALLENDER
BENIS G. CARNES
DAVID K. CASSIDY
GLORIA J. CHAPMANSCOTT
BELINDA J. COAKLEY
DIANNE P. COOPER
WILLIAM A. COOPER
TAMMY J. COST
ADA M. COSTA
CHARLES C. CUMISKEY
DWAYNE N. DAMBA
KENNETH W. DAVIS
DUANE C. DEVANCE
DANIEL P. DICHIERA
DAVID D. DORSEY
JUDITH A. DRISCOLL
YOLANDA P. DUNCAN
DIETER J. DUPONT
GEORGE A. EAPEN
JAMES R. EDWARDS
THOMAS W. ENGLEHART
RONALD J. EVERSON
KATHLEEN D. FARR
HOPE D. FAVREAU
DAVID P. FOLEY
GARY L. FOSTER
STANLY J. FOSTER
SANDRA L. FRESH
JUDY A. FRYOVER
STEPHANIE K. GERBER
GERRY R. GERRY
RONALD F. GIFFLER
STEPHEN W. GOLDSMITH
DAVID GOODSPEED
NANCY A. HARPOLD
SCOTT K. HARRISON
GINGER D. HILL
CONCETTA R. HOLLOWAY
LINDA J. HOLLOWAY
LACEY K. HOMAN
EDWARD C. HORWITZ
PAUL M. HUDDLESTON
JENIFER J. HUG
ALICE H. HUNTSMITH
RENE N. JACOB
KEITH J. JACOBY
ANTHONY A. JAMES
MARVIN F. JENSEN
GRANVILLE JOHNSON
WALTER S. JOHNSTON
ROGER A. JONES
JACQUELYN D. KIMBALL
MARY P. KING
THEODORE C. KOUTLAS
LINDA A. KRAMER
MURRAY R. KRAMER
MARILYN K. LAZARZ
RUSSELL S. LEEWOOD
PHILIPPE H. LEMOINE
ELIZABETH L. LOHSE
JOSEPH M. LUZ
WILLIAM S. LYNN
JOHN D. MALIA
CHAITANYA S. MANGALMURTI

MICHELE M. MANGO
TIMOTHY Q. MAPLES
JOSEPH A. MARSIGLIA
MITCHELL M. MATUNDAN
ANN E. MCELFRESH
JOHN A. MCFADYEN
DAVID F. MCKEE
JOSEPH P. MCMAHON
TERRY A. MESSMER
GEISELE E. MILES
DAVID H. MOIKEHA
ROGER A. MYERS
GEORGE W. NEWTON
DANIEL C. NG
KEVIN J. OLIVER
SALLY A. OLLIO
HADLEY C. OSRAN
RICHARD PADRON
SARA J. PASTOOR
MARIE A. PATTI
GURNEY F. PEARSALL
ROBERT E. REDFERN
SYLVEN B. REED
ROBERT K. ROUSE
GILBERT R. ROWLEY
JOSEPH J. RUBELOWSKY
JACQUELYN A. RUSSEK
ANTHONY E. RUSSELL
BETH A. SALISBURY
HENRY L. SANDERS
DIDAR S. SARAI
HENRY L. SCARBROUGH
TIMOTHY R. SCHLEY
MARTIN A. SCHREIBER
BRADLEY F. SCHWARTZ
MARSHA D. SHIVLEY
DEAN A. SHOUCAIR
KATHERINE A. SIMONSON
VENICE SMILEY
CHRISTOPHER P. SMITH
STEPHEN M. SOKOLOFF
DIANA L. STEWART
RYUNG SUH
LINDA R. SUMERLIN
LON E. SUNSHINE
PATRICIA L. TUGGLE
VINCENT VALINOTTI
KIRK M. VINCENT
JAMES R. WILLIAMS, JR.
MARETHIA A. WILLIAMS
ARTHUR L. WOMBLE
MARY J. WRIGHT
KITRICK E. WULF
KATHLEEN L. YACOVELLI
KIYOTAKA A. YAZAWA
LINDA K. YEE
SHARON K. YENNY
JOCELYN E. YU
ALI S. ZAZA

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

DEMETRIA L. AARON
LISA L. ABELS
VINCENT L. ACKERMAN
MICHAEL A. AJAO
PAUL J. ALBERICO
TRACY J. ALEXANDER
JOHN D. ALLEN
CELINA C. ALUOTO
CHRISTOPHER J. AMANN
JEANNETTE L. ANDREWS
ARRIEL E. ATIENZA
CHRISTOPHER W. BAILEY
DAVID F. BAILEY
GEORGE C. BALAZS
RUSSELL P. BALMER
BRETT A. BANKS
TAYLOR A. BANKS
JEREMY P. BARAN
MICHAEL J. BARRA
EMILY C. BAUM
BRETT F. BECHTEL
WILLIAM M. BEER
DONALD R. BENNETT
ROBERT E. BENOWICZ
TIMOTHY J. BERGAN
VERONICA E. BIGORNIA
ASHLEY R. BJORKLUND
ERIN M. BLEVINS
MICHAEL J. BLOIR
JONATHAN A. BOLANOS
GWENDOLYN E. BOWERS
BRIAN A. BOYD
ERIC J. BRANTLEY
MATTHEW L. BRASLOW
JESSICA R. BRAWLEY
MEGAN A. BRELSFORD
ERIK D. BRINK
STEPHEN M. BRONAUGH
DAVID J. BURNIKEL
JESSICA L. CALMAN
MATTHEW P. CAMERON
AILEEN CANGIANOHEATH
SHANNON M. CAPP
TIFFANY D. CARTNER
NICOLE M. CASSLER
BRETT M. CHAMBERLIN
VINCENT G. CHAMPION
JENNY P. CHEN
GREGORY T. CHESNUT
ROBERT D. CHIARUTTINI
MATTHEW E. CHRISTY
CADE C. CINNAMOND
MICHAEL J. CIRIVELLO
GRETCHEN A. COADY
BRIAN J. COLSANT
WILLIAM K. CONLEY II
JERALD L. COOK
MARK P. COSEO
TIFFANY C. COX
MICHAEL L. CRANDALL
HAMPTON A. CRIMM
RAYMOND J. CUDNIK III
ADRIAN M. CUELLAR
MICHAEL E. CUNNINGHAM
NATHAN S. CUTLER
EMAD H. DANIEL
ROXANNE N. DANIELSON
ERIK E. DAVILAMORIEL
BENNETT L. DAVIS
DANIEL W. DAVIS II
DANIEL P. DECECCHIS
MEGAN M. DECECCHIS
AMBER N. DECHAMBEAU
GABRIEL DELATORRE
DAVID R. DONAHUE
KATHLEEN M. DONAHUE
TIMOTHY J. DONAHUE
MICHAEL K. DONNELLY
SUPRIYA R. DONTHAMSETTY
MICHAEL L. DOXEY
MARY L. DRYER
MICHELLE R. DUNLAVY
CASSANDRA M. EAKIN
ROBERT S. EBERLY
MICHAEL P. ELLIS
JOANNE P. ELSTON
TYLER C. ENSLEY
RICHARD J. EPPEY
HEATHER FEAGINSFLETCHER
DALIA FIGUEROA
JAMIE L. FITCH
AARON W. FLANDERS
AMY E. FLISCHEL
BRIAN C. FOLEY
DEIDRA S. FOREMAN
CRAIG T. FOSSEE
JANELLE A. FOX
CARL R. FREEMAN
JAMES D. GENDERNALIK
RYAN C. GIBBONS
EMILY A. GILLEY
DAVID M. GLASSMAN
ROSS A. GLINIECKI
JENNIFER H. GOLDBERG
WILLIAM D. GOLDENBERG
AARON J. GONZALEZ
KATHERINE GOOD
ROBERT B. GOY
SARAH L. GRANGER
ROLF E. GRANING
ANDREW D. GRAVES
DALLIS L. GREEN
THOMAS J. GREEN
BRETT W. HAAKE
JOSHUA D. HANDBURY
JACOB D. HARRIS
THOMAS J. HAYES
JUSTIN L. HEATH
MARK D. HEITZMANN
GREGORY S. HENDERSON
KENNETH A. HENDRICKS
ANATOLY K. HERNANDEZ
BENJAMIN R. HERSHEY
BENJAMIN D. HOAGLAND
MATTHEW F. HOEFLER
AMANDA B. HOOPER
MATTHEW A. HUMPHREYS
ANDREW P. HURVITZ
LANG O. JACOBSON
DINCHEN A. JARDINE
CHRISTOPHER M. JOHNSON
JAMIE Y. JOHNSON
KEVIN D. JOHNSON
LUCAS A. JOHNSON
MARK S. JOHNSON
REBECCA L. JOHNSON
ALISHA L. JOHNSTON
VICTOR J. JOURDAIN
JAMES A. JOWDY
KEVIN D. KEITH
MATTHEW W. KELLER
ANDREW M. KELLERMANN
BENJAY J. KEMPNER
AMANDA S. KENT
ERIC L. KENT
RHAIANNON KENT
JOSHUA B. KENTOSH
ANGELA M. KEON
BRIAN M. KEUSKI
MICHAEL J. KILKELLY
CHRISTINE Y. KIM
TIM I. KIM
LEVI K. KITCHEN
SHELDON M. KNIGHT
MATTHEW M. KOEHLER
BRIAN R. KRAUSE
JOANNA R. KRAUSE
KARL A. KUERSTEINER
CYNTHIA M. KULIK
ASHEESH KUMAR
ANDREW C. KUNG
MICHAEL D. LANKER
DOUGLAS E. LATHAM
LAURA M. LAUER
MICHELLE P. LAWRENCE
NHIEN M. LE
MICHAEL R. LEADER
IVY Z. LI
DAMIAN J. LIEBHARDT
JONATHAN T. LIEBIG
ANDREW L. LIZEK
DUSTIN A. LORENTZ
DEBRA M. LOWRY
NICOLE L. LUNCEFORD
JOHN M. LYDON
MICHELLE M. LYNCH
THOMAS J. MACKEY
GREGORY C. MALLO
PETER A. MANCINI
EDWIN MANLEY, JR.
CHRISTY L. MANTANONALEE
JAMIE MARKO
MARTIN R. MARQUEZ
JAMES D. MATHEWS
EVAN E. MAY
MICHAEL K. MCCARTHY
JAMES A. MCCOMBS
MICHAEL L. MCCONNON
PATRICK R. MCKENNA
PATRICK M. MCLAUGHLIN
SANDRA S. MCLAUGHLIN
PAUL D. METZGER
MATTHEW M. MICHALOWICZ
JOSEPH D. MICKELSON
JASON A. MIHALCIN
JESSICA M. MILLER
KYLE E. MILLER
RUSSELL J. MILLER
THOMAS C. MILLER
ERIN K. MOORE
MATTHEW D. MOORE
COLLEEN E. MULLIN
MEREDITH R. NEAL
MERRILYN E. NELSON
STEPHEN L. NOBLE
THIDA N. NUNTHIRAPAKORN
MONICA D. ORMENO
NEAL E. PALMREUTER
SANDEEP R. PANDIT
ADRIENNE L. M. PARAD
BILLIE K. PARK
ANDREW M. PARSONS
SHWETA V. PATEL
DAVID A. PENNINGTON
ANGEL J. PEREZ
JAMAL A. PHILLIPS
BRYAN J. PLATT
JACOB R. PLETCHER
SARA M. POPE
RAY PORTIER
JOSHUA R. POTOCKO
DAVID J. POWELL
KEVIN S. PRESTON
TRENT K. PRICE
AMY M. PRITCHARD
AMANDA G. QUERRY
ROBERT G. QUINTON
ZOE G. RAFAAT
WILLIAM S. RAGON, JR.
ABIGAIL M. RAMSEYER
RAHIM A. REMTULLA
SHANNON L. RIGLER
VICTOR A. RIVERA
SEAN M. ROARK
LANGAN P. ROBBINS
KRISTINA M. ROGISH
RYAN C. ROMANO
ADRIANA N. ROSALES
LISA R. D. ROSE
LINDSEY E. ROSEN
CRYSTAL A. RUSSELL
DAVID J. RUSSELL
JOHN W. SAENZ
FATIMA L. SALAS
STEVEN B. SAPIDA
ERIK M. SASOVETZ
JULIA A. SAVITZ
ROBERT C. SCALISE
BRUNO A. SCHMITZ
MICHAEL S. SCULLY
BRET M. SEBASTIAN
ANN E. SHAFER
ERIC C. SHAFER
HEATHER L. SHIBLEY
BRIAN W. SHIPPERT
CARTER H. SIGMON
ADAM C. SISCHY
ERIN H. SJOSTROM
JODIE M. SKRZAT
KENNETH V. SLACK
JORDAN D. SMITH
STEPHANIE M. SMITH
CANDICE M. SNYDER
ROBERT B. SPENCER
CHERYL M. STARRETTKELLER
NATHANIEL L. STEPP
CHRISTOPHER A. STETLER
SHANNON STOUT
ALAN A. STRAWN
JONATHAN M. STUART
FAYE E. SUNDAHL
DOUGLAS W. TALK
ERIC R. TERPSTRA
DENISE M. THIGPEN
DARREN D. THOMAS
THOMAS W. THOMAS, JR.
JOHN M. TINJUM
SHELBY G. TOPP
EDWARD M. TRACY III
TUAN M. TRAN
ADELAINE D. TRASK
SCOTT A. TRASK
JAMES D. TU
RYAN D. TUCKER

OBINNA N. UGOCHUKWU
EDWARD R. UTZ
ERIN J. VANCE
ADAM M. VANDENBOOM
SAMUEL J. VASELICH
SARA I. VEIGA
ANGELA G. VIERS
DAVID M. VOLK
CHRISTOPHER J. I. WARNER
ALICIA L. WARNOCK
AMY L. WATKINS
ERIN M. WATSON
LAUREN A. WEBER
JUSTIN L. WEPPNER
SONJA M. S. WHITAKER
DENNIS A. WHITE
JUDD A. WHITING
SUSAN M. WHITMER
BRADLEY J. WILLIAMS
KEVIN W. WILSON
MARIE A. WOJCIKWOLANIN
ALFRED J. WOLANIN III
JAIME A. WONGLOPEZ
KAREN S. WOO
ZEPHYRINUS G. WYLIE
COLIN R. YOUNG
ELIZABETH L. YOUNG
JERRY YUAN
HEATHER G. YURKA
STEPHEN M. ZANONI
JAMES L. ZIMMERMAN
AMY J. ZWETTLER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be commander

TIMOTHY M. FRENCH

To be lieutenant commander

KENNETH V. HOANG
BRYAN E. WOOLDRIDGE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

CEDRIC J. ABRON
KYLE E. ADKINS
TODD A. ADKINS
GARTH W. ALDRICH
JAMES D. ALLEN
LYNDA S. AMELL
JACQUELINE R. ANDERSON
BENEDICT A. BAIDOO
CHARLES E. BAKER
LUIS T. O. BARRAMEDA
WENDY K. BARTOSIK
DAVID R. BIRD
JOSHUA E. BLACKBURN
DEREK BOYD
HEATHER M. BOYD
HENRY L. BRADBURY III
DANYELL L. BRENNER
EDWARD BRINSTON
JOSEPH A. BUCKNER
JONATHAN F. BULLMAN
TIFFANY K. CALISTE
LISSETH C. CALVIO
CHANDRA P. CARNEY
NEIL D. CASCARDO
ALAN D. CHRONISTER
DENIS G. COLOMB, JR.
ASHLEE S. COLVIN
ELIZABETH A. CORALES
VINCE E. D. DEGUZMAN
JEFFREY A. DELZER
MICHAEL A. DISIMONE
MICHAEL E. DOMERY
KORRINA R. DONALD
JASON M. DUFF
CHRISTON J. DUHON
TRENT K. FREEMAN
JOHN J. GARDNER III
GREGORY O. GIBSON
DAVID D. GROW
OCTAVIUS P. HARRIS
PAUL I. HARRIS
DUSTIN J. HARRISON
SHERRY L. HAYES
CHARLES S. HITCHCOCK
SYED M. HUSAIN
CHRISTINA M. HYATT
VICTOR E. INNISS II
KATHERINE L. JAUDON
BRIAN R. JOHNSON
CONNIE R. JOHNSON
JENNIFER L. JOHNSON
SCOTTY R. JONES
BYRON L. JORDAN
JAMES M. KEENER
YULIYA KORCHNOY
BRENDEN T. LE
HOLLY M. LEE
BRADLEY R. LESTER
MARK R. LONG
CATHY L. A. LOPEZ
RAMAUD D. LOVE
JOANN MARTINEZ
JULIA L. MASSEY
FREDERICK A. MATHEU
BRADLEY G. MCLAUGHLIN
CHRISTIAN J. MILLER
MICHAEL A. MITCHELL
VISHWESH P. MOKASHI
JENNIFER J. MUELLER
MARKEECE L. MURRIEL
EMERSON A. MUTUC
THOMAS W. NELSON
ANGELA M. NIPPER
KAREN A. NORDINE
PEDRO A. ORTIZ
CHRISTOPHER L. OWSTON
CINDI L. PALACIOS
KARA L. PEREZ
ULDA J. PEREZ
JASON A. PETERS
ALLEN M. PHELPS
MICHAEL G. PROUTY
CHRISTOPHER L. PULLIAM
JESSIE C. PURYEAR
EPHRAIM V. J. RAGASA
CHARLES E. RAINEY II
MATHEW B. RARIDEN
CRAIG M. ROWLAND
JENIFER M. SCANCELLA
FRED O. SCRUGGS, JR.
KENNETH A. SHAW III
JONATHAN G. SHEA
MARK P. SIMONS
AMIT SOOD
IAN W. SUTHERLAND
HANH M. TANG
CHRISTOPHER S. THOMPSON
MIKAYLA R. UPHOFF
KIRSTEN E. VESEY
MARGARET A. WALKER
SHAWN A. WEBER
TRACY D. WEILER
TIMOTHY T. WELSH
JEREMY H. WESTCOTT
RICHARD A. WHITEHEAD
NICOLE J. WILLIAMS
ROBERT J. WISHMEYER
STANLEY C. WONG
CHADWICK Y. YASUDA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

AMY H. ADAIR
JASON S. ALLEN
CHRISTOPHER N. BEALE
JASON B. BLUNDELL
WILLIAM P. BOGGESS
MARTIN J. BRAUD
JASON N. BURKES
LORA L. CHOW
RYAN P. COLOSI
BENJAMIN J. CROWLEY
ANDREA L. DECERCE
CORINNE C. DEVIN
DANIKA J. DOWNEY
DAVID J. DYER
BENJAMIN D. FITZHARRIS
JARED A. GELLER
EDUARDO GOMEZ
PAUL D. GUNDY
FRED J. HARPER III
ANDREW L. HIGGINS
ANDREW W. HIMM
DAVID D. HWANG
TIMOTHY P. INOUE
DAMON T. JENSEN
ARTHUR C. KALFUS
MICHAEL L. KING
ROBINSON T. KISER
BENJAMIN J. LAGO
JOHN F. LANDIS
JOHN J. LEE
KALEN Y. P. LEE
JOHN P. MALAN
BRADLEY D. MARTINSEN
JENNIFER L. MCGUIRE
GEOFFREY L. MCMURRAY
MATTHEW M. MILLER
VANESSA D. MOTOS
HOAN B. NGHIEM
RICARDO M. ORTIZ
WILFREDO PALAUHERNANDEZ
ANDREW C. PARK
JEREMY A. PATELZICK
BRIAN D. PORTER
MATTHEW D. QUILLEN
ELISA M. ROTH
FREDERICK J. RUMFORD IV
THOMAS J. SANCHEZ
JOSHUA L. SECREST
POOJA V. SHAH
DEREK D. SODEN
SARA A. STIRES
KAINE K. S. STOKES
KELLY N. STONE
THOMAS P. SURANYI
KELLI J. SWENSON
CLARENCE S. TANG
ANDREW J. TELLINGTON
KENNY T. TRAN
BILLY D. TURLEY
ADAM J. VEIT
JAMES K. VICK
STEPHEN M. WADE
BRETT J. WALCOTT
MARY N. WILLIAMSTREESH
DONAVON A. YAPSHING

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

VINCENT M. J. AMBROSINO
STEVEN R. CHMIELEWSKI
HUNG V. DANG
KEVIN T. DAVIS
DANNY J. HEADRICK
JAVIER LOPEZMARTINEZ
BENIGNO T. RAZON, JR.
MICHAEL R. STAMERRA
JOHNNIE W. THOMPSON, JR.
MARK VERHOVSHEK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

KORY A. ANGLESEY
JASON O. BOATRIGHT
CHRISTOPHER S. CASNE
RUBEN D. CHONNA
MARK J. CHRISTENSEN
ADAM W. CHRISTOPHER
MICHAEL S. COLLINS
LUKE A. COWLEY
JAYSON M. DOOLEY
JOSEPH A. DUNAWAY
MARCIA C. FERNANDES
JASON M. GABBARD
OMAR K. HASAN
KELLEN K. HEADLEE
ANDREW B. HUNT
STERLING P. INGRAM IV
BOBBY G. KENDALL
MICAH J. KILETICO
ADAM G. KUSHNER
NICHOLAS R. LEINWEBER
ERIC L. MARTENS
TATE L. METLEN
GARETH A. MONTGOMERY
DAWN C. MOORE
NICHOLAS E. MUELLER
BRENT D. RICHARDSON
ROBERT C. RUTHERFORD
JAMES T. STEWART
FRANCIS J. TAY, JR.
ARTEMIO TREVINO
BENNY P. VOLKMANN
BENJAMIN C. WAITE
ROBERT J. WARREN
JEREMY L. WEIKEL
ADAM G. ZAJAC

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

EVAN D. ADAMS
DAVID W. ALEXANDER
JEFFREY M. AUGUSTIN
JOHN D. AULT
JEFFREY BENSON
KIMBERLY CAIN
VICTORIA A. CHAPPELL
AMMIE L. DAVIS
WILLIAM D. DORWART
JOHN J. EASTMAN
DEMETRIC FELTON, SR.
GLENN A. FLEMING
GARY W. FOSHEE
DAVID J. JELTEMA
ROBERT D. JOHNSON
ROBERT J. KEENER
RICHARD S. LEE
RUSSELL D. MARTIN
BENNY L. MATHIS, JR.
SUNNY MITCHELL
CARL B. MUEHLER
THOMAS H. PERDUE
ROBERT W. PETERS
RANDAL K. POTTER
KAREN J. RECTOR
PHILLIP E. RIDLEY
AARON D. ROBERTON
JON E. SETTLEMOIR
MICHAEL J. TAGALOA
JOHN C. VANDYKE
STEPHEN L. WARNE
CHRISTOPHER J. WEST
JOSEPH E. WILBURN
HAROLD B. WOODRUFF

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

WALTER B. BLACKWELL
SUQUON D. COMBS
ROBERT R. CULLINAN
DIANA I. DALPHONSE
DUNCAN R. ELLIS
IVORY ERVIN, JR.
KENNETH E. FINDLEY
CONAN J. GREASER
DANIEL B. GRIFFIN
CHRISTOPHER R. KADING
BRENNAN J. KEMPER
MICHAEL A. KIDD
GENE M. LATTUS, JR.
MICHAEL J. MULLERHEIM
CHRISTOPHER F. OCONNOR
THURMAN B. PHILLIPS
JARRED L. POSADA
ROBERT D. SALIRE
JOHN TAMEZ

BLAKE A. WHITTLE
JARETT B. WOLFE
JAMES P. ZAKAR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

ELIZABETH A. ABAN
JANE J. ABANES
GREGORY J. ADDISON
DAWN R. AGUERO
JOEL M. ALBRIGHT
REBECCA A. ARMIGER
CARMELO AYALA
EDUARDO F. BARNET
REBECCA L. BARTHEL
JAMES R. BIRKLA
BRYAN G. BLAZINA
COLLEEN C. BLOSSER
AMY L. BOUVIER
JASON M. BOYCE
CONNIE J. BRAYBROOK
KATHLEEN M. BRENNAN
HASSAN A. BROWN
JOANNA T. BROWN
SHARON L. BROWN
JAMES T. BUCHANAN
BRIAN K. BURDICK
PATRICIA D. BUTLER
RHONDA H. CANTU
SOTERAS C. CAYANAN
MARCELO A. CENTAURE
DORIS CHEN
MOLLY A. COOK
MICHAEL J. CORNELL
ULANDERS A. CRAIG
JAMES D. CROFT
ROBERT F. CUENTO
CANDACE R. DAURORA
KARIE A. DAVIS
JOHN T. DEBOER
RONALD J. DELEON
ELIZABETH M. DRAKE
ERIC J. ELLINGTON
TATIANNA T. ELLSWORTH
MICHELLE R. EVANS
EBONY J. FERGUSON
SUZANNE N. FIERROS
DANIELLE K. FISCHER
KAREN A. FLANAGAN
TAWANDA M. FORD
ABDON F. GALERA
DANILO A. GARCIADUENAS
SARAH E. GENTRY
JASON A. GOFF
PETER M. GOLDBECK
KAREN L. GORLEWSKI
LOUIS H. GRASS III
ANN M. GRIMSHAW
DENISE A. GRIPKA
JASON M. GUZMAN
TIMOTHY W. HALL
ERIK M. HARDY
DEAN R. HAWKINS
GLENDA A. HEDSTROM
PENELOPE J. HEIGES
ANDREA M. HERNANDEZ
MICHAEL J. HEVRIN
KEDRIN N. HODGES
ELISABETH B. HOLMES
AMY L. HOLZER
CAROLYN A. HOWARD
JOHN A. HOYOS
MOLLY P. HURDA
ANN E. IANNITTO
AMANDA E. JARMUSCH
DAVY J. JENKINS
JAMES A. KAUP
MARIA KENNEDY
ROBERT J. KIMBERLING
HEATHER L. KIRK
YVETTE S. KONEMANN
TRACY R. KRAUSS
DUANE J. LAMPERT
SCOTT J. LAPANNE
LYLA E. LAW
REGINA R. LEASSEAR
DERRICK LEBEAU
JONATHAN D. LEVENSON
MARLOW LEVY
MEEDEESSA O. LIVINGSTON
JULIE A. LOFTUS
JENNIFER J. MAGUIRE
JENNIFER L. MANZOOR
THOMAS O. MATELLA, JR.
KATHLEEN S. MAY
MICHAEL J. MCCARTY
SCOTT A. MCGILL
MATTHEW P. MCMAHON
JACOB M. MEARSE
JOSE A. MERCADO
REGINALD MIDDLEBROOKS
TIJUANA T. MILTON
DONALD E. MITCHELL
CHAD B. MOORE
THERESA D. MORRIS
MARY C. MURPHY
SARA L. NACZAS
LOREN A. NEDELMAN
AARON D. NIKOLAUS
PETER I. NYILAS
VIRGILIO OCAMPO
SHELLEY M. OEHRLEIN
ROBERT ORGILL
PAUL D. PELROY
KENDRA L. PENNINGTON
JEFFREY A. PETERSON
TRAVIS J. PETERSON
WENDYALINE PHILIPCYPRIEN
ROBIN L. PROVENCHER
MARKO RADAKOVIC
MATTHEW V. REZA
JENNIFER RICKERSON
GINA D. ROMANO
ROBERT R. ROOD
SHANNAN C. ROTRUCK
STELLA Y. SABOURIN
BRITNEY E. SAITO
NICK A. SALTZMAN
REBECCA A. SCHROEDER
KATIE E. SCHULZ
ALAYNA L. SCHWARTZ
DAVID S. SHARE
JOSEPH P. SHERIDAN
MARC A. SILFIES
FREDDIE L. SIMPKINS II
TERESA C. SIMPSON
MARRISA C. SISCHY
SEAN K. SKINNER
JAMIE M. SORENSON
JULIE A. SPRING
CHRISTINE M. STASZEK
ANDREAS STILLER
VIRGINIA C. SULLIVAN
DUSTIN A. TAYLOR
AILISA N. TERRY
RANDY L. TOLBERT
KELLY A. TROUT
JERMAINE M. WHITE
TIMOTHY G. WHITING
THOMASENA P. WICKER
DANA K. WILEY
NEIL T. WILLIAMS
SONIA R. WILLIAMS
MICHAEL L. WILSON
KEVIN WONG
AMY P. ZAYCEK
ELIZABETH M. ZULOAGA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

THOMAS M. BROWN
LOUIS E. BUTLER
JAEWON CHOI
GUY W. EDEN
ERIKA C. GEHLEN
STEVEN P. GONZALES
BRIAN A. HAHN
DAVID J. HAMMOND
HOLLY E. HIGGINS
MICHAEL J. HUSSEY
CHRISTOPHER P. JETER
PATRICK K. KORODY
COURTNEY E. LEWIS
RYAN C. MATTINA
ROBERT A. MCELHOSE
JONATHAN C. MCKAY
CRAIG C. MORRIS
TOREN G. MUSHOVIC
CAMERON R. NELSON
SARA A. ONEIL
JEFFREY J. PIETRZYK
AARON M. RIGGIO
IAN SANTICOLA
RYAN SANTICOLA
ABIGAIL L. STILES
CRAIG S. THEDWALL
SEAN M. THOMPSON
TEMPERANCE H. TYSK
LENA E. WHITEHEAD
GRAHAM C. WINEGEART
RAY L. WOLCOTT
RALPH G. S. YOUNG

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate September 10, 2012:

THE JUDICIARY

STEPHANIE MARIE ROSE, OF IOWA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN LEIDE WILLIAM DEFUSCO

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Leide William DeFusco of Pueblo, Colorado. Capt. DeFusco served as a police officer, SWAT team member and field training officer for over twenty years. Capt. DeFusco was tragically killed in the line of duty, while conducting a narcotics investigation over the San Isabel Forest.

Born in Pueblo on September 15, 1968, Capt. DeFusco attended Trinidad State Junior College, where he was elected Student Body President and graduated with a degree in criminal justice. Capt. DeFusco then accepted a position at the Pueblo County Sheriff's Office, and excelled as a dedicated officer, trainer and detective.

Later, Capt. DeFusco achieved the rank of Commander in the SWAT team and succeeded as a lead instructor. Capt. DeFusco leaves behind his wife, Wendy, four beloved children and a host of family and friends, including those fellow officers with whom he was proud to serve.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Capt. Leide William DeFusco. I rise today on behalf of the citizens of Colorado's 3rd Congressional District, who are proud to call such a courageous man one of their own.

IN RECOGNITION OF NAVY WEEK 2012

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of 2012 Navy Week, held from August 27th through September 4th in the Greater Cleveland, Ohio area—just one of 15 cities selected from across the nation.

In each of the 15 cities, Navy Week events for local residents will include the Blue Angels Navy Flight Demonstration Team; the Leap Frogs Navy Parachute Team; visiting ships from the U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard, and the Royal Canadian Navy; Navy Band musical performances; Admirals and several other senior leaders within the Navy who will interact with local business, government, and educational leaders; Navy simulator and interactive displays; visits to area schools; community service projects; and visits with local veterans.

Navy Week in Cleveland was a special event as it ran in conjunction with the commemoration of the bicentennial of both the War of 1812 and our country's national anthem, "The Star Spangled Banner." Cleveland Navy Week included a special ceremony held on Sunday, August 26th aboard the USS COD Submarine Memorial to honor two local Ohioans, World War II veteran James Tedrick and Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran Michael Dobec, with combat medals presented by Senator Sherrod Brown. A few of the other special events included a performance at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame by the Navy Band, a Navy diver demonstration in the shark tank at the Greater Cleveland Aquarium, and Navy sailors working together with Habitat for Humanity to help build a home in Lakewood, Ohio.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the celebration of the 2012 Cleveland Navy Week.

THE DEATH OF LARRY GRANT

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, it is my regrettable duty to report the death of a great American, Larry Grant. Mr. Grant died on August 22, 2012 in Torrance, California. He was 86. Perhaps more than any other person, Mr. Grant was responsible for founding the parade commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King that was the first in Los Angeles and became one of the largest in the nation.

Mr. Grant was instrumental in starting the Kingdom Day Parade where thousands of spectators lined the streets to celebrate civil rights leader Dr. King. With a deep love for his country, Mr. Grant was driven by passion to create a platform to showcase past and present black leaders in the community and hopefully inspire the youth. Mr. Grant traveled the three-mile route in South Los Angeles with a procession of colorful floats, marching bands and dance troupes trailing behind.

Mr. Grant created the yearly event as an entertaining way to unite the community. It also became a means of mending wounds. In the aftermath of the 1992 Los Angeles riots, when tensions were still thick between Korean store owners and black residents, Grant appointed a Korean taekwondo master to serve as co-chair.

Mr. Grant was one of the pioneers of Black bankers in the State of California. After serving 20 years in the Army, including World War II and the Korean War, he earned a degree in banking from the University of Maryland. He was the President and CEO of Pacific Coast Bank in San Diego, California where he started banking in 1964 until his retirement in 1984.

In 1979, his colleagues encouraged Mr. Grant to form the nonprofit National Cultural Corp. A year later Mr. Grant threw the first King parade in San Diego, before the civil rights activist's birthday was recognized as a national holiday. Mr. Grant was eager to bring the parade's success to Los Angeles. On January 20, 1986, Los Angeles hosted the first Kingdom Day Parade. It was also the first year that King's birthday was celebrated as a federal holiday.

I remember fondly Mr. Grant's devotion to keeping the legacy of Dr. King alive through the annual Kingdom Day Parade in Los Angeles. He earned the love and respect from countless people through his selfless acts. Mr. Grant was a leader in the community and was instrumental in sharing Dr. King's philosophy with future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a moment of silence in memory of Larry Grant.

IN HONOR OF MAYOR VINCENT SCRIBONI

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Vincent Scriboni for his years of tireless public service to the Borough of Oaklyn, New Jersey. Mayor Scriboni was a pillar of his community who devoted his time to the community as a Councilman and Mayor.

Mayor Scriboni dedicated his life to serving his community members and our country. As a Navy veteran from World War II, Mayor Scriboni served with distinction in order to protect the freedoms that all of us as American citizens cherish.

Serving in the U.S. Navy was only the beginning of Mayor Scriboni's service to the Nation. He served as a Councilman for seventeen years and Mayor of Oaklyn for eight years. During his time in office, Mayor Scriboni was known as the "People's Mayor" because of his can-do attitude and willingness to volunteer to take on community projects. Among his many accomplishments, Mayor Scriboni managed Oaklyn's budget and was able to renovate the public works department without creating a deficit. In addition, Mayor Scriboni combined the two fire companies of Oaklyn, making the fire company more efficient and cost effective while still meeting the needs of residents. In concert with these efforts, Mayor Scriboni organized a coalition of local mayors that could share equipment and services. The coalition also saved the town money because the townships could make joint purchases on new equipment. Mayor Scriboni's excellent budgetary skills allowed him to increase the police force from six members to eleven members, which increased safety in the town.

Furthermore, Vincent Scriboni was a member of several organizations dedicated to giving back to the Oaklyn community, including serving as commander of his VFW Post 4463 and participating in the Oaklyn chapter of American Legion Riders, Post 84. Mayor Scriboni led the efforts to help fellow veterans get the care they needed by providing transportation to the VA Hospital. Along with his VFW Post, the Mayor also participated in Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy, which are

dedicated to providing scholarships to high school students in the local community.

Mr. Speaker, Vincent Scriboni's endless commitment to Oaklyn Township and the United States of America should not go unrecognized. I join the township and all of South Jersey in honoring this exceptional man.

CULLMAN AREA TEENAGE REPUBLICAN CLUB

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the outstanding young men and women of the Cullman Area Teenage Republican Club for being named the Most Outstanding Teenage Republican Club in the Nation for the second year in a row at the National Teenage Republican Leadership Conference. These fine young men and women should be applauded for their dedication and hard work. Together, they spent over 2,300 hours participating in special projects, grassroots outreach, and community activities.

This organization has also had some outstanding leadership. Under the guidance of Republican State Executive Committee member Rebecca Branch, conservative teenagers in Cullman formed the Cullman Area Teenage Republican Club and found an avenue by which they could impact elections at all levels. Rebecca has been a shining example and has provided real leadership to these students over the years.

In addition, Daniel Robinson, a 2012 graduate of Cullman High School, has been recognized as the Most Outstanding Republican in the Nation. Daniel not only worked to increase membership in Cullman, but also helped start new Teen Republican Organizations in Baldwin, Shelby, Madison and Morgan counties. Daniel plans to continue his education at Auburn university this fall and looks forward to having the opportunity to work with Auburn's Young Republicans this fall.

These exceptional young people have worked diligently to recruit Alabama youth, involve them in the political process, and promote the understanding of the conservative philosophy. It is encouraging to see these young students from Alabama's Fourth District do such great things and I applaud them for their accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to honor the members of the Cullman Area Teenage Republican Club for their achievement and unwavering resolution in building this organization for the conservative youth of Alabama. I join their family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating them on receiving this award.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN JOHN ALTEE BARGER

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain John Altee Barger of Pueblo, Colorado. Capt. Barger was a thirty-two year veteran of the Pueblo Police Department and an avid pilot. Capt. Barger was tragically killed in the line of duty, while conducting a narcotics investigation over the San Isabel Forest.

Born in Goodland, Kansas on April 17, 1948, Captain Barger served as a Patrol Officer in the Pueblo Police Department, and achieved much success there as a Commander in the SWAT team. A detective at heart, Capt. Barger also served in the Investigations Division for eleven years, where his instincts for solving crimes were put to great use.

Additionally, Captain Barger, with the help of his fellow SWAT officers, won the Soldier of Fortune shooting competition in Nevada—an award he cherished. Capt. Barger leaves behind a son and numerous other family and friends, including the officers with whom he served.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Capt. John Altee Barger. I rise today on behalf of the citizens of Colorado's 3rd Congressional District, who are proud to call such a courageous man one of their own.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF DUBLIN BOROUGH

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dublin Borough in my home of Bucks County, Pennsylvania as it celebrates its 100th Anniversary this month.

Dublin's history reaches back to before the Revolutionary War and our declaration of independence from Great Britain.

The first Scotch-Irish settlers began settling what is now Upper Bucks County as early as 1681, and in 1832, the people of this community began an eighty-year process of petitioning the state of Pennsylvania to become its own municipality.

In September 1912, the people of Dublin earned their autonomy and have built a community of which they can be proud.

Since the formation of the Borough of Dublin 100 years ago, the population has exploded and a rich diversity of small businesses and families have come to add to its proud history.

While they have faced the same trials and challenges each of our communities have faced over the course of the last century, the people of Dublin have persevered and continue to build a welcoming place to live, work and raise their families.

I commend Dublin Borough for its perseverance and success in these first 100 years, and wish them the best of luck in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE UNITED WAY OF DENTON COUNTY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the United Way of Denton County and their 61 years of service. The local chapter aims to improve the quality of life in the critical areas of education, income, and health. The organization estimates that more the 33,000 students in the area are at risk of dropping out of school and approximately 15% of the County's adults over the age of 24 did not graduate from high school. Furthermore, the Texas Food Bank estimates that more than 90,000 individuals in Denton County are food insecure, and the Texas Department of State Health Services reports that $713 million dollars were spent on preventable hospitalizations over a four-year period in the county.

The United Way of Denton County and partner agency volunteers and donors decided they could overcome these discouraging statistics. Volunteers donated 221,000 hours, valuing a $4.8 million staff cost savings in 2011. Through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, United Way of Denton County staff and volunteers have generated more than $1,782,899 in Federal Tax Returns to Denton County residents since 2007. In addition, to improve the area's quality of life, 7,361 donors gave a total of $1,562,851 to the United Way of Denton County in 2011.

The organization's worthwhile efforts have positively impacted the communities it serves, offering assistance to more than 4,500 Denton County residents through United Way of Denton County and their non-profit partner agencies. With the support of the citizens of Denton County, the United Way will continue to flourish and unite the community through its mission of improving lives by affording individuals and organizations opportunities to give, advocate, and volunteer. It is my pleasure to recognize the United Way of Denton County and their 61 years of service, and I am privileged to represent them in the U.S. House of Representatives.

CROATIAN SONS LODGE NUMBER 170 OF THE CROATIAN FRATERNAL UNION HOLDS GOLDEN MEMBER BANQUET

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to congratulate the Croatian Sons Lodge Number 170, of the Croatian Fraternal Union, on the festive occasion of its Golden Member banquet on Sunday, September 16, 2012.

This year, the Croatian Fraternal Union will hold its gala at the Croatian Center in Merrillville, Indiana. Traditionally, the celebration entails a formal recognition of the Union's Golden Members, those who have achieved fifty years of membership. This year's honorees who have attained fifty years of membership include: Judith Louise Aubuchon, Joan Clavin, Jacqueline Ann Donohue, Judith Ann Hanson, Virginia Mae Luketich, Carol Ann Magliola, Henryetta Massack, Mary Ann Matolin-Mancilla, Frank V. Morzlock, Kata V. Mrzljak, James Gabriel Popovich, Steve Prahovich, Mary Sajn, Joyce L. Schenher, Paulette Ann Smith, and Phyllis Stefankiewicz.

In addition to paying tribute to its Golden Members, the Lodge will honor George Rubick and Lou Chelich for their dedication to the

Croatian Fraternal Union and for their many years of distinguished service.

This memorable day will begin with a mass at Saint Joseph the Worker Croatian Catholic Church in Gary, Indiana, with the Reverend Father Stephen Loncar officiating. The banquet will begin at 1:00 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Lodge President John Miksich and all members of the Croatian Fraternal Union Lodge Number 170 for their loyalty and radiant display of passion for their ethnicity. The Croatian community has played a key role in enriching the quality of life and culture of Northwest Indiana. It is my hope that this year will bring renewed hope and prosperity for all members of the Croatian community and their families.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONCORD, NC LIONS CLUB

HON. LARRY KISSELL

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Lions Club of Concord, NC, and the celebration of its 80th Anniversary. The Concord Lions Club is a local service organization dedicated to providing needed and unselfish service to the community, especially to those who are visually and hearing impaired.

Since its inception, the Concord Lions Club has been a staple in the community. The Club is an avid supporter of many key programs in the area, such as the Camp Dogwood program. The Club pays the fee for interested applicants, allowing all to attend this great camp. In addition, the Club collects used eyeglasses, which are refurbished and given to persons in countries around the world who are in need of eyeglasses, but are unable to afford them.

The Concord Lions Club also offers many services, such as free eye and hearing examinations. Residents with vision or hearing disabilities who are financially unable to pay for tests, eyeglasses, or hearing aids are still able to have these vital accessories with the help of the Club and Cabarrus County Social Services. They also place flags throughout Concord to celebrate federal holidays and help raise money for their many worthy projects.

As a former President of the Biscoe Lions Club, I can attest to the phenomenal work that the Concord Lions Club has done, and to their commitment to bettering the community and helping those in need.

Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me in honoring the Concord Lions Club, as an irreplaceable asset to the people I am proud to represent in North Carolina.

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS FOR OBTAINING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT—ADAM HAWKES

HON. SANDY ADAMS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Adam Hawkes for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

For his Eagle Scout project, Adam constructed picnic tables for a local soup kitchen. Throughout the history of the Boy Scouts of America, the rank of Eagle Scout has only been attained through dedication to concepts such as honor, duty, country and charity. By applying these concepts to daily life, Adam has proven his true and complete understanding of their meanings, and thereby deserves this honor.

I offer my congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for the future.

CONGRATULATING THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR NORTHERN VIRGINIA

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia on obtaining their National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations accreditation from the Community Foundations National Standards Board.

The Community Foundations National Standards Board was established as a supporting organization of the Council on Foundations, a nonprofit membership association of grant making foundations and corporations, to administer the National Standards. This board is responsible for upholding the quality, value, and integrity of the National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations, the first and only accreditation program of its kind.

In the United States, community foundations serve tens of thousands of donors, administer more than $40 billion in charitable funds, and address the core concerns of more than 700 communities and regions. With such a presence—nationally and within local communities—comes responsibility.

Achieving confirmation and reconfirming compliance with National Standards is a rigorous process, guaranteeing that every community foundation that receives the designation has adhered to excellent philanthropic practice. This program requires community foundations to document their policies for governance, donor services, investments, grant making, community leadership, and administration.

The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia has obtained its National Standards accreditation by demonstrating a commitment to operational quality, integrity, accountability, and adherence to the highest standards for grant making.

On behalf of the residents of the 8th Congressional District of Virginia, I congratulate the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia on receiving its National Standards accreditation and commend the foundation's dedication to service to the 8th Congressional District and the communities of Northern Virginia.

IN HONOR OF FORMER MAYOR OF COLUMBUS FRANK MARTIN

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an inspirational and hardworking man and strong community leader, the Honorable Frank K. Martin, Former Mayor of the City of Columbus, Georgia. Sadly, Mr. Martin passed away on August 12, 2012. His passing leaves a tremendous void in the hearts of his family, friends and the Columbus, Georgia community.

On Wednesday, August 15, 2012, a gathering of family members, friends, and colleagues paid their respects to Mr. Martin at a memorial service held at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Columbus.

Former Mayor Martin was born on November 4, 1938 in Columbus, Georgia to the late Mr. and Mrs. Frank Callier Martin. Known as ''Butch,'' he played for the Columbus High School Football Team. He earned both an undergraduate degree and a law degree from the University of Georgia and became a successful criminal defense attorney before being elected Mayor in 1990.

As Mayor, Mr. Martin led the passage of a 1 percent sales tax to fund the construction of a new civic center, riverwalk and public safety building. He was Vice Chairman of the Columbus 1996 Olympic Committee from 1993 to 1996 and under his leadership, the City of Columbus was able to win a bid to host the 1996 Olympic softball competition.

Mr. Speaker, one of the things that I will always remember about Frank is his ability to get things done. He sought to make a difference in the community and ultimately elevated the City of Columbus to new heights.

George Washington Carver once said, ''How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong because someday in your life you will have been all of these.'' Mr. Martin went far in life because he had the courage and insight to help people fight for justice. We are all blessed to have had him touch our lives.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the Columbus, Georgia community, would like to extend our deepest sympathies to Mr. Martin's wife Helen, their children, and other family members during this difficult time. May they be consoled and comforted by their abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

IN RECOGNITION OF HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Human Rights Campaign (HRC), America's largest civil rights organization working to achieve lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equality.

Founded in 1980, the Human Rights Campaign's mission is dedicated to ending discrimination against LGBT citizens and working

toward a nation that achieves fundamental fairness and equality for all by advocating for equal rights and benefits in the workplace, ensuring families are treated equally under the law and increasing public support among all Americans through advocacy, education and outreach programs. HRC has more than one million members and is supported by even more people throughout the country.

On August 25, 2012, HRC will be hosting the "Making Equality Count" 2012 Human Rights Campaign Cleveland Gala. The event will be held at Cleveland State University's Wolstein Center and will feature HRC President, Chad Griffin; Lana Parilla; and University Hospitals receipt of the Corporate Equality Award.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the decades of work that the Human Rights Campaign has done on behalf of equality for our country's LGBT community.

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS FOR OBTAINING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT—CALEB DOWDY

HON. SANDY ADAMS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Caleb Dowdy for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

Throughout the history of the Boy Scouts of America, the rank of Eagle Scout has only been attained through dedication to concepts such as honor, duty, country and charity. By applying these concepts to daily life, Caleb has proven his true and complete understanding of their meanings, and thereby deserves this honor.

I offer my congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for the future.

HONORING GEORGE LANGSTAFF

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to George Langstaff, a man whose dedication to mentoring economically disadvantaged students in Middle Tennessee has resulted in more than 340 students obtaining a post-high school education.

After a very successful career in the footwear industry, Mr. Langstaff recognized the need to help at-risk young adults obtain a college education. In 1995, he partnered with a Nashville nonprofit to found The Sponsors Scholarship Program. To date, the program that Mr. Langstaff established has raised more than $2.2 million dedicated to scholarships for financially disadvantaged young people.

For more than 15 years, The Sponsors Scholarship Program and its hundreds of volunteers have provided college counseling, mentoring and college scholarships to capable high school students in Middle Tennessee.

Today, I join the citizens of my district in honoring George Langstaff for his tireless commitment to ensuring that financially challenged young people from Middle Tennessee have the opportunity obtain a complete education.

We need more citizens like George Langstaff. His Volunteer spirit makes all Tennesseans proud, and a generation of young people successful.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Tuesday, July 31, 2012 was the date of the primary election in Georgia, and I regret that I was absent from votes on that day. However, I would like to make clear my position on the bills that received recorded votes:

(1) S. 679—Presidential Appointment Efficiency and Streamlining Act of 2011—I would have voted "aye."

(2) H.R. 828—Federal Employee Tax Accountability Act of 2011, as amended—I would have voted "nay" on this bill that singles out middle class federal workers.

(3) H.R. 3803—District of Columbia Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act—I would have voted "nay," against this misguided bill that continues the majority's disrespect for the District of Columbia and all American women. I am pleased that this bill failed to pass the House.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. JOANN BOUGHMAN'S BECOMING SENIOR VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AT THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Dr. Joann Boughman, who will become Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at the University System of Maryland this month. Dr. Boughman is a geneticist with more than 30 years of teaching and administrative experience in higher education. The University System is fortunate to have her join its leadership team.

For the past 11 years, Dr. Boughman has done outstanding work as Executive Vice President of the American Society of Human Genetics ("ASHG"), which is located in my congressional district. In that capacity, she has been instrumental in ensuring that scientists are engaged in public policy. She has served on federal advisory committees on the regulation of genetic tests and has testified before government panels. She has been a tireless advocate for the need to protect the American people against genetic discrimination and was a leading champion of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act. Under her leadership, ASHG partnered with the National Human Genome Research Institute at the National Institutes of Health in pioneering a Congressional fellowship to bring young geneticists to Capitol Hill.

Dr. Boughman has a long record of service at the University of Maryland. Before joining ASHG, she was Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Graduate School at the University of Maryland in Baltimore. Prior to holding those positions, she had served as Assistant Professor of epidemiology and preventive medicine and Director of the School of Medicine's graduate program in human genetics.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the University System of Maryland on its appointment of Dr. Boughmnan and look forward to working with her in the years ahead.

IN HONOR OF SOUTH JERSEY PARALYMPIANS

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our South Jersey Paralympian, April Holmes, who traveled to the London 2012 Paralympics to compete in track and field.

April represents the United States on the world stage, serving as a role model for citizens across South Jersey and the entire nation. Her success, derived from her hard work and dedication, and exemplified through her competitive spirit, is something to which every American can aspire. In the same way that our national ethos rewards fortitude and persistence, April earned the opportunity to compete on the Paralympic stage through tireless training and sacrifice.

Since the beginning of her career in 2002, April has succeeded on the world stage, setting and breaking her own world records. Through fierce competition amongst the greatest athletes in the world, she continually pushes the limits of human achievement. The bonds of friendship gained through equally world-class sportsmanship enrich her and our nation.

Mr. Speaker, the dedication of this South Jersey Paralympian and her teammates should not go unrecognized. I join all of South Jersey in expressing our pride in April's efforts.

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS FOR OBTAINING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT—MITCHELL KOEBKE

HON. SANDY ADAMS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Mitchell Koebke for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

Throughout the history of the Boy Scouts of America, the rank of Eagle Scout has only been attained through dedication to concepts such as honor, duty, country and charity. By applying these concepts to daily life, Mitchell has proven his true and complete understanding of their meanings, and thereby deserves this honor.

I offer my congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for the future.

HONORING GLORIA GRIFFIN

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life and work of Gloria Griffin, a pioneer who dedicated her career to improving women's status in Minnesota.

Gloria Griffin was born in Iowa, grew up in California, and started her career in New York City as art director at Harper's Bazaar and Good Housekeeping. In 1967, she moved to Minnesota with her husband and their four children. In 1976, she entered politics as the Democratic-Farmer-Labor-endorsed candidate for Minnesota's Second Congressional District. She lost the race to the incumbent, but Governor Rudy Perpich recognized her potential and appointed her as Chair of his newly created Open Appointments Commission, where she helped change the face of government by placing more women and minorities in important positions.

After the 1980 election, when Gloria witnessed that ''women and children lost big in the legislature,'' 23 organizations came together to create the Minnesota Women's Consortium. Gloria was unanimously elected as the first Coordinator, and led the Consortium for 15 years. Under her leadership, the Consortium achieved significant milestones that helped it grow into the largest association of women's organizations in the country.

For the better part of a decade, the Minnesota Women's Consortium was run out of a small storefront office. In 1988, Gloria Griffin led a group of women who transformed a decrepit building near the State Capitol into the Minnesota Women's Building at 550 Rice Street. Gloria not only oversaw the new headquarters, but with cooperation from the League of Women Voters Education Fund, Chrysalis, and the Minnesota Women's Consortium, the building was purchased and renovated debt-free.

Gloria Griffin was the key to many more accomplishments and victories. In 1990, under pressure from anti-abortion groups, the Dayton Hudson Foundation withdrew their funding for Planned Parenthood of Minnesota's educational programs. Gloria, along with thousands of women across Minnesota, was outraged at the defunding of these teen pregnancy prevention programs. She correctly predicted that this would only be a ''momentary mistake,'' and organized a successful campaign that resulted in Dayton Hudson reversing its decision and restoring funding.

Gloria Griffin was not only a leader on women's policy issues; she was also a mentor to individual women. In the years to come, her championship of women earned her numerous awards, including the YWCA St. Paul Leadership Award for Outstanding Contribution to Government/Politics, Women of Distinction Award from Soroptimist International for her accomplishments in Human Rights/Advancement of the Status of Women, the Ann Bancroft Dream Maker Award for Achievement and Leadership, and the DFL Woman of Distinction Award.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of Gloria Griffin's steadfast commitment to the advancement of women's lives, I am pleased to submit this statement for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

IN HONOR OF THE HUNGARIAN SCOUTS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Hungarian Scouts.

The first Hungarian Scout group to form in the United States was founded in Cleveland, Ohio in 1951. By the fall of that year, two troops, one East side and one West side, had formed and registered with the Boy Scouts of America. In 1952, the Hungarian Scouts expanded and formed a girls' troop. By 1957, the girls' troop had also split into two groups located in the same neighborhoods as the boys' East and West side versions.

In 1973, the Hungarian Scout Folk Ensemble was created in order to study Hungarian culture and teach it the Hungarian youth. The Ensemble aims to preserve dying folk arts of the Hungarians in the Carpathian basin and pass them on to the public and future generations. Their performances include lively song, dance, and music accompanied by true-to-culture costumes.

Each year the Hungarian Scout Folk Ensemble performs at the Hungarian Festival held in the Greater Cleveland area during Labor Day weekend. This year marks the 57th annual festival. Celebrations begin on Sunday, September 2nd with a twelve o'clock Hungarian mass followed by the opening of the kitchens at one o'clock serving traditional Hungarian fare such as goulash, chicken papriakas and dumplings, and a variety of pastries. Throughout the day events include soccer matches, free animal programs, challenging children's games, folk art presentations and authentic Hungarian music capped off by the performance of the Hungarian Scout Folk Ensemble.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Hungarian Scouts.

EASTERN WEST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation on obtaining their National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations™ accreditation from the Community Foundations National Standards Board.

The Community Foundations National Standards Board was established as a supporting organization of the Council on Foundations, a nonprofit membership association of grant making foundations and corporations, to administer the National Standards. This board is responsible for upholding the quality, value, and integrity of the National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations™, the first and only accreditation program of its kind.

In the United States, community foundations serve tens of thousands of donors, administer more than $40 billion in charitable funds, and address the core concerns of more than 700 communities and regions. With such a presence—nationally and within local communities—comes responsibility.

Achieving confirmation and reconfirming compliance with National Standards is a rigorous process, guaranteeing that every community foundation that receives the designation has adhered to excellent philanthropic practice. This program requires community foundations to document their policies for governance, donor services, investments, grantmaking, community leadership, and administration.

The Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation of Martinsburg, West Virginia has obtained its National Standards accreditation by demonstrating a commitment to operational quality, integrity, accountability, and adherence to the highest standards for grantmaking.

On behalf of the residents of Martinsburg, I congratulate the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation on receiving its National Standards accreditation and commend the foundation's dedicated service to Martinsburg and communities in West Virginia.

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS FOR OBTAINING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT—TRACY MURPHY

HON. SANDY ADAMS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Tracy Murphy for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

For his Eagle Scout project, Tracy provided benches for resting on a local hiking trail. Throughout the history of the Boy Scouts of America, the rank of Eagle Scout has only been attained through dedication to concepts such as honor, duty, country and charity. By applying these concepts to daily life, Tracy has proven his true and complete understanding of their meanings, and thereby deserves this honor.

I offer my congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for the future.

TRIBUTE TO THE WOMEN PEACEMAKERS PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO ON ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay tribute today to the Women PeaceMakers Program at the University of San Diego, which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year.

The award-winning Women PeaceMakers Program, which is based at the university's Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, IPJ, documents the stories and practices of international women leaders who are involved in human rights and peacemaking efforts in their home countries. It was founded on the idea that history is rarely recorded from women's perspectives, especially women on the frontlines of efforts to end violence and secure peace.

In 2011, the power of such documentation was confirmed when three women received the Nobel Peace Prize. One was Leymah Gbowee, whose story of pushing for peace in Liberia might have been forgotten if not for the documentary ''Pray the Devil Back to Hell.'' Similarly, the Women PeaceMakers Program in San Diego records the stories that are overlooked or neglected in the media and in history books.

To date, the program has documented the stories of 35 Women PeaceMakers from 30 countries. This year it has selected four more women, from Colombia, Kenya, Nepal and the Solomon Islands, to reside for two months on the campus of the University of San Diego and have their stories recorded by professional writers and a documentary film team. The location of the university, overlooking San Diego's Mission Bay and the Pacific Ocean, is an idyllic one for rest and reflection for women who often face violence on a daily basis, and who must struggle for space and security to do their work for peace.

The process of reflection that the women undertake as they share their stories, contemplating their motivation to become leaders, and why the initiatives they developed were successful teaches them how to be more effective peacebuilders when they return to their countries.

It is not only the professional writers, however, who get to hear the women's stories and learn of their methods of building peace. Members of the local community, as well as students and professors at the University of San Diego and neighboring schools and colleges, have the opportunity to attend the Women PeaceMakers' lectures and other public events, and those events are often streamed live online for national and international audiences as well. Last year, the university received the Senator Paul Simon Spotlight Award from NAFSA: The Association of International Educators, in recognition of the Women PeaceMakers Program and its success in internationalizing the campus.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice and the University of San Diego on a momentous 10th year of the Women PeaceMakers Program.

IN RECOGNITION OF PLAINFIELD MAYOR SHARON ROBINSON-BRIGGS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mayor Sharon Robinson-Briggs as she is honored by the New Jersey State Conference of the NAACP at its 2012 Annual NJ NAACP State Convention. As the NJ NAACP celebrates African-American mayors throughout New Jersey, Mayor Robinson-Briggs should also be recognized as the first female Mayor of the City of Plainfield.

Serving as mayor of the City of Plainfield since 2006, Mayor Robinson-Briggs has committed herself to the residents of Plainfield by creating a Welcome Desk at City Hall, a Community Garden for the city and a Feed the Children program to provide groceries to local families. She has established herself as an advocate for the community of Plainfield and all of the residents of New Jersey, participating in several organizations, including the NJ State NAACP Executive Committee; the American Cancer Society; the American Diabetes Association; and the NJ Sharing Network, which strives to promote organ and tissue donation. She is also an exemplary leader, having served as past president of the Plainfield Board of Education and past president of the Plainfield Area NAACP.

Mayor Robinson-Briggs has been commended by several organizations for her efforts on behalf of the residents of Plainfield and New Jersey. The State NAACP, as well as the Plainfield Area NAACP and Regional NAACP, have honored her with Certificates of Achievement. The YMCA of New Jersey also decorated Mayor Robinson-Briggs with the Minority Achievement Award. Her dedication to the community is demonstrated in her many accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in honoring Mayor Sharon Robinson-Briggs as the NJ State NAACP gathers to celebrate its annual convention. It is my hope that my colleagues will join me in thanking her for her leadership and service to the City of Plainfield.

IN HONOR OF MS. MARGARET ''PEG'' BARKER

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Margaret ''Peg'' Barker for her tireless service to Maple Shade Township, New Jersey. Ms. Barker was a pillar of her community who ceaselessly worked to end adult illiteracy and protect the natural resources of Maple Shade Township.

Ms. Barker was a tireless advocate for literacy. As the founder of the Maple Shade Friends of Literacy organization, she tutored international residents so they could learn to read and write in the English language. Ms. Barker volunteered a majority of her time teaching English because she viewed books as a window to knowledge and satisfying curiosity. She wanted other residents to have the ability to enjoy reading and writing as much as she did.

However, Maple Shade Friends of Literacy was only the beginning of Ms. Barker's service to her community. She was a member of several town planning committees and various environmental committees that were dedicated to improving the lives of residents in Maple Shade. As a member of the Pennsauken Water Shed Committee, Ms. Barker volunteered her efforts protecting the environment by making sure that the water shed was safe for fellow residents. Furthermore, on her own time, Ms. Barker volunteered by mapping and marking every storm drain in the town of Maple Shade in order to protect turtles. Ms. Barker was dedicated to protecting the environment, but also extended her services to help the residents of Maple Shade in any way she could.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Barker's endless commitment to Maple Shade Township should not go unrecognized. I join the township and all of South Jersey in paying tribute to this exceptional woman.

SUPPORT OF THE BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the nation's Better Business Bureaus (''BBB''; originally known as Advertising Vigilance Committees).

The BBBs came into being at the annual meeting of the Associated Advertising Clubs of America in May, 1912, following an editorial in Printer's Ink magazine challenging false and misleading advertising. The first such Vigilance Committee was organized later that year by a group of industry leaders in the fight for truth in advertising and selling.

BBBs are private, non-profit organizations collectively constituting the United States' oldest and largest grassroots business self-regulatory organizations and pre-date the creation of the U.S. government's Federal Trade Commission by two years. Today, they consist of 116 independent BBB offices serving every market area in the United States, an additional 10 international offices serving Canada, and a national coordinating office located in Arlington, Virginia.

Over the past 100 years, BBB's have sought to foster an ethical marketplace where buyers and sellers can trust each other—advancing marketplace trust by creating communities of trustworthy businesses, setting standards, encouraging and supporting best practices, celebrating marketplace role models, and denouncing substandard marketplace behavior.

Throughout the 1920s—at a time when pernicious investment frauds and schemes threatened to undermine public trust in securities markets—BBBs across the country served the nation as a de facto securities regulator until the creation of the Securities and Exchange Commission in 1934. During the Great Depression of the 1930s, the nation's BBBs were nearly alone in their fight to promote ''Truth in Advertising'' and protect the public from the myriad frauds and schemes that preyed on the nation's beleaguered consumers. During the 1940s, BBBs conducted a relentless effort to educate and protect families on the home front from a number of war-related schemes and provided major technical assistance to the U.S. Government's efforts to coordinate war relief. As U.S. and Canadian soldiers returned from the war, and throughout the dramatic economic expansion of the 1950s, BBBs helped educate veterans and their families on a wide variety of marketplace trust issues—significantly expanding ''truth in advertising'' review, consumer complaint handling and the availability of consumer information—all at no cost to North American taxpayers.

The BBB system responded to the challenges of the consumer revolution of the late-1960s by merging activities of its National BBB and its Association of BBBs—under the leadership of businessmen Henry Ford II and Elisha (''Bud'') Gray II—into a single, international organization—the Council of Better Business Bureaus. In the period following the creation of that new coordinating body, the BBB system:

Launched its National Advertising Division and National Advertising Review Board (in a

partnership with leading advertising industry associations) and created a special Children's Advertising Review Unit (CARU) to evaluate child-directed advertising and promotional material in all media against its own standards and relevant laws;

Created a National Consumer Arbitration Program to provide consumers and businesses with a fast, fair and free method of resolving disputes without resorting to overburdened courts;

Consolidated BBB's long-standing role—reviewing publicly-soliciting charitable organizations against a set of standards—into a single Philanthropic Advisory Service (now the BBB Wise Giving Allilance);

Served as the organizing body to create the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals in Business (SOCAP) to ". . . provide for and promote the exchange of ideas, expertise and opinions relevant to consumer affairs" and "to aid business in anticipating, recognizing and responding to consumer needs, desires and expectations"; and

Began the process of utilizing emerging computer technology to better understand consumer dissatisfaction with the marketplace and provide timely, fact-based data for business, consumer groups, regulators and the public.

The BBB system accepted a major challenge in 1983, when the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and General Motors Corporation (GM) signed a consent order, agreeing to use BBB AUTO LINE®—a consumer mediation and arbitration program—to resolve disputes arising out of certain specified component parts of GM vehicles. In 1991 (when the consent order was to expire), the FTC noted that more than 233,000 consumers received in excess of $68 million from GM through BBB arbitration and millions of other owners received settlements from GM through BBB conciliation and/or mediation. A similar consent order was signed by Volkswagen of America in 1988, also providing for arbitration through the BBB. Today, 28 manufacturers continue to participate in BBB AUTO LINE® nationally, with others participating on a state-by-state basis.

In 1997, the BBB system launched BBBOnLine® at a briefing at the U.S. Capitol for legislators and regulators with business and consumer leaders. This BBB program was designed to take advantage of Internet technology to provide timely information to the millions of people who were becoming "wired" through emerging Internet technologies. In 2004, the BBB system launched BBB Military Line to provide free, specialized resources to support military communities in the areas of financial literacy and consumer protection through education, outreach to service members and their families, information, data collection and BBB complaint-handling and dispute resolution.

100 years after the first BBB launched in Minneapolis, BBBs will likely have responded to over 100 million requests from consumers for BBB assistance, will accept, process and attempt to resolve roughly one million consumer complaints and will be supported in that effort by over 400,000 BBB Accredited Businesses and national partners representing many of the world's largest advertisers. In addition, BBB will very often be the "first responder" to Wed the public to new and fast-moving frauds and schemes that increasingly use high technology to prey on victims.

This fall, from September 30—October 3, 2012, BBBs from the United States and Canada will gather to celebrate their centennial anniversary in Washington, D.C., highlighting an extraordinary century of service to business and consumers with events in both the District of Columbia and at Mt. Vernon, the home of America's first President. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the BBB, and that this Congress:

(1) Recognizes the 100th anniversary of the advertising industry's "fight for truth in advertising" that culminated in the founding of the Better Business Bureau; and

(2) Honors and praises the Better Business Bureau system on the occasion of its anniversary for its work to advance marketplace trust on behalf of businesses and consumers, in cooperation with government and the local, state and federal level, through a transparent process of voluntary self-regulation, public education and marketplace conflict resolution.

CONGRATULATING THE LEMON GROVE LITTLE LEAGUE SENIOR DIVISION ALL-STARS ON WINNING THE U.S. CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Lemon Grove Little League Senior Division All-Stars on becoming U.S. champions and coming in second at the Senior Division World Series in Bangor, Maine.

Getting to the World Series in Maine was no small task, and Lemon Grove showed how practicing hard and working together can really pay off.

Actually, Congress could probably learn a lot from how well this group worked together.

Lemon Grove's run to becoming U.S. champions was inspiring for everyone in the community, and we are all very proud.

Congratulations to all the families, the coaches, and of course, the players!

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Lemon Grove Little League All-Stars and wishing them the very best in all of their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF GOSNOLD ON THE CAPE

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gosnold on Cape Cod as the facility celebrates its fortieth year of service to southeastern Massachusetts.

Gosnold on Cape Cod is the largest provider of addiction and mental health services on the Cape and has been helping individuals on the road to recovery since 1972. It has grown since its founding, when it was originally known as the Pocasset Detox Center, and has continuously expanded throughout the years in order to better serve its patients. Two years after it first opened its doors, Gosnold incorporated one of the first residential treatment programs in the country designed exclusively for women, and expanded again in 1996 to treat individuals with mental and emotional disorders in addition to individuals suffering from addiction.

Gosnold has been recognized nationally for its excellence as it has grown. In 1987, Forbes Magazine recognized Gosnold as one of the twelve leading substance abuse treatment programs in the country, and in 1995, the Emerson House Pregnancy Program, Gosnold's residential treatment center for pregnant women and women with children, was selected to be featured on ABC's Nightline. Recently, the Massachusetts Mental Health Counselors Association named Gosnold as the 2010–2011 Mental Health Agency of the Year. These are all such fitting accolades for a center whose employees have worked tirelessly to ensure that patients receive the treatment they need, along with the compassion they deserve.

Focusing on individualized treatment as well as group therapy, twelve-step principles, family involvement, and continuing care, the specialists at the Gosnold center understand that addiction is a chronic disease requiring lifelong management. Gosnold's mission—to excel in addiction and mental health treatment, to serve men, women, and families affected by these illnesses, and to promote lasting recovery—has guided the center since its inception. Surrounded by the restorative and calming qualities of the Cape Cod shoreline, Gosnold has allowed those affected by addiction and mental illness to find peace and stability after turmoil.

Mr. Speaker, it brings me great pride to honor Gosnold on Cape Cod as it celebrates its fortieth year of service to its patients and to Massachusetts. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the center for its steadfast leadership in the treatment of addiction, and for its dedication to the patients it serves.

TO HONOR THE LIFE OF JUDY GALLO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a tireless advocate for workers, Judy Gallo. She is survived by her husband, two sons, a step-daughter, a sister, a sister-in-law, a daughter-in-law, co-grandmother and grandson.

Ms. Gallo's work experience included spending three years in the 1960's campaigning for civil rights with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in the south, working as a youth leader in New York City, helping lead the Cleveland peace movement, acting as a leader with Peace Action and Women Speak Out for Peace, and attempting to organize a nurses union at MetroHealth.

Upon retiring, Judy remained active in the United Labor Agency serving as Outreach Coordinator, and beginning in 2001 helped register several thousand Cleveland voters through the development of the Greater Cleveland Voter Coalition.

As her illness became more assertive Ms. Gallo did not allow her inability to walk, read,

or write hinder her hard work and dedication. Not only did she spend hours making countless phone calls to help organize speakers against S.B. 5, she also initiated and oversaw the completion of an informative booklet, ''Women's History Project.'' This literary work identifies 16 local social activists and explains their background and experiences with social justice causes. The Western Reserve Historical Society has included this booklet in its research catalog.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the life and achievements of Judy Gallo. She will be missed by all who knew her. Her memory will live on through the legacy of her dedicated service to the community, and her tireless advocacy of social justice.

IN RECOGNITION OF ASBURY PARK MAYOR ED JOHNSON

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mayor Ed Johnson as he is honored by the NJ State Conference of the NAACP at its 2012 Annual NJ NAACP State Convention. The Mayor's leadership and dedication to the City of Asbury Park is highly deserving of recognition.

First elected to serve as mayor in May 2005, Mayor Johnson is currently serving his second term in office. In addition, Mayor Johnson is a member of the Governing body of Asbury Park, the Transportation Center Subcommittee, and the Neighborhood Preservation Program, among many others. He is no stranger to leadership roles within the City of Asbury Park, having previously served as Chairman of the Asbury Park Urban Enterprise Zone. Through his work at the Asbury Park Urban Enterprise Zone, Mayor Johnson helped develop an organization dedicated to supporting economic growth in Asbury Park and his commitment to opportunities for residents continues today.

Mayor Johnson is also a strong advocate for accessible quality education. He is a graduate of Eastern New Mexico University, where he earned both a Bachelor of Science Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences and a Master of Arts Degree in Social and Political Science. His commitment to education is evident in his role as Director of the Brookdale Community College Long Branch Higher Education Center and his previous employment as an educator.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in recognizing Mayor Ed Johnson as the NJ State NAACP gathers to celebrate its annual convention. Mayor Johnson's leadership and service to the City of Asbury Park is truly honorable.

IN HONOR OF POLICE CHIEF PAUL FRAZIER FOR HIS DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVICE TO THE TOWN OF BRAINTREE AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Police Chief Paul Frazier of Braintree, Massachusetts, in recognition of his thirty-two years of dedicated public service to the families of the Town of Braintree and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Chief Frazier was born and raised in Braintree, Massachusetts, by his proud parents, Mary and Robert Frazier. He is one of ten children. He currently resides in Braintree, Massachusetts and is the proud parent of two wonderful daughters, Jenny and Katie.

Chief Frazier graduated from Braintree High School in 1973 and, following in his father's footsteps, he joined the United States Marine Corps earning the rank of Corporal. After serving our country, he attended Northeastern University and earned a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice.

Subsequent to his graduation from Northeastern University, he was hired by the Braintree Police Department on June 2e, 1980. Early in his career, he earned the American Legion's ''Medal of Honor'' for apprehending an armed felon during a shooting incident. He was later promoted to Sergeant on September lst, 1987, and Lieutenant on February 5th, 1990. As a Lieutenant, he led the Detective Division and worked with the South Shore Drug Task Force.

In 1993, he became the Chief of Police and was reappointed by Mayor Joseph Sullivan in 2010. As the Chief of Police for 19 years, he has implemented a number of improvements to the department that helped train and equip the police force. Most recently, he helped guide a $1 million renovation of the police station.

Chief Frazier has volunteered countless hours to various causes, notably the Alzheimer's Disease Memory Ride, where funds are raised to combat Alzheimer's Disease, and the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association Ralph LePore Jimmy Fund Golf Tournament. Fittingly, Chief Frazier was recognized for his leadership with the Ken Coleman Extra Mile Award, given to the outstanding volunteer to the Jimmy Fund Golf Tournament.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take to the floor of the House today to join with his family, friends and contemporaries to thank Braintree Police Chief Paul Frazier for his dedicated public service to the families of the Town of Braintree, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and to the United States of America. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Police Chief Paul Frazier's career of unselfish commitment to his community and country.

IN RECOGNITION OF HELEN FRESSOLA

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I along with my colleague, Mr. Neal, rise today to recognize Mrs. Helen Fressola on her ninetieth birthday.

Born Helen Haluszka on September 14, 1922, Helen has experienced much throughout her ninety years. Raised in Chicopee as one of three siblings, Helen grew up in Western Massachusetts and also often spent time in Cape Cod, which she considered her second home. Helen began work as a branch manager for Springfield Institution Savings Bank as a young woman, and remained there until her retirement. She also worked as a real estate agent for many years, helping families throughout Massachusetts to find the right home. In her spare time, Helen enjoyed ''flipping'' houses—the act of purchasing, remodeling, and then selling old homes—and eventually, she expanded this hobby to include restaurants as well. The many homes and restaurants that she renovated remain scattered throughout western Massachusetts and Connecticut.

Today, Helen's life is dominated by her love of the ocean, and she is an active member of the Hyannis Yacht Club. She has been interested in politics for decades, and recalls attending events on the Cape that were hosted by members of the Kennedy family. She attributes her longevity to staying young at heart, a way of life that Helen has personified. Even at ninety, she enjoys going out to dinner with her friends and visiting her favorite casino, and she still insists on driving herself to every social occasion that she attends. Helen spends much of her time with her ever-expanding family in Massachusetts. She is the proud mother of son Alfred and daughter Carol, grandmother of Joan, and great-grandmother of Shyloe.

Mr. Speaker, we are proud to honor Helen Fressola as she celebrates the joyous occasion of her ninetieth birthday. She is an extraordinary member of our community and her positive spirit is an inspiration to us all. We ask that our colleagues join us in wishing her many more years of health and happiness.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF 1ST LT. TODD W. LAMBKA

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of 1st Lt. Todd W. Lambka. On August 1st, 2012, he passed away while serving in the Paktika province of Afghanistan.

1st Lt. Lambka attended Robbinsville High School where he participated in both football and wrestling. He was known for his maturity as well as his work ethic, building a reputation for outworking his teammates and making others around him better. Following high school, 1st Lt. Lambka excelled as a student at the United States Military Academy at West Point,

NY. He was awarded the Robert Foley Scholarship of Honor for receiving high marks and persevering despite the loss of his mother, Donna. After graduation in 2010, he was assigned to the 1st Battalion of the 28th Infantry Regiment in the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team of the 1st Infantry Division based in Fort Riley, Kansas.

1st Lt. Lambka is survived by his wife, Cassie, twin brother Jordan, who is also serving in Afghanistan, and father Brian. He has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart posthumously.

In his writings with others, 1st Lt. Lambka frequently referenced a quote from President Teddy Roosevelt, ''There has never yet been a man in our history who led a life of ease whose name is worth remembering.'' Mr. Speaker, with the life that 1st Lt. Lambka has lived and the sacrifices he made, his name is not merely worth remembering. Rather, it shall be engrained in our national consciousness with the other fallen servicemembers of this generation—men who sacrificed their lives for our country and freedom. I urge my colleagues today to join me in honoring 1st Lt. Lambka.

IN HONOR OF MR. JOSEPH MEISSNER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor Joseph Meissner upon his retirement from the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland and upon his new career as a neighborhood lawyer where he will continue to serve clients and advocate for justice.

I have known Joe Meissner for many years and recognize that Joe's love of justice has deep roots. In the ''Freedom Summer'' of 1964, while a law student at Harvard University School of Law, Joe was co-chair of the Harvard Civil Rights Committee and marched for civil rights in the South.

After service with the U.S. Army in Vietnam and receiving the Bronze Star and other commendation medals, Joe began his career with Legal Aid. He continued to serve in the Army Reserves and eventually earned the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Since 1967, he has been advocating for low-income clients as a lawyer for the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland. He is well-known for his knowledge of public utilities law. He used his wealth of knowledge to demand justice and fairness in public utility cases on behalf of those in need. Informed by the needs of his clients, Joe fought for a ''percentage of payment plan'' which keeps gas and electric costs low for low-income customers.

As an attorney, Joe has not only represented private clients, but has also been an advocate for neighborhood economic development and environmental justice. He was an organizer of the Neighborhood Environmental Coalition in Cleveland's Slavic Village neighborhood and other nearby downtown neighborhoods. His ability to navigate utility and environmental law helped stop the siting of incinerators near downtown and helped keep utility emissions in check in the low-income and racially diverse neighborhoods of Cleveland's urban core. Years after his victories, Joe continued to build on the relationships that he developed with the people in those neighborhoods and government agencies.

At this juncture, Joe Meissner begins a new career. He will soon hang his shingle and practice law from a storefront on Cleveland's near West Side, not far from where he went to high school at St. Ignatius.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in wishing Joseph Meissner well in his retirement from 45 years with Legal Aid and in his new endeavor to represent the people of Cleveland as a neighborhood public interest attorney.

IN MEMORY OF HELEN GURLEY BROWN

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay. tribute to the memory of Helen Gurley Brown, one of the world's most influential magazine editors and authors. As editor-in-chief of Cosmopolitan magazine for over three decades, Ms. Gurley Brown promoted the idea of a modern career woman and left a permanent mark on American culture. She passed away at 90 years old.

Even from an early age, Ms. Gurley Brown never let anyone set limits on what she should do with her life. She put herself through Woodbury Business College and jumped into a career in copyediting, all at a time when society demanded that women marry young and start families instead. She knew that women could have it all: successful careers, relationships, and the confidence to take charge of their own lives.

In 1962, Ms. Gurley Brown authored her famous book, ''Sex and the Single Girl.'' Three years later, she became editor of Cosmopolitan, transforming it into the bold and trendy magazine we know it as today. Her frank advice on sex and careers revolutionized the entire media industry and sparked a nation-wide conversation on what it meant to be a feminist and modern woman. Although her publications were considered shocking and risque when first published, she ushered in a new wave of ideas and made women's empowerment a mainstream concept.

Ms. Gurley Brown changed the way an entire generation of women defined themselves and their future aspirations. Her outspoken and pioneering nature will be greatly missed, but her lifetime's work has already liberated a whole generation from outdated ideas of women's place in society. Her legacy will live on through the countless women Ms. Gurley Brown has inspired.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing deep condolences to Ms. Gurley Brown's friends and family.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN BUCKEY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a dedicated public servant from Nantucket, Massachusetts. This year, John Buckey was honored as the Massachusetts High School Principal of the Year.

A lifelong learner himself, John received his Bachelor of Arts in Spanish from Asbury College and is currently pursuing a doctorate in Education Leadership at Northeastern University. Sixteen years ago, John began his career in education as a Spanish teacher and Chair of the World Language Department at the Lexington School in Lexington, Kentucky. From there, he pursued a Master of Education from Harvard University and began his first—of many—administrative assignments serving as Assistant Principal and then Principal of Littleton High School in Littleton, Massachusetts. Four years ago, he took over as Principal of Nantucket High School during one of the most difficult periods in the high school's history. It was his leadership, along with the help of the school and greater community that Nantucket High School has achieved tremendous growth over this period.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Principal John Buckey on this joyous occasion. He is an extraordinary member of our community and I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating him for this prestigious award.

TRIBUTE TO COACH LIANG CHOW

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Iowa's own Coach Liang Chow for placing West Des Moines, Iowa among our nation's premier training destinations for aspiring Olympic gymnasts through his world-class coaching.

Coach Chow's life in gymnastics began nearly 10,000 miles away from West Des Moines when he was just five years old in Beijing, China. For more than a decade Liang represented China's national men's gymnastics team and won numerous competitions across the globe, including the World Cup master championships in 1990 and earning a bronze medal at the 1989 world championships. Unfortunately, a back injury before the 1992 Olympic Games forced him to retire prematurely from the sport he loved. However, in every challenge lies opportunity. Liang took advantage of an opportunity to move to Iowa in 1991 and hasn't looked back. Coach Chow began attending the University of Iowa on an English scholarship where his gymnastics experience led to his selection as the university's assistant coach of the men's program. Chow coached five of his gymnasts to the national men's team in his first year. After his exemplary coaching skills became evident, Coach Chow was offered a full time coaching role with the University of Iowa women's gymnastics program. Chow accepted, but soon realized that his coaching technique could reach new heights if his students were a bit younger, to better mold their early gymnastic development.

After searching across the country for an ideal location to open his own gym, Chow knew Iowa was where he was meant to be. In 1998, he secured a small warehouse and opened his first gym. By 2003, he expanded to his current facility, which includes two gyms

and spans 11 acres. Since 1998, Coach Chow's gym maintains a steadfast philosophy of hard work mixed with fun, which emphasizes the journey just as much as the destination. It is in his gym and through his philosophy that Liang Chow has become an international name by coaching American gymnastic icons like Shawn Johnson and Gabby Douglas to Olympic gold.

Mr. Speaker, Coach Chow's contribution to gymnastics and to Iowa cannot be understated. His unwavering commitment to his dreams and the dreams of his students truly embodies Iowa's spirit. I know all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Coach Chow on his stellar career, and I wish him the best of luck in the future as he continues to proudly represent the best of America and her heartland.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, due to my primary election I was detained from voting on Thursday, August 2, 2012. If present, I would have voted ''yea'' on the following rollcall votes: Rollcall 550, rollcall 551, rollcall 553, rollcall 555.

I would have voted ''nay'' on the following rollcall votes: Rollcall 549, rollcall 552, rollcall 554, rollcall 556.

COMMEMORATING IFSTL FOR ITS ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY IN FIGHTING TO INCREASE GLOBAL FOOD SAFETY STANDARDS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the one-year anniversary of the International Food Safety Training Laboratory (IFSTL) at the University of Maryland. This ground-breaking public-private-academic partnership puts to work government, university and private industry resources to expand the capacity of food safety scientists globally.

The global food trade has soared over the past two decades. Increasing public demand for international foods has resulted in global food exports exceeding $1 trillion per year. With changing regulations and technologies coupled with shrinking budgets from tough economic conditions, assuring food safety has become a growing challenge.

We know how important it is for our food supply to be 100% safe. Americans need confidence that the food they provide their families is free of contamination. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has a big job to do, and the recent Food Safety Modernization Act will help them protect our food supply. But even with the added protections afforded by this law, the FDA still can't respond to the hundreds of requests from foreign governments to train their officials on U.S. regulatory standards and requirements. And the best way to ensure food safety is make sure the food is safe before it reaches our borders.

The IFSTL greatly assists the FDA by training food safety scientists from around the world on the best food safety practices. They learn how to better detect food borne contamination and what they have to do to meet U.S. regulatory standards. This training will enable governments and food manufacturers to more easily detect contaminated food at farms, ports and manufacturing plants and it will increase compliance with food regulations. Over time, this will make food safer when it reaches our tables.

The IFSTL also creates permanent channels of communication between food regulators and producers from around the world, allowing them to work together to identify and resolve food safety challenges. This supports trade between countries and enables food safety standards to rise across the board.

I am proud to join IFSTL in celebrating their first of many anniversaries. I thank them for their work and commend their partners that have helped: the University of Maryland, the Joint Institute for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, the FDA, and Waters Corporation. Thank you.

HONORING MR. HERBERT M. SACHS

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Herbert M. Sachs for over fifty years of dedicated service to Maryland and his longstanding commitment to protecting and improving our region's water resources. In the countless water resource management projects he led to success, Mr. Sachs has made an indelible mark on our state and his efforts will have an enormous impact that will benefit us for many years to come.

From the beginning of his career, Mr. Sachs has been a true leader in solving environmental and natural resource issues in Maryland. In the early 1960s, Mr. Sachs played a critical role in creating and directing both the Maryland Department of Water Resources and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. For more than 40 years, he served in various positions at the Maryland Department of Planning as well as Director of the Water Resources Administration and Assistant Secretary at the Department of Natural Resources, overseeing efforts related to water pollution control, water resources management, wastewater treatment and flood control.

Mr. Sachs' model for success is distinguished by the integration and collaboration of all stakeholders. While serving as the Executive Director of the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin from 1992 until 1997, Mr. Sachs supervised efforts related to the coordination of water supply and activities between Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Washington, DC. In 1998 he returned to the State of Maryland at the Maryland Department of the Environment where he worked on the Coastal Bay Restoration Program, the Susquehanna River Basin Commission, the Patuxent River Commission and the Potomac River Basin, among others. In each position, Mr. Sachs applied his unparalleled knowledge and his spirit for team work to ensure that our water sources in the Chesapeake Bay and Potomac River Basin are preserved and protected.

Over the course of his career, Mr. Sachs has been recognized for his expertise, his passion and his good nature. He is a thoughtful leader who strives to find new and creative ways to solve problems and give back to his community. Mr. Sachs' dedication to the State of Maryland and to the conservation of our water resources is commendable and I thank him for his many years of outstanding service as well as for his visionary leadership and dedication to improving the environment.

IN HONOR OF FRED AND JAKKI NANCE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Fred and Jakki Nance who are the recipients of the 2012 Pan Award at Cleveland Public Theatre's Pandemonium 2012: House of Dreams Gala.

Founded in 1981 by James Levin, the Cleveland Public Theatre is an arts complex located in Cleveland's Detroit-Shoreway neighborhood. The Cleveland Public Theatre is recognized for shows that are often progressive, political, and provocative. It also serves the area's urban youth and homeless through educational programs. Cleveland Public Theatre's mission is to raise consciousness and nurture compassion through ground-breaking performances and life-changing educational programs.

Both Fred and Jakki Nance have long histories of community involvement and have committed their lives to improving Northeast Ohio. Jakki is a board member for the Rock n' Roll Hall of Fame & Museum, Union Club, Laurel School and the Thomas Moyer Judicial Center and Foundation. She is the president of Philanthropic Solutions and has already been a leader with the LeBron James Family Foundation, Cleveland Browns Foundation and Cleveland Clinic Foundation.

Fred Nance currently serves on the boards of the Cleveland Clinic, Greater Cleveland Partnership, The Cleveland Foundation and RPM International Inc. He has also been a board member for the Cleveland Museum of Art, BioEnterprise Inc. and the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland Foundation. He is integral in the leadership of the Ohio Business Roundtable and the 50 Club of Cleveland.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Fred and Jakki Nance who, because of their contributions to the community, are the winners of the 2012 Pan Award.

TRIBUTE TO OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST GABRIELLE DOUGLAS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gabby Douglas of West Des Moines, Iowa for her outstanding accomplishments in the 2012 Summer Olympic Games. Gabby will be remembered by history as the first African-American individual all-around champion and as the first American gymnast to earn a gold medal in both the individual all-around and team competitions in the same Olympics.

Gabby has been training in West Des Moines under former University of Iowa gymnastics coach Liang Chow for nearly two years. Originally from Virginia Beach, Gabby has dedicated her life to gymnastics since enrolling when she was just six years old. In 2010, Gabby felt it was time to take her training to the next level and moved halfway across the country to train under Coach Chow and make her Olympic dreams a reality. While Gabby's move was not an easy decision for her mother Natalie, or her two sisters Arielle and Joy, Gabby's move to Iowa has been a wonderful experience thanks to her host parents, Travis and Missy Parton of West Des Moines. Gabby quickly became another daughter to her host parents and another sister to their four daughters, Hailey, Leah, Lexi, and Elissa. In London, Gabby's two mothers stood side by side as they cheered Gabby to a first place finish and into the history books.

Gabby Douglas has shown America, and the world, that anything is possible through hard work and dedication. She has taken her newfound fame with elegance and humility, attributing her success to her supportive families and unwavering faith in God. It is no surprise to those who know Gabby that her infectious positive attitude and incredible athletic ability has captured the nation's attention. Gabby returns to America both as a champion and as a role model for millions of young Americans.

Mr. Speaker, witnessing the historic achievements of Gabby Douglas has captivated the nation and the world. Miss Douglas has represented the very best of Iowa's work ethic and people on the international stage, and it is a great honor to represent Gabby and the Partons in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating Gabby, thanking her supportive families, and welcoming all of our athletes home from a truly historic Summer Olympics in London.

HONORING ELIZABETH AND HENRY SNIPES

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr . JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, the union of Elizabeth and Henry Snipes has blessed us with descendants that have helped to shape our nation; One such descendant being Mr. Maceo Snipes who was a World War II veteran; and

Whereas, their union produced many well respected citizens, today we honor all of the matriarchs and patriarchs, who are pillars of strength for the Snipes and Turner families; and

Whereas, in our beloved Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, we are honored to have many members of the Snipes and Turner families, whom are some of our most productive citizens in our District; and

Whereas, family is one of the most honored and cherished institutions in the world, we take pride in knowing that families such as the Snipes and Turner families have set aside this time to fellowship with each other, honor one another and to pass along history to each other by meeting at this year's family reunion in Atlanta, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Snipes and Turner families;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim, July 7, 2012 as Snipes and Turner Family Reunion Day in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 7th day of July, 2012.

THE GREATER KANAWAH VALLEY FOUNDATION

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation on obtaining their National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations™ accreditation from the Community Foundations National Standards Board.

The Community Foundations National Standards Board was established as a supporting organization of the Council on Foundations, a nonprofit membership association of grant making foundations and corporations, to administer the National Standards. This board is responsible for upholding the quality, value, and integrity of the National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations™, the first and only accreditation program of its kind.

In the United States, community foundations serve tens of thousands of donors, administer more than $40 billion in charitable funds, and address the core concerns of more than 700 communities and regions. With such a presence—nationally and within local communities—comes responsibility.

Achieving confirmation and reconfirming compliance with National Standards is a rigorous process, guaranteeing that every community foundation that receives the designation has adhered to excellent philanthropic practice. This program requires community foundations to document their policies for governance, donor services, investments, grantmaking, community leadership, and administration.

The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation of Charleston, West Virginia has obtained its National Standards accreditation by demonstrating a commitment to operational quality, integrity, accountability, and adherence to the highest standards for grantmaking.

On behalf of the residents of Charleston, I congratulate The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation on receiving its National Standards accreditation and commend the foundation's dedicated service to Charleston and communities in West Virginia.

HONORING CAPTAIN JOE MORRIS

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Joe Morris, who retires from law enforcement after having completed over 40 years of outstanding service to his community and Western North Carolina.

Joe has shown devotion to upholding the rule of law and ensuring the safety of our mountain communities throughout his career. He began in 1964 as a Highway Patrol Officer, a position in which he excelled until he retired as a Master Trooper in 1985.

He later served as a Captain for Sheriff Homer Holbrooks at the Macon County Sheriffs Department until 2002. Joe once again returned to service the same year, working as the Jail Administrator and as a Captain at the Cherokee County Sheriffs Department. It is from this position that we can celebrate his retirement.

Through literally decades of service, Joe has shown extraordinary dedication to law enforcement in Western North Carolina, and as has had a particularly important impact on Macon and Cherokee Counties. As his nephew, I could not be prouder. Thank you, Uncle Joe, for all of your service to Western North Carolina.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JOHN BOULÈ II

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and service of a friend and constituent, Colonel John Boulè II of Plattsburgh, New York, and to congratulate him on his upcoming retirement. Col. Boulè has a long and decorated career, rising to his current position as Commander of the New York District for the Army Corps of Engineers. This country and the State of New York are fortunate to have benefitted from his years of dedicated service.

Col. Boulè graduated in 1986 from the United States Military Academy at West Point with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. He went on to earn two Master of Science degrees from Stanford University, and later used those skills to help further the careers of fellow soldiers by teaching at West Point. Col. Boulè also served the Army in a variety of operational, command, and staff assignments in the U.S. and overseas including in Iraq, Somalia, and in New York at Fort Drum with the 41st Engineer Battalion, 10th Mountain Division. His decorated career includes the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, six awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, the Ranger Tab, and the Combat Action Badge.

In addition to his work overseas, Col. Boulè has been a positive force for change in New

York and in my congressional district. Since coming to Congress, I have benefited from his knowledge and experience in our efforts to improve Plattsburgh Harbor, attend to the district after Hurricane Irene, and strengthen Fort Drum. His dedication to these efforts has always helped to keep New York moving forward, and I am proud to have worked with him.

It has been a pleasure and honor to work with Col. Boulè. On a personal note, I am glad to have John as a friend and look forward to seeing him in Plattsburgh visiting with his family in the years ahead. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating him on his retirement and wishing him well in whatever comes next.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE ROCHESTER GIRL SCOUT TECH TEAM, THE HIPPIE PANDAS

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate Emily Sabo, Carolyn Grant, Ashley Stafford and Jodie Reese—members of the Hippie Pandas Girl Scout team of Rochester, NY. Along with their coaches Cheryl and Christa Lawniczak, the Hippie Pandas recently pioneered an invention that is preventing disease, and saving lives.

The young ladies of the Hippie Pandas recently partnered with engineers at the Rochester Institute of Technology and Eastman Kodak Company to design and build a device to change the world. Through extensive research and hard work, the young women created a solar-powered pasteurization system that processes raw milk. As I write, this invention is providing women in developing countries with an easy and inexpensive way to access safe milk for themselves and their families.

This invention was spurred by a desire to help women in Nicaragua, where unpasteurized milk has caused women to suffer from higher-than-normal rates of miscarriage and disease. They've done exactly that, as their invention has already been put to use in Nicaragua, and requests have come in to expand its use to other countries.

Across the world, women face the tremendous challenge of accessing safe, affordable and secure health care. Indeed, in many countries, lack of resources and gender discrimination conspire to leave women vulnerable to contracting preventable disease. Every day, some of the most accomplished and heralded professionals in the world work to address these challenges. Yet, quietly, a small group of dedicated young women in Western New York solved one such challenge with an incredible invention.

Through their hard work, the Hippie Pandas have helped change the course of life for women a world away. In the process, they have shown this Congress, and this country, the important role that science and technology play in making our world a better place.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent such intelligent, innovative, and accomplished young women. Through their work, the Hippie Pandas have shown the best that the Rochester area has to offer. Their scientific and technological knowledge, together with a deep passion for serving a greater good, embodies the values that serve as a foundation for my hometown and our Nation.

In honor of the Hippie Pandas' service to the global community, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Emily, Carolyn, Ashley, Jodie, Cheryl and Christa, and their mentors at Rochester Institute of Technology and Eastman Kodak Co. for their innovative work and dedication to science and technology. I speak for all of Western New York in expressing our pride and gratitude for the life-changing work the Hippie Pandas have done.

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD AND DARLENE LUNDQUIST

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Edward and Darlene Lundquist on the very special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary. Their milestone took place Saturday, September 8, 2012.

Mr. and Mrs. Lundquist have been a happy couple since their days as high school sweethearts in Corning, Iowa. Never ones to waste time, Edward and Darlene eloped in neighboring Missouri on September 8, 1942 and haven't looked back.

Edward and Darlene have resided in Osceola, Iowa since 1959 when they purchased a lumberyard that is now in its third generation. In addition to building their successful business, Mr. and Mrs. Lundquist have also raised three children—Nancy, Jim and Alan—who have blessed them with eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, with another on the way. The Lundquists continue to be a visible and important part of their community, and it is an honor to represent them in the United States Congress.

Edward and Darlene's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa's values. I salute this lovely couple on their 70th year of life together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

DR. MURTAZA BAXAMUSA—FELLOWSHIP HONOREE OF THE YEAR!

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to proclaim that there are several unsung community leaders in our nation that deserves our utmost admiration and recognition.

One such leader hails from my 51st Congressional District, Dr. Murtaza Baxamusa, the Director of Planning and Development for the Family Housing Corporation of the San Diego County Building and Trades Council, as well as an Adjunct Faculty with the Sol Price School of Public Policy at the University of Sothern California. He is a certified planner by the American Planning Association. He has over 10 years experience in economic development and sustainable urban planning and works with several non-profits to expand affordable housing in the San Diego area.

Dr. Baxamusa is a founding board member of the Middle Class Taxpayers Association and serves on the Board of Directors of the San Diego City-County Reinvestment Taskforce, Utility Consumer Action Network, and Cleveland National Forest Foundation. He writes the blog, Middle Class Thinker for VoiceofSanDiego.org and serves on the real estate panel for the San Diego Union Tribune.

Dr. Baxamusa received his doctoral (PhD) in Planning from the University of Southern California (USC) in 2008. His study on community benefits agreements received the award for the best doctoral dissertation in planning use at USC and was published in the academic journal of record in American planning education. He received a Master's degree in Planning at USC, and a Bachelor's degree in Architecture from the Indian Institute of Technology.

In his last position as the Deputy Director at the Center on Policy Initiatives, Dr. Baxamusa authored numerous policy briefs and studies on issues concerning working families and is frequently cited by the media and legislators as an expert on these issues. His public policy accomplishments include: expanding the living wage to outsourcing, economic prosperity in the General Plan, and responsible contracting. His report on city finances, "Bottom Line," is one of the most referenced municipal budgets in the city of San Diego. The City of San Diego proclaimed June 17, 2008 to be "Dr. Baxamusa Day" in recognition of his work in the city.

Prior to moving to San Diego, Dr. Baxamusa was a researcher at the USC Center for Economic Development. He worked on sustainable development strategies for several cities in Southern California. The Center was recognized as the National Center for Eco-Industrial Development by three federal agencies.

Congratulations are indeed in order today as we honor and recognize Dr. Murtaza Baxamusa as the John S. Lyons Foundation's Fellowship Honoree of 2012!

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE, CLEVELAND BRANCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Cleveland Branch.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was founded in 1909 by W.E.B. Du Bois, and Ida B. Wells-Barnett, among others. The NAACP initially began as an organization fighting against discrimination and for protection under the law for African-Americans. The NAACP's mission

is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination.

The Cleveland Branch of the NAACP was established in 1912 by a small group that consisted of a cook, machinist, engineer, caterer, janitor, tailor, barber and seven postal workers. By 1914, the Cleveland Branch had 214 members. Throughout its history, the NAACP Cleveland Branch has worked to end discrimination in area schools, businesses, public establishments, and hospitals. It has fought for equal justice from the law, employment opportunities and voting rights among other campaigns. It has been led by 32 presidents, including former Cleveland City Council president George Forbes, who served from 1993 to 2012. Today, the NAACP Cleveland Branch is comprised of 15,000 members and is led by James L. Hardiman.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the National Association of Colored People, Cleveland Branch on 100 years of working for civil rights.

HONORING POWELL'S BOOKSTORE

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Powell's Bookstore, a Portland landmark, on the occasion of its 41st anniversary.

One of the benefits of my job is an opportunity to become a part of a lot of exciting events: Groundbreakings, anniversaries, ribbon-cuttings, commencement speeches. On August 25th, in Portland, I shared a truly unique moment. It's one of the reasons why people come from all over the world to share in the Portland experience. No tour of Portland is complete without a visit to Powell's City of Books. This is not just because this bookstore is the one attraction in Portland that's open 365 days a year, and bad weather doesn't stop you. In fact bad weather makes the trip to Powell's even more fun. It's iconic but I think few people really understand why and how it got to be that way.

Portland is the livability capital of the United States. And livability is about things like bikes and beer, about restaurants that are locally owned, gluten-free organic and free-range with everything sourced from less than four blocks from the restaurant. It's a powerful concept, to be local, human-scale and high quality.

Think about Powell's. It's local in the extreme, but it's been on the web for almost 20 years now. The staff is amazing! It's full of Reed college double majors in physics and philosophy who are members of the longshoreman's union and speak Swahili and Gaelic.

It's probably the best place in Portland for a first date. You really get to know someone wandering through the stacks at Powell's with them. It's a great place to ditch a kid for a long period of time, although that sometimes makes Michael and the staff a little nervous. It is the ultimate Christmas experience as all of the last-minute shoppers flock here. It's not just what you get, it's what you do, sharing in the frenzy of the wild-eyed, strange people who are wandering the aisles at the last moment.

Powell's is uniquely Portland because it is a family enterprise. On August 25th, I was joined by Alice Powell who is Michael's partner in life and a professional in terms of counseling that I think often has helped move the institution along. There may have been a few moments in the history of taking risks in this enterprise where maybe another income made a difference.

Michael Powell is a shy semi-curmudgeon, so it's hard to tell about all the contributions that Michael has made to the community. It's not just about his business. He's one of the people who understand that what's good for the community is good for his business, and what's good for his business is good for his community. For the better part of these 40 years, I've had a chance to work with him on a wide variety of projects, from parks and planning, to transportation and downtown development. Michael has helped lead the charge for business people to tax themselves to improve the quality of the downtown experience. For 20 years he's been not just active, but a leader, in bringing the streetcar to Portland and then expanding it. Because of Michael's efforts, the streetcar is one of those experiences that make Portland unique.

Now with their daughter Emily, it's been three generations of Powell's involved with this institution going head-to-head against the big chain establishments. With all the changes in publishing, all the changes in the economy, they've been a constant. Powell's has been a leader in ways that have made a big difference to us all.

I was asked to share a memory of Powell's, which was kind of hard because I've got so many of them over the years.

There is one experience that stands out. I love books. I'm a library junkie. I have my own study carrel in the Library of Congress, perhaps the most magnificent building in Washington, DC. I was having a tour for some Oregonians that were in town, going through the Library of Congress. We went up the staircase to look over that magnificent reading room, just a spectacular sight. It is hard to believe that it was built by the Corps of Engineers over 100 years ago.

While we're standing there, looking down at the reading room, there were people from another tour crowding behind the Plexiglas, quietly oohing and ahhing. I turn to my right and there's someone wearing a Powell's City of Books t-shirt. I interrupt to say, ''That's cool, I'm from Portland, I represent the Powell's.'' Before you know it, the whole tour is disrupted because people are noticing the Powell's shirt and they're talking about how much they love Powell's. I thought it was a perfect expression of what Powell's means to Portland and to people around the country. Congratulations on 41 years. Thank you for enriching our city and our experience. We look forward to many more years of your success.

RECOGNIZING THE POTENTIAL OF COMMUNITY LENDING

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize some recent innovations in private lending to graduate and undergraduate students in U.S. colleges and universities. I also want to encourage our nation's wealthy individuals to think about participating in these programs as one way to give back to our communities. Since its inception in 2011, the Social Financial company, or SoFi, has offered compelling community-based lending and consolidation programs, and this academic year will assist students from 45 colleges and universities across the country.

At its core, SoFi demonstrates the powerful idea of community lending. It brings alumni, students, and schools together to ensure students' debt burdens are manageable. For the upcoming 2012–13 academic year, SoFi used its equity base and additional capital from alumni to secure $80 million to finance, fund, and support new student loans. This innovative student loan solution benefits students, alumni, higher education institutions, and our nation. The funds from school-specific lending pools allow students to enjoy comparatively low-interest loan rates and opportunities to refinance previous loans. In addition, the alumni that contribute to the pool earn a significant and low-risk return, while schools gain access to low-cost funding.

Mr. Speaker, although I do not expect private lending schemes to supplant available federal loan structures, I believe Social Financial's commitment to the betterment and transformation of the financial services landscape for students sets an example for how to innovate in this field. I commend SoFi for its hard work, community partnerships and innovation, and congratulate SoFi on its continuous expansion to schools across the U.S. In order to tackle student debt, we will need to be creative, in exactly the ways SoFi has been. I encourage those who have the means and desire to give back to follow Social Financial's example and invest in the education of the next generation.

HONORING FANNIE SHERIDAN

HON. HENRY C. ''HANK'' JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this one woman . . . who has given of herself to her community, church and family; and

Whereas, Mrs. Fannie Sheridan's spirit is present in DeKalb County, Georgia for all to see, being a mother, a community worker, neighbor and friend; and

Whereas, this giant of a woman was born in Eufula, Alabama to Maceo and Loftie Tennelle on October 12, 1925, she has been on the move ever since as a woman of God, touching lives in Alabama, Chicago, Illinois, Gary, Indiana and Decatur, Georgia; and

Whereas, this remarkable woman gave of herself, her time, her talent and her life; she never asked for fame or fortune just fairness for the people, she was our quiet storm, a spark that starts a flame; and

Whereas, Mrs. Fannie Sheridan led by doing behind the scenes, she encouraged all those around her who wanted to make a difference, be it her family, her elected officials,

her neighbors and her church members at Saint Philip AME Church; she was a virtuous woman, a woman of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting of her community and our district; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a Congressional Recognition on Mrs. Fannie Sheridan for her leadership, friendship and service to all of the citizens throughout the Nation; a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby attest to the 112th Congress that Mrs. Fannie Sheridan of Decatur, DeKalb County, Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Recognition": Mrs. Fannie Sheridan, U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 13th day of July, 2012.

TOM LEMMON—JOHN S. LYONS FOUNDATION LABOR LEADER OF THE YEAR!

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to proclaim that organized labor and its leaders are often the sole-source fighting for the rights of working men and women all across this great nation for many decades.

One such leader from my 51st Congressional District, who has been at the forefront of this unified labor movement in Southern California, is the very dynamic Business Manager of the San Diego County Building & Construction Trades Council AFL–CIO, Tom Lemmon. In Tom's capacity, he oversees twenty-two affiliates with separate jurisdictions, in addition to directing fourteen independently operated joint labor-apprenticeships.

In addition to his other accomplishments, Tom is Chairman of the Board for the San Diego Buildings Trades Housing Corporation that owns and operates a four hundred and fifty-unit affordable housing complex in National City that he lived in during his early teens.

Tom served as member of the Independent Citizens Oversight Committee for the San Diego Schools Prop MM Construction Bond, he was the Chair of the San Diego Community College District's Construction Sub-Committee, and further served as Chair to the Advisory Committee for the Tech Academy which is located at Kearney High School.

Tom is currently a very active member of the United Way and still finds time to serve as a trustee for the Western States Health and Welfare Benefits Trust Fund; he is the President of the Imperial County Building Trades Council. Tom is also a long time member of the Old Mission Beach Athletic Club having served their Board for several years in the capacity of their 2nd Vice President.

Tom attended San Diego Mesa College before enlisting in the United States Marine Corps, earning an honorable discharge. He then earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Labor Studies from the National Labor College.

Tom started his career in the building and construction trades as an entry-level construction worker and took full advantage of educational opportunities offered by the Insulators & Asbestos Workers Local Union #5 Apprenticeship Training Trust. After gaining experience in the field and classroom, Tom rapidly advanced to managing a variety of major construction projects throughout the Southwest and Hawaii. He is a life-long resident of San Diego where he still resides with his wonderful wife and daughter.

We need to congratulate Tom Lemmon for his many years of dedicated service to the organized labor movement in San Diego and to working men and women all across this great nation!

TRIBUTE TO TIM CONLEY AND THE PEOPLE OF MORGAN COUNTY

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Morgan County Judge Executive Tim Conley and the first responders of West Liberty, Kentucky in honor of their steadfast resolve and perseverance to rebuild and recover the town of West Liberty in the midst of disaster.

On Friday March 2, 2012, thousands of lives changed across southern and eastern Kentucky, when multiple deadly tornadoes ravaged our region, including an EF–3 tornado that destroyed downtown West Liberty with winds reaching 165 mph. Homes were leveled, businesses and community centers annihilated, families were displaced all over the countryside, and loved ones were lost. County Judge Tim Conley, West Liberty Mayor Jim Rupe, and first responders took charge immediately, serving as heroes both during and after the storm. Along with many others, Judge Conley risked his own life to rush a family into shelter at City Hall, barely hanging on as the violent eye of the storm nearly swept them away. Within days of the disaster, Conley made tough decisions to get the county back into operation after the tornado shut down every bank, grocery store, gas station, and government building in town. Through his dedication and hard work, Conley kept up morale, supplied vital information to residents, and rallied the community as they began to envision a new future for West Liberty.

Thousands of volunteers and tireless emergency crews helped Kentucky families get back on their feet after the deadly tornado outbreak. Our brave first responders searched every home for survivors, staying awake until everyone was accounted for and had received medical attention. The volunteer efforts ranged from people of all ages, including Boy Scouts and Disabled American Veterans, who fed and clothed dozens of families in addition to cleaning and rebuilding homes and businesses. Volunteer efforts were so abundant that FEMA did not have to set up any temporary shelters, due to the numerous families in West Liberty that selflessly took in their neighbors and family members.

As West Liberty continues to rebuild and look forward, we must remember and honor the hundreds of first responders, local officials such as Tim Conley, and volunteers who worked hard to lend a hand in the darkest hour. It was through their selfless service, resilience, and valiant leadership that helped put Morgan County on the path to recovery.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Tim Conley, our first responders, and the numerous volunteers throughout Kentucky for their heroic acts of bravery, compassion for those in need, and determination to recover and succeed.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CAPTAIN EMILIANO TELLADO

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Captain Emiliano Tellado of the United States Army for his dedication and service to our Nation. Captain Tellado recently moved on from his assignment as a Congressional Liaison for the Army to become the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Land Command Stand Up Team Special Initiatives Group Leader.

A native of Puerto Rico, Captain Tellado graduated from Norwich University and earned his Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and International Studies. Following his graduation from Norwich University in May 2003, Captain Tellado was commissioned in the Field Artillery branch. His first assignment was with 5th Battalion, 25th Field Artillery Regiment, 4th Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, Light, where he served as a Fire Direction Officer and Platoon Leader. During that time he deployed as part of Combined Joint Task Force–76 to Afghanistan from March 2006 to November 2007. Upon his arrival he was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, Light, where he served as a Battalion Fire Support Officer and a Rifle Company Commander, deploying for a second time.

For his second deployment, Captain Tellado deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom as part of the "Surge" from November 2007 to January 2009. Throughout his deployments Captain Tellado led soldiers in combat at both the platoon and company level in Afghanistan and Iraq. His awards and decorations are as extensive as they are impressive, and include: Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal, 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Badge, Ranger Tab, and Parachutist Badge.

After transferring command in August, he attended the Field Artillery Captains Career Course. Upon completion, Captain Tellado was selected for the prestigious Army Congressional Fellowship Program, where, as part of the Program, he earned his Master's in Legislative Affairs from George Washington University.

This Master's would serve him well, as Captain Tellado was then chosen to serve as a Defense Department Fellow on the House Foreign Affairs Committee. He utilized the skills he learned from his Master's program, together with his extensive deployment experience, to provide expert advice on Middle East and South Asian affairs.

In January 2011, he arrived in the House Army Liaison Division where he assumed his

duties as a Legislative Liaison and continued to honorably serve as a conduit between the Army and Congress.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a pleasure to work closely with Captain Tellado over the last few years of his decorated career, both as a Fellow for the Foreign Affairs Committee, and as a Legislative Liaison for Congress to the Army. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending Captain Tellado for dedicating his life in service to his country.

For all he and his wife have given, and continue to give to our country, we are in their debt. We wish him and his wife Sindia Luz Tellado all the best as they continue their journey together, wherever that may lead them.

IN RECOGNITION OF BROOKLYN CENTRE'S BICENTENNIAL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the bicentennial celebration of Brooklyn Centre, a historic neighborhood within the City of Cleveland.

Brooklyn Centre was founded by James Fish of Connecticut in 1812, marking the first settlement west of the Cuyahoga River. Just a few years later, more than 200 people had begun living in the area. On June 1, 1818, Brooklyn Township was formally organized. Throughout the next several decades immigrants from Germany, Poland and Ireland moved to Brooklyn Centre. The area became known for its tanners, shoemakers, and other skilled tradesmen. Brooklyn Centre was annexed by the City of Cleveland in the latter half of the 19th century, after which it began to grow rapidly.

Less than a century later, following World War II, the residents of Brooklyn Centre began focusing on the preservation and revitalization of their neighborhood. In 1946, the Southwest Citizens Area Council was formed. The Brooklyn Center Community Association, also known as Archwood Concerned Citizens, and the Brooklyn Centre Historical Society were founded in 1978. In 1981, the Crossroads Development Corporation was established. In 1984, the City of Cleveland recognized the historic importance and architectural significance of the neighborhood with the creation of the Brooklyn Centre Historic District. More recently, Friends of Big Creek and the Brooklyn Centre Naturalists have been established and the new Jones Home National Historic District was designated. In November 2008, Brooklyn Centre became a National Wildlife Federation registered Community Wildlife Habitat Site.

The Brooklyn Centre Bicentennial celebration began on Memorial Day with a ceremony at the Brooklyn Centre Burying Grounds, which was founded in 1835. The neighborhood will also celebrate with a parade, community picnic and historic home tour, among other festivities.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing 200 years of history and culture in Cleveland's Brooklyn Centre neighborhood.

HONORING IRIS M. ARCHER AS 2012 ANGELS IN ADOPTION HONOREE

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Iris M. Archer of Macon, GA, as a 2012 Angels in Adoption Honoree for her outstanding advocacy of adoption in the State of Georgia.

Mrs. Archer is the founding director of Covenant Care Services, a statewide adoption agency based in Macon and serving all of Georgia. Mrs. Archer founded the organization and served as Executive Director from 1989 until her retirement in May 2011.

Adoptive parents often endure a long journey that requires them to endure a great deal of sacrifice. Their journey begins long before they ever meet their bundle of joy and to prepare for this momentous occasion they often secure an advocate to help them navigate the arduous process. However, in the late 1980s, during a time when unplanned pregnancy was still very much considered shameful, one woman noticed that a very important player in this process often did not have a voice in the world of adoption. While adoptive parents were cooing over the new addition to their family with their advocates by their sides, the baby's birthmother was left by herself to overcome the sadness that often accompanies the difficult decision she made.

Mrs. Archer felt that she could be that voice for the birthmother. Utilizing her degree in counseling and previous work experience for a national adoption agency, she set out on a mission to offer counseling and education to mothers of unplanned pregnancy and offered herself as an advocate for them all around the state. By 1989, her one-woman mission had grown into a full-time cause and Covenant Care Services was established. In that time, she worked to change general adoption practices to identify a triad that included separate advocates for the family, baby and birthmother. The triad's purpose was to alleviate conflict of interest and ensure that all parties are fully served.

As the demand for their services increased around the state, Mrs. Archer began to expand the organization. By the mid-1990s Covenant Care had staff in five communities around the state and employed seventeen full-time staff members. At the insistence of Mrs. Archer, Covenant Care was built as an organization that depends on fundraising for two-thirds of its annual budget. This means that the agency is not dependent on adoption revenue to operate. Not only does it allow the agency to offer some of the lowest adoption fees in the state but more importantly the ability to emphasize education and counseling for the mother without the pressure of being forced to choose adoption. Covenant Care's work has resulted in an average of 25 adoptions each year, nearly 600 adoptions since 1989.

Iris Archer is a woman who simply saw a problem and dared to believe that she could do something about it, and something she did. Mr. Speaker, for her tireless devotion to the entire adoptive family, please join me in honoring Mrs. Iris M. Archer as a true "Angel in Adoption."

IN RECOGNITION OF NEW AVENUES FOR INDEPENDENCE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of New Avenues to Independence, a volunteer organization that provides services to individuals with disabilities.

New Avenues to Independence was founded in 1952 by a group of parents with disabled children. Instead of sending their children off to live in institutions, the founding parents had a vision of an organization that would facilitate independent lives for their children and others with disabilities. For the past sixty years, New Avenues to Independence has provided opportunities for employment and education to the individuals it serves, in addition to various forms of therapy and recreational activities both inside and outside of its group homes. New Avenues to Independence serves people with a wide range of disabilities and is committed to meeting the specific needs of each individual.

Since its founding, New Avenues to Independence has grown in the number of people it serves as well as the number of services it provides. There are now eight homes located in the Northeast Ohio area, serving 600 disabled people each year. Over the years, New Avenues to Independence has received many awards recognizing its contributions to the community. This year marks the 60th anniversary of its founding.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring New Avenues to Independence, an organization that has provided individuals with disabilities the means to lead independent lives for the past sixty years.

HONORING TERYLE L. BERRY

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this one woman . . . who has given of herself to her country, family and community; and

Whereas, Ms. Teryle L. Berry served six (6) years in the United States Navy, she was an educator, community advocate and business owner; and

Whereas, Ms. Berry gave of her time and talent to uplift those in need by demonstrating unwavering commitment to serving the citizens of her community, her family and her country; and

Whereas, she was a mother, a daughter, a sister and a friend; she was a woman of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting and service to our district; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia recognizes Ms. Teryle L. Berry as a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby attest to the 112th Congress that Ms. Teryle L. Berry is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional

Honor'' by declaring Ms. Teryle L. Berry U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 14th day of July, 2012.

HONORING 2012 UPPER PENINSULA OF MICHIGAN VETERAN OF THE YEAR

HON. DAN BENISHEK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, let it be known that it is an honor and pleasure to pay tribute to Corporal Richard M. Morrison for his extraordinary service to our country both on and off the battlefield, for which he has been named the 2012 Upper Peninsula of Michigan Veteran of the Year.

Corporal Morrison served in the Fighting 4th Division of the U.S. Marine Corps. He is a survivor of the Battle of Iwo Jima, and was awarded the World War II Victory Medal and Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal with two Bronze Stars.

Long after he retired his Marine Corps' uniform, Corporal Morrison has continued to serve our country as a public servant and mentor to our veterans. He has dedicated his life to serving veterans and their families in communities throughout Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Corporal Morrison is currently affiliated with the Walter W. Cole American Legion, the Marine Corps League Detachment and Military Order of the Devil Dogs among other organizations. Corporal Morrison has also been elected as the Adjutant, Vice Commander and Commander of American Legion Post 301, as well as the American Legion 11th District Commander.

For his more than 25 years of work as a Michigan Department of Veterans Affairs Service Officer and his 8 years as Chairman of the American Legion Department of Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Committee, the American Legion officially named their annual officer service school the ''Richard Morrison Service Officer School.''

During 2012, Corporal Morrison attended all American Legion district and zone meetings; visited four Marine Corps Detachments; served on the 2012 Michigan Marine Corps League State Convention Committee; taught students about military history at six local schools; trained American Legion Service Officers; and was a member of the Delta County Veterans Council Funeral Honor Guard.

On behalf of the citizens of Michigan's First District, it is my privilege to recognize Corporal Richard M. Morrison as the 2012 Upper Peninsula of Michigan Veteran of the Year for his service, sacrifice, and continued patriotism.

RECOGNIZING 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. On September 22, 1862 President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation as of January 1, 1863 all slaves residing in the states in rebellion against the Union would be forever free. President Lincoln's bold move changed our Nation for the better and is a defining moment in American history. In honor of this historic moment many organizations from coast to coast are hosting celebrations.

In my district, radio station Classical KUSC, MusicUNTOLD and the Colburn Foundation are partnering together to support a 150th Anniversary Emancipation Proclamation concert. The concert program will consist of solo and duet performances interspersed with spoken texts describing the American journey from slavery to the election of President Barack Obama. The concert will be preceded by a lecture about the music and the Civil War era giving participants a historical context of the inspiring music following.

Featured artists represent a wide range of styles and have appeared on the stages of great opera houses and concert halls worldwide. Artists include tenor George Shirley, baritone Donnie Ray Albert, soprano Latonia Moore, violinist Sanford Allen and Annelle Gregory, violist Nokuthula Ngwenyama, soprano Jammieca Mott, composer-pianist Richard Thompson and pianist Lukas Swidzinski, Polli Chambers-Salazar, and Althea Waites.

In past years, John Malveaux, president of the Long Beach Central Arts Association and a longtime arts promoter who runs MusicUNTOLD and Classical KUSC radio station have presented an annual Juneteenth Concert in Long Beach. Promoting historical awareness through music has been a strong tradition of MusicUNTOLD and Classical KUSC radio stations. I commend their tireless work in the Long Beach community.

Mr. Speaker, the Emancipation Proclamation established a moral strength that reverberates throughout American history. The Emancipation Proclamation was a milestone along the road to slavery's final destruction and has justly assumed its hallowed place among the great documents of human freedom.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 199TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF LAKE ERIE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 199th anniversary of the Battle of Lake Erie.

Fought on September 10, 1813 during the War of 1812, the Battle of Lake Erie was a naval victory for the Americans led by Master Commandant Oliver Hazard Perry. The American fleet consisted of nine vessels: Brig *Lawrence,* Brig *Niagara,* Brig *Caledonia,* Schooner *Ariel,* Schooner *Scorpion,* Schooner *Somers,* Sloop *Trippe,* Schooner *Porcupine,* Schooner *Tigress* and Schooner *Ohio* carrying 557 crewmen. Commander Robert Heriot Barclay led the British forces and their six vessels: the *Detroit, Queen Charlotte, Lady Prevost,* Brig *Hunter, Little Belt* and *Chippeway.*

The Battle of Lake Erie, waged over control of Fort Malden, started early in the morning. Following hours of fierce gunfight, the American flagship, the *Lawrence* had been disabled. However, the *Niagara* had been spared and within another half hour, Perry and his crew from the *Lawrence* had moved over to the *Niagara* from which they led the Americans to victory. They had captured all of the British vessels.

This year's celebration will span from August 30 to September 8. It will feature performances by the U.S. Coast Guard Dixieland Jazz Band at the Port of Cleveland Harbor and the Navy Band Concert at Catawba Island Club. This year's events have been selected to be a lead up to next year's bicentennial celebration.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of the 199th anniversary of the Battle of Lake Erie.

HONORING MARGARET JEAN LABORN

HON. HENRY C. ''HANK'' JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, twenty-nine years ago a virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve in the Government of the United States of America; and

Whereas, Ms. Margaret Jean Laborn began her career service with two years in the United States Marine Corps and since 1987, has served in the United States Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) retiring today as an Economic Development Assistant; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents in both military and civilian service giving the citizens of our District a friend to help those in need, a fearless leader and a servant to all who wants to insure that the system works for everyone; and

Whereas, Ms. Margaret Jean Laborn is a cornerstone in our community that has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Margaret Jean Laborn on her retirement and to wish her well in her new endeavors;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. ''HANK'' JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim July 31, 2012 as Ms. Margaret Jean Laborn Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 31st day of July, 2012.

HONORING MR. ROMAN PUCINSKI AND HIS WORK UNCOVERING THE KATYN MASSACRE

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Roman C. Pucinski, whose tireless efforts helped shed light on the horrific Katyn Massacre of 1940. Mr. Pucinski was a leader

in the Polish-American community in Chicago, serving as a U.S. Representative and an Alderman. He passed away on September 25, 2002, but I rise to honor him today because some of his most important life's work will be available to the public for the first time this week. Beginning today, September 10th, the materials related to revealing the Katyn Massacre, that he spent much of his career in Congress working to compile, will be declassified and put on display at the National Archives. I am certain that he would be overcome with emotion if he were able to see the fruits of his labor on this special day.

During World War II, Poland was invaded by Nazi Germany on September 1, 1939, then by the Soviet Union on September 17th. The Soviet Army met little resistance as it advanced through Poland from the east, because Polish troops were ordered not to engage, incorrectly thinking that the Soviets were there to help. The Soviets subsequently took thousands of Polish prisoners of war. Soviet troops, by the order of Joseph Stalin and the Politburo, ordered approximately 22,000 executions of Polish military officers, police officers, and other government officials. These executions are now known as the Katyn Massacre. Nazi troops found the mass graves in 1943 and the Soviet Union denied any responsibility, and maintained that position until 1990.

Leading to the Soviet Union's acknowledgement of crime, Congress established the Select Committee on the Katyn Forest Massacre from 1951–1952, chaired by Congressman Ray J. Madden of Indiana. The committee hired Mr. Pucinski as the bilingual Chief Investigator for the committee because of his experience as an investigative reporter with the Chicago Sun-Times, and his fluency in both Polish and English. Mr. Pucinski worked endlessly to provide conclusive documentation that it was indeed the Soviets, and not the Nazis, who were responsible for this heinous crime. Traveling across Europe and the United States, he found witnesses, took depositions, and uncovered secret documents. He worked to uncover the truth about a great tragedy of World War II, and has helped ease the pain of those affected by Katyn Massacre. I am happy to say that many of the documents he helped uncover and compiled are finally available for public viewing. These documents will serve as a reminder for all visitors to the National Archives the horrors of World War II and the sacrifices of those who fought for freedom.

Mr. Pucinski was born in Buffalo, New York, but grew up in Chicago. He graduated from Northwestern University, and while there began his work at the Chicago Sun-Times. During World War II, Mr. Pucinski served in the U.S. Army Air Forces where he became a Captain and led his bombardier in the first B–29 bomb raid on Tokyo. Following the war, Mr. Pucinski attended John Marshall Law School in Chicago and graduated in 1949. He then went on to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1959 to 1973 and as a Chicago Alderman from 1973 until 1991. Throughout Mr. Pucinski's lifetime, he was a leader for both Chicago and the city's expansive Polish-American community.

Please join me in honoring Mr. Pucinski's work to investigate and uncover the truth behind the Katyn Massacre. I commend his efforts not only as an investigator, but also as an elected official and I am happy his important work will be available to educate Americans for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF CAMP WALTON SCHOOLHOUSE

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize the 100th Anniversary of Camp Walton School located in Fort Walton Beach, Florida.

Construction on the Camp Walton School began in 1911 by a group of local citizens who sought to ensure that their children would have a permanent location to pursue their education. Located in historic downtown Fort Walton Beach, the school opened in 1912 with 15 students and one teacher. The one-room schoolhouse held classes for eight grades. In 1927, a second room was added to the schoolhouse for students in grades 9 through 12. The Camp Walton School continued to serve as a bastion of education until 1936, when a hurricane damaged the school.

After the hurricane of 1936, the local residents decided to build a new school for their community; however, the Camp Walton School building continued to be used by the local community. During World War II, the building served as an apartment house for several families. In 1974, the building's owners donated the Camp Walton School to the Junior Service League to restore it to its original status and preserve it as a historic museum. The Junior Service League, in conjunction with the Okaloosa County School Board, completed the restoration of the Camp Walton School in 1976 when it was reopened to the public.

The City of Fort Walton Beach assumed operation of the Camp Walton School in 1986, and since that time, it has come to serve thousands of local students and visitors from across the United States and around the world. The Camp Walton School is an important historical piece of the Northwest Florida community, and in 2010 it was placed on the National Register of Country Schools.

Education is the foundation for future success, and it has served as one of the cornerstones of our nation. The citizens of the Fort Walton Beach community realized this important fact and came together to ensure that their children had a suitable location to pursue their studies. One hundred years later, the Camp Walton School still stands as a testament to what can be achieved when a community comes together to preserve its history.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to recognize the 100th Birthday Celebration of Camp Walton Schoolhouse. With the dedication and commitment of the Fort Walton Beach Community, this historic site will continue to teach future generations about their shared history and inspire them to achieve great success.

JOB PROTECTION AND RECESSION PREVENTION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 8, which should be called the Protecting America's Wealthiest 2 Percent Act of 2012.

Our main priority in the House of Representatives must be to support middle class families. It should not be to protect the wealthiest 2 percent of Americans by extending the so-called Bush tax cuts for them. As a body, we should work together to make our nation's tax system more equitable while continuing to support the middle class.

I opposed the so-called Bush tax cut plans in 2001 and 2003. In the aftermath of these cuts, federal revenue fell, real GDP grew at a rate less than 2 percent and the cumulative deficit grew to $6 trillion. Today, I rise in support of the Democratic Substitute to H.R. 8 which extends all income tax cuts for the 98 percent of Americans and asks the richest households to contribute to deficit reduction by reverting back to the 1990s rates—a decade in which the workforce grew by 22 million jobs and saw the largest budget surplus in recent history.

My colleagues across the aisle have shown that their priority is to protect only privileged Americans by giving away tax breaks to the wealthiest in this country and continuing to ignore the needs of middle class families. Republicans are holding tax cuts for 98 percent of Americans and 97 percent of small businesses hostage to deficit-busting tax breaks for the top 2 percent, while rewarding Big Oil, special interests, and corporations that outsource American jobs.

H.R. 8 would raise taxes on 25 million American families by an average $1,000 by ending vital expansions of the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit and end the American Opportunity Tax Credit entirely. These 25 million families are earning the least and who rely on these credits to put more wages in their pockets, increase access to child care services, and make college more affordable. It would add to the deficit by extending tax breaks for the highest-earning households, giving millionaires a tax break savings of $160,000 annually. Republicans are holding the middle class hostage by demanding tax cut extensions for the richest 2 percent and by adding $50 billion to the deficit. What is even more egregious is that H.R. 8 would disproportionately affect those military families who sacrifice every day to protect our freedoms. The American middle class, including our military families, would see a tax increase on January 1, 2013 if we fail to come to an agreement on taxes for the top 2 percent.

I want to protect hard working Americans, including our military families. I support making sure everyone, especially the wealthiest Americans and large corporations, pays their fair share. That is why I am an original cosponsor of the Democratic Substitute to H.R. 8, which is identical to The Middle Class Tax Cut Act which passed the Senate last week. The Middle Class Tax Cut Act would preserve the current tax rates for 98 percent of Americans and only increase taxes on the richest 2

percent who earn the most and have seen the largest tax breaks over the last ten years. We can act now. If we pass The Middle Class Tax Cut Act today we can keep taxes low for the 98 percent of Americans who rely on the tax breaks and credits extended in this bill. Then we can separately debate the issue of extending the so-called Bush tax cuts for the wealthiest among us. Instead, the majority will adjourn today until September having done nothing to protect the middle class or to make sure everyone pays their fair share.

Under the Republicans' plan, 30.5 percent of tax cuts going to my home state, New Jersey, would go to the richest 1 percent, and 45.8 percent would go to the richest 5 percent. That is 76.3 percent of tax cuts going to the top 6 percent of state residents, leaving 23.7 percent of cuts for the remaining 94 percent of New Jerseyans.

I strongly support The Middle Class Tax Cut Act and the Democratic Substitute to H.R. 8. We can no longer afford to continue giving the biggest breaks to those who need them the least. It's time to put money back into the pockets of hard working Americans.

HONORING OTIS A. BRUMBY, JR.

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, there is a time-old saying that one can either be respected or loved, but not both, and that leaders should always strive towards the former. As one of the most beloved and well-regarded leaders in our community, though, and as only Otis could, he managed to be both.

My family moved to Marietta in 1975 and, like so many families, we got to know the Brumbys through Marietta City schools. Our children were in the same grades, played on the same sports teams, and went to one another's birthday parties. One of our daughters, Phyllis, was particularly close to Betsy Brumby. They were, as we called it, ''spend-the-night'' friends. Just like he and Martha Lee, their children were respectful and well-liked by everyone. Their son, Otis III (''Little O'') became the starting quarterback for the Marietta Blue Devils. My wife and I know how proud Otis and Martha Lee were on those Friday nights at Northcutt Stadium.

Otis was deeply involved in and steadfastly dedicated to Marietta schools. He was a staunch supporter of the Marietta School Board and, for a time, was a member himself. I began my political career on the Marietta School Board and have always admired his commitment to our local schools. In many ways—and for many reasons—he inspired me.

As the editor of the Marietta Daily Journal, Otis was always fair and even-handed. When he identified a problem, he drew attention to it, regardless of party affiliation. When he shined a light on something, he always left the situation better than he found it. Otis always sought the truth, but in his quest for it, he still treated everyone well. Besides being fair to Republicans and Democrats alike, the diehard Dawgs fan even managed to be gracious to this Georgia Tech alum.

Our community mourns his loss alongside his wife, children, and beautiful grandchildren. Otis will be deeply missed. But we will honor his memory today and every day. Because of one man's rich life, we've all gained so much.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT PATRICK J. WOOD

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual from the 44th Congressional District of California who has dedicated his life to defending the people of this country and preserving the basic freedoms and liberties that we hold dear. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Chief Master Sergeant Patrick J. Wood for his 26 years of dedicated service in the United States Air Force.

Chief Wood enlisted in the Air Force on June 26, 1986 after graduating from Divine Child High School in Dearborn, Michigan. After graduating from basic military training he was assigned to the 29th Mobile Aerial Port Squadron, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan as a Load Planner. In September of 1990, then-Staff Sergeant Wood joined Air Force Reserve Recruiting and was again assigned to Selfridge. While there, he was recognized as ''Rookie of the Year'' for the Recruiting Service, an honor given to the recruiter who enlists the most airmen during their first recruiting year.

This was the first of many recruiting awards Chief Wood would receive. His other accomplishments include numerous ''Two Per Week'' awards, ''Top Fifty'' recognition for 6 years, Top Senior Recruiter, and five consecutive ''Goal Excellence Awards'' for his operating locations. Chief Wood was also a distinguished graduate from the Non-Commissioned Officer Academy and Senior Non-Commissioned Officer Academy. In Recruiting Year 2011, his squadron enlisted more than 2,600 citizen airmen to become the ''Top Recruiting Squadron'' for that year.

As a result of his achievements, Chief Wood was eventually chosen to be the Superintendent of the largest squadron in Reserve Recruiting. During his 23 years in recruiting, Chief Wood was responsible for enlisting over 8,000 new citizen airmen. Chief Wood's innovative ideas and leadership positions allowed him to influence recruiter training practices to ensure that the Air Force Reserve Command met or exceeded goals for 12 consecutive years.

Most recently, Chief Wood has served as the Superintendent, Western Recruiting Squadron, Air Force Reserve Recruiting Service, March Air Reserve Base, California—the most senior ranking noncommissioned officer in the western region. In this role, he has been responsible for the oversight of recruiter production as well as the welfare of over 100 personnel across 17 states, one U.S. territory, and in three countries.

Chief Wood could not have been such a tremendous leader without the love and unfailing support of his wife Major Mia Wood (Retired), and his daughters Airman First Class Lauren Wood and Ashley Wood. Helping to build the foundation for success early in life were his father Alfred, a United States Marine Corps Veteran from the Korean War, and his mother Anna.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in expressing our sincere appreciation to Chief Master Sergeant Patrick J. Wood for his outstanding service to both the United States Air Force and our great Nation. Chief Wood will retire from the United States Air Force service with more than just his experience, decorated career and remarkable accomplishments. He will also have served as a shining example and constant reminder of what it means to be an American patriot and leader. I am grateful for his service and salute him as he retires from the United States Air Force.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF JAMES ''PAPPY'' DUNN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask for the House's attention today to honor Mr. James ''Pappy'' Dunn.

James ''Pappy'' Dunn was born in Georgia, and was married to the former Barbara Lawson, of Talladega, Alabama. Together they had five children (Jimmy, Claudette, Bertis and Anrae) and one grandchild.

In 1939, after earning a bachelor's degree from Alabama State University and a master's degree from Fisk University, Pappy began his career in education as a teacher and coach at Hobson City's Calhoun County Training School. During this time he served in World War II and oversaw the school's integration. In 1973, he was elected as the Alabama Education Association's second black president. Students remember him as someone who defined servant leadership. In 1986, Mr. Dunn retired as the school's principal.

After his retirement from education, Pappy was elected to the Calhoun County Commission. It was here that he was named ''The Anniston Star's'' Citizen of the Year in 1997. In 2005 he received the SCLC Calhoun County Chapter Humanitarian Award, and in 2008 he received the Association of County Commissions of Alabama Award for Outstanding Contribution to County Government.

Mr. Dunn was involved in numerous other organizations. These include the National Association of Counties' Health Steering Committee, the Anniston-Calhoun County Fort McClellan Joint Powers Authority, the East Alabama Regional Planning Commission, the Epsilon Delta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., the Community Action Agency, the Salvation Army, and the American Red Cross.

Mr. Speaker, I honor Mr. Dunn today and thank him for his dedication to Alabama's Third District.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S BELOVED, PAULA RIGGS

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Northwest Florida's beloved Paula Riggs. Mrs. Riggs was a dedicated public servant, a staple in the community, and all of Northwest Florida mourns her passing.

Paula Riggs was born in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba while her father was serving our nation in the United States Navy. As the daughter of a naval officer, her family moved around often; however, her parents instilled in Mrs. Riggs an everlasting love and affection for their native home in Northwest Florida. Her interest in public service began at a young age, when she would spend hours with her uncle Harold Goodwin, a former mayor of DeFuniak Springs, listening and learning.

After receiving her college degree from the University of North Florida, Paula Riggs decided to move her family to Northwest Florida to raise her four children along the Gulf Coast. Mrs. Riggs was a loving and devoted mother to her children, and she was also known throughout her community as a true neighbor who offered her kindness to all those she knew. She became a successful small business owner, before joining the Mary Esther City Council in 1995.

Mrs. Riggs' had a deep commitment to helping those who were most in need of assistance, and she continued her service to Northwest Florida in 1998 when she was elected as a County Commissioner for Okaloosa County, Florida. As a County Commissioner she was known for her assiduous work ethic and steadfast commitment to improving the community. In addition to her service on the County Commission, she served as Chairman of the Okaloosa-Walton County Transportation Planning Organization, as well as Chairman of the State Library Council, and her hard work and leadership earned her an appointment by Florida Governor Jeb Bush to serve on the Intergovernmental Relations Legislative Council. Although she was forced to step down from her position on the County Commission in 2004 due to illness, she remained a steadfast presence in the community.

To some, Paula Riggs will be remembered as a dedicated public servant and a successful small business owner. To others, she will be remembered as a generous and caring neighbor always willing to lend a hand. To her family, she will most fondly be remembered as a wonderful and loving mother to her four children and an inspiration to her two grandchildren. Her impact on Northwest Florida was immense, and her legacy will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pride to honor the life and service of Paula Riggs. My wife Vicki joins me in extending our most sincere condolences to the entire Riggs family.

JIM AND BOBBIE MELLO'S 70TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor Jim and Bobbie Mello on the occasion of their 70th Wedding Anniversary which they celebrated on September 6, 2012.

James Mello, born in Turlock on April 18, 1922, was destined to meet Barbara (Bobbie) McDonald, born in Turlock on April 12, 1926. Fate finally intervened on a summer day when they met when she was picnicking at Crane Park. Jim came by riding his horse and spotted her. Being a 20 year-old romantic, he devised a plan to meet Bobbie. The plan was to come back a while later and throw watermelons at her. Well, it worked perfectly, and Jim and Bobbie were married about two months later.

The plan was to borrow the best man's car and drive to Minden, Nevada on September 5, 1942, to marry. However, on that day, the best man had his tires repossessed. Undaunted, they borrowed the car of Jim's employer, drove to Minden, and were married the next day.

Two months later, in November, Jim left to join the U.S. Army. Bobbie moved back to live with her Grandmother, who had raised her and her younger sister, Gloria, since they were very young children. Three years later, Jim returned from World War II, where he served as a tanker under General George Patton and was in the famous ''Battle of the Bulge.''

After his return from service, he worked for Turlock Trenching Company. Jim and his brother-in-law, Clinton Hayes, bought the company in 1951 and ran it out of Jim and Bobbie's 10 acre ranch for many years. In 1987, Jim went to work for Swanson Farms until his retirement in 2003.

After Jim retired, he and Bobbie moved into their present home in the city of Turlock. They have two daughters—their eldest daughter is Sandra, married to Steve Vieira. Sandy and Steve just celebrated their 49th anniversary. Their youngest daughter, Janice, married Bob Borba. Jan and Bob will soon celebrate their 47th anniversary. Jim and Bobbie have four grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

In addition to running their own business, Jim and Bobbie were very involved in their community. Jim served 30 years as a volunteer fireman and retired as Assistant Chief of Turlock Rural Fire Department. They both are lifetime members of the Turlock Horsemen's Club and belong to several organizations including American Legion, VFW, Native Daughters of the Golden West, and have volunteered for many organizations and causes over the years. They serve as great role models for their family.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the partnership, love, and trust that aided Jim and Bobbie in reaching this milestone of an anniversary. Congratulations on the past 70 years, and I wish you the best success in the years to come.

HONORING THE CAREER OF MAJOR GENERAL GERALD L. PRATHER AND HIS BEING NAMED ''PERSON OF THE DECADE'' IN DEL RIO, TX BY THE BOY SCOUTS

HON. FRANCISCO ''QUICO'' CANSECO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. CANSECO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and career of a true American hero—Air Force Major General Gerald L. Prather. General Prather was born in LaGrange, Georgia in 1935. He enlisted in the Air Force in 1954, and received his pilot wings and commission in August of 1956. During his distinguished career, General Prather has flown F–84F's, F–100D's, C–130's, and was a B–52 pilot and training instructor. In 1967 he was assigned to Mactan Isle Airfield in the Philippines, where he completed more than 500 combat support missions in Southeast Asia. The general eventually became the commander of the European Communications Area in 1977, and was promoted to Major General in March of 1983, with date of rank July 1, 1979. General Prather's military decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star Medal with ''V'' device, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with two oak leaf cluster, Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, Air Force and Marine Presidential Unit Citation Emblems, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award Ribbon with oak leaf cluster, and the Air Force Organization Excellence Award Ribbon.

General Prather's life and career embodies the best of America and of our armed forces, and just recently he was named by the Boy Scouts as the ''Man of the Decade'' in Del Rio, TX, home of Laughlin Air Force Base. General Prather was also honored this past weekend when Laughlin Air Force base named a street on the base after him—a great honor for a great American.

As the representative of the 23rd District of Texas, which includes Del Rio and Laughlin Air Force Base, I wish to congratulate General Prather on his recent honors and thank him for a tremendous life of service to our nation.

NAVY LT. BRAD SNYDER EARNS OLYMPIC GOLD

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to provide my colleagues with an update on a remarkable young man, Navy Lt. Brad Snyder, of St. Petersburg, Florida, an American hero who lost his eye sight in Afghanistan while carrying out an extremely dangerous mission as a member of an explosive ordinance detail.

When I last reported to you in July, Lt. Snyder, who I had the privilege to appoint to the U.S. Naval Academy, had just qualified to represent the United States swim team at the London 2012 Paralympic Games. Today, I am proud to report to you that Lt. Snyder has brought home two gold medals and one silver

medal. He was one of the truly inspirational stories of these games. So inspirational in fact, that his teammates selected him to serve as the U.S. flag bearer for last night's closing ceremonies.

Lt. Snyder is symbolic of the indomitable spirit of our men and women in uniform in our all volunteer force. He volunteered to attend the U.S. Naval Academy and upon graduation he volunteered for assignment to the dangerous explosive ordinance disposal team. With injuries that would have devastated most people, he found the courage to reenter the pool to represent our nation in front of the world in such a dramatic manner.

You will recall that Brad was selected as the Captain of the Naval Academy Swim Team because his coaches, teammates, and fellow sailors all recognized his exceptional work ethic and trustworthy behavior. After graduating in May 2006, Lt. Snyder became an Explosive Ordinance Officer. He served for six months in Iraq and was deployed to Afghanistan on April 11, 2011. While his unit was on patrol there on September 7, 2011, the front of the patrol team set off an IED. While providing aid, Lt. Snyder stepped on a pressure plate, detonating another unseen IED. The second blast inflicted severe burns and permanently blinded him.

Less than two months after losing his sight, Lt. Snyder returned to the swimming pool and swam several hundred meters on his first attempt. Appropriately enough, it was one year to the date of his injuries that Brad won his second gold medal at the London Games.

As I said in July, I was struck when I went back and read Brad's candidate statement to me from 11 years ago as part of his application to the Naval Academy. In it he wrote, ''Initially it was Olympic gold that I dreamed of, but as reality set in I realized that the military was a more realistic dream. Today I dream that I will be an officer in the best Navy the world has ever seen, and I hope that my contributions to the Navy can help it grow strong.''

Mr. Speaker, Lt. Brad Snyder has achieved his goals on both fronts—serving our nation with honor as a United States Naval officer, and winning Olympic gold. Far greater though, is the way in which he demonstrated to the world the courage and commitment of all U.S. service members when he entered that pool and when he carried the Stars and Stripes into the Olympic Stadium. This is a remarkable young man with a remarkable story and he deserves the thanks and appreciation of all of the members of this House for a job well done.

JOB CREATION

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to urge Senate Democrats to halt President Obama's job-killing tax hike. According to one study, this massive tax increase would eliminate 700,000 jobs, raise taxes on the middle class, and deal a massive blow to our nation's economic engine, small businesses.

The President and his czars continue to burden our nation's job creators with onerous, anti-growth regulations. Along with his tax hikes and burdensome regulations, President Obama's health care law threatens patient access, raises taxes, and takes over one-sixth of the U.S. economy.

In the meantime, House Republicans have maintained a laser-like focus on jobs, passing more than 30 pro-growth jobs bills, which continue to stack up on Senator REID's desk.

Mr. Speaker, President Obama's economic policies have failed. This massive tax hike on the middle class is unsustainable and a hindrance to growth and job creation. I urge my colleagues in the Senate to take up our jobs bills and stop the tax hike.

HONORING THE LIFE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S BELOVED THOMAS SOLOMAN (T. SOL) JOHNSON

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the life of Northwest Florida's beloved Thomas Soloman (T. Sol) Johnson.

T. Sol Johnson was a lifelong resident of Northwest Florida who gained a well-earned reputation as one of the finest and most respected attorneys in Santa Rosa County. Mr. Johnson was raised in a household that respected and revered our Nation's legal system. His father, A.L. Johnson, established a successful practice in Santa Rosa County, in addition to his service as County Judge. After graduating from the University of Florida School of Law in 1963, T. Sol returned to his native Milton, Florida to join his father's practice, where he quickly distinguished himself as an exceedingly qualified and honest attorney.

T. Sol was a tireless advocate for his clients, and he often performed pro bono work to ensure that all those in need of legal counsel had access to the highest quality representation. In addition to his successful private practice, he served his community in multiple public capacities. He served on the Milton City Council from 1970–77, as attorney for the Santa Rosa Beach Administration from 1967–73, and as Santa Rosa County Attorney from 1977–81.

Outside of the courtroom, Mr. Johnson was a loving and committed family man with an unwavering devotion to the Lord. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Milton, and he served his church in various capacities as a Trustee, Sunday School Teacher, R.A. Leader, and constant volunteer on mission trips. Mr. Johnson is survived by his wife of 31 years, Mary; his four sons, Robert, Jon, Bradley, and Steven; fourteen grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

To some, T. Sol Johnson will be remembered as a world class attorney of impeccable repute. To others, he will be remembered as a leader in the Northwest Florida community. To his friends and family, he will be remembered most fondly as a loving and devoted family man. His tireless work and immense contributions to the community cannot be overstated. Northwest Florida has truly suffered a great loss with his passing.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pride to honor the life and service of Thomas Soloman Johnson. My wife Vicki joins me in extending our most sincere condolences to the entire Johnson family.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Ccommittee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, September 11, 2012 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 12

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 3469, to establish a new organization to manage nuclear waste, provide a consensual process for siting nuclear waste facilities, ensure adequate funding for managing nuclear waste.

SD–366

10 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

Clean Air and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee

To hold a joint oversight hearing to examine the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) implementation of recommendations for enhancing nuclear reactor safety in the 21st century.

SD–406

Foreign Relations

To receive a closed briefing on an intelligence update on Syria and Iran.

SVC–217

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the future of the General Services Administration.

SD–342

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the Citizens United court and the continuing importance of the ''Voting Rights Act''.

SD–226

Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR–418

2 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the path from low-Earth orbit (LEO) to Mars.

SR–253

2:45 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joseph E. Macmanus, of New

York, to be Representative to the Vienna Office of the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador, and to be Representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency, with the rank of Ambassador, Sharon English Woods Villarosa, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mauritius, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Seychelles, and Walter North, of Washington, to be Ambassador to Papua New Guinea, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Solomon Islands, and Ambassador to the Republic of Vanuatu, all of the Department of State.

SD–419

SEPTEMBER 13

9:30 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Investigations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine issues related to the quality of disability benefit awards involving 300 case files of claimants under the Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplement Security Income (SSI) programs involving initial applications and subsequent levels of appeal.

SD–342

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine holding the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) accountable, focusing on a review of the semi-annual report to Congress.

SD–538

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 645, to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a permanent background check system, H.R. 2471, to amend section 2710 of title 18, United States Code, to clarify that a video tape service provider may obtain a consumer's informed, written consent on an ongoing basis and that consent may be obtained through the Internet, S. 3486, to implement the provisions of the Hague Agreement and the Patent Law Treaty, S. 1894, to deter terrorism, provide justice for victims, S. 3250, to amend the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 to provide for Debbie Smith grants for auditing sexual assault evidence backlogs and to establish a Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Registry, S. 3523, Innovative Design Protection Act, and the nomination of William Joseph Baer, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice.

SD–226

10:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations Stephen D. Mull, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Poland, and Dawn M. Liberi, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Burundi, both of the Department of State.

SD–419

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine improving college affordability, focusing on a view from the states.

SD–430

2:15 p.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 675, to express the policy of the United States regarding the United States relationship with Native Hawaiians and to provide a process for the recognition by the United States of the Native Hawaiian governing entity, S. 1345, to provide for equitable compensation to the Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation for the use of tribal land for the production of hydropower by the Grand Coulee Dam, and S. 1684, to amend the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act of 2005, to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine the impacts of the Carcieri and Patchak decisions.

SD–628

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH–219

SEPTEMBER 14

2:30 p.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Kevin K. Washburn, of New Mexico, to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs.

SD–628

SEPTEMBER 19

10 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine homeland threats and agency responses.

SD–342

2:15 p.m.

Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 2215, to create jobs in the United States by increasing United States exports to Africa by at least 200 percent in real dollar value within 10 years, S. 2318, to authorize the Secretary of State to pay a reward to combat transnational organized crime and for information concerning foreign nationals wanted by international criminal tribunals, S. 3310, to direct the President, in consultation with the Department of State, United States Agency for International Development, Millennium Challenge Corporation, and the Department of Defense, to establish guidelines for United States foreign assistance programs, S. 3331, to provide for universal intercountry adoption accreditation standards, S. 3341, to require a quadrennial diplomacy and development review, S. Con. Res. 50, expressing the sense of Congress regarding actions to preserve and advance the multistakeholder governance model under which the Internet has thrived, S. Res. 516, expressing the sense of the Senate on the restitution of or compensation for property seized during the Nazi and Communist eras, the nominations of Richard G. Olson, of New Mexico, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Department of State, and John Hardy Isakson, of Georgia, and Patrick J. Leahy, of Vermont, both to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-seventh Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, and lists in the Foreign Service.

S–116, Capitol

2:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine investing in an effective Federal workforce.

SD–628

SEPTEMBER 20

2:15 p.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine advancing the Federal-tribal relationship through self-governance and self-determination.

SD–628

SEPTEMBER 25

2 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine improving financial accountability at the Department of Defense.

SD–342

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6023–S6074

Measures Introduced: Four bills were introduced, as follows: S. 3522–3525. **Pages S6062–63**

Measures Reported:

Reported on Tuesday, August 28, during the adjournment:

Report to accompany S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017. (S. Rept. No. 112–203)

S. 1002, to prohibit theft of medical products, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 112–204)

S. 1515, to permit certain members of the United States Secret Service and certain members of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division who were appointed in 1984, 1985, or 1986 to elect to be covered under the District of Columbia Police and Firefighter Retirement and Disability System in the same manner as members appointed prior to 1984, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 112–205)

H.R. 915, to establish a Border Enforcement Security Task Force program to enhance border security by fostering coordinated efforts among Federal, State, and local border and law enforcement officials to protect United States border cities and communities from trans-national crime, including violence associated with drug trafficking, arms smuggling, illegal alien trafficking and smuggling, violence, and kidnapping along and across the international borders of the United States, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 112–206)

S. 3193, to make technical corrections to the legal description of certain land to be held in trust for the Barona Band of Mission Indians. (S. Rept. No. 112–207)

S. 3521, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions. (S. Rept. No. 112–208)

Reported on Monday, September 10:

S. 3524, to deter the evasion of antidumping and countervailing duty orders. (S. Rept. No. 112–209) **Page S6062**

Measures Considered:

Veterans Jobs Corps Act: Senate resumed consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3457, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a veterans jobs corps. **Pages S6025–33, S6038–45**

September 11th Observance—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 11 a.m., on Tuesday, September 11, 2012, there be a moment of silence in observance of the 11th anniversary of the attacks on September 11, 2001. **Page S6066**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 89 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. EX. 190), Stephanie Marie Rose, of Iowa, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Iowa. **Pages S6033–38, S6074**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

5 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

6 Army nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Foreign Service, and Navy. **Page S6066**

Messages from the House: **Pages S6054–55**

Measures Referred: **Page S6055**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Pages S6055, S6066**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S6055, S6066**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S6055**

Executive Communications: **Pages S6055–62**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S6063–65**

Additional Statements: **Pages S6051–54**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S6065**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S6065**

Privileges of the Floor: **Pages S6065–66**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—190) **Page S6037**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 7:54 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, September 11, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6067.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 9 — public bills, H.R. 6363–6369; and 4 resolutions, H.J. Res. 117; and H. Res. 774–776 were introduced. **Pages H5764–65**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H5765–67**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 4057, to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to develop a comprehensive policy to improve outreach and transparency to veterans and members of the Armed Forces through the provision of information on institutions of higher learning, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–646);

H.R. 6215, to amend the Trademark Act of 1946 to correct an error in the provisions relating to remedies for dilution (H. Rept. 112–647);

H.R. 6189, to eliminate unnecessary reporting requirements for unfunded programs under the Office of Justice Programs (H. Rept. 112–648);

H.R. 4305, to authorize the Attorney General to provide a grant to assist Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies in the rapid recovery of missing individuals, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–649);

H.R. 1775, to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a criminal offense relating to fraudulent claims about military service, with amendments (H. Rept. 112–650);

H.R. 2800, to amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 to reauthorize the Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–651);

H.R. 6213, to limit further taxpayer exposure from the loan guarantee program established under title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–652, Pt. 1);

H.R. 6131, to extend the Undertaking Spam, Spyware, And Fraud Enforcement With Enforcers beyond Borders Act of 2006, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–653);

S. 710, to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a hazardous waste electronic manifest system, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–654);

H.R. 5544, to authorize and expedite a land exchange involving National Forest System land in the Laurentian District of the Superior National Forest and certain other National Forest System land in the State of Minnesota that has limited recreational and conservation resources and lands owned by the State of Minnesota in trust for the public school system that are largely scattered in checkerboard fashion within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and have important recreational, scenic, and conservation resources, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–655);

H.R. 2706, to prohibit the sale of billfish, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–656);

H.R. 6007, to exempt from the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 certain water transfers by the North Texas Municipal Water District and the Greater Texoma Utility Authority (H. Rept. 112–657);

H.R. 5319, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the mainstem of the Nashua River and its tributaries in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–658);

H.R. 5865, to promote the growth and competitiveness of American manufacturing, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–659, Pt. 1);

H. Res. 773, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5544) to authorize and expedite a land exchange involving National Forest System land in the Laurentian District of the Superior National Forest and certain other National Forest System land in the State of Minnesota that has limited recreational and conservation resources and lands owned by the State of Minnesota in trust for the public school system that are largely scattered in checkerboard fashion within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and have important recreational, scenic, and conservation resources, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5949) to

extend the FISA Amendments Act of 2008 for five years (H. Rept. 112–660);

H.R. 6185, to improve security at State and local courthouses (H. Rept. 112–661, Pt. 1);

H.R. 6080, to make improvements in the enactment of title 41, United States Code, into a positive law title and to improve the Code (H. Rept. 112–662); and

H.R. 1974, to require the Public Printer to establish and maintain a website accessible to the public that allows the public to obtain electronic copies of all congressionally mandated reports in one place, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–663, Pt. 1). **Page H5764**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Womack to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H5729**

Member Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Dennis Cardoza, wherein he resigned as Representative for the Eighteenth Congressional District of California, effective at midnight on August 15, 2012. **Page H5729**

Whole Number of the House: The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from California, Mr. Cardoza, the whole number of the House is 430. **Page H5729**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:05 p.m. and reconvened at 4 p.m. **Page H5730**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Cabin Fee Act: H.R. 3397, amended, to modify the Forest Service Recreation Residence Program by implementing a simple, equitable, and predictable procedure for determining cabin user fees; **Pages H5730–32**

Billfish Conservation Act: H.R. 2706, amended, to prohibit the sale of billfish; **Pages H5732–33**

North Texas Zebra Mussel Barrier Act of 2012: H.R. 6007, amended, to exempt from the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 certain water transfers by the North Texas Municipal Water District and the Greater Texoma Utility Authority; **Pages H5733–34**

American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act of 2012: H.R. 2489, amended, to authorize the acquisition and protection of nationally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 under the American Battlefield Protection Program; **Pages H5735–36**

Lions Clubs International Century of Service Commemorative Coin Act: H.R. 2139, amended, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the establishment of Lions Clubs International, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 376 yeas to 2 nays with 1 answering ''present'', Roll No. 558; **Pages H5740–42, H5747–48**

Requiring a study of voluntary community-based flood insurance options and how such options could be incorporated into the national flood insurance program: H.R. 6186, to require a study of voluntary community-based flood insurance options and how such options could be incorporated into the national flood insurance program, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 364 yeas to 11 nays, Roll No. 559; **Pages H5736–37, H5748–49**

Revising the authority of the Librarian of Congress to accept gifts and bequests on behalf of the Library: H.R. 6122, to revise the authority of the Librarian of Congress to accept gifts and bequests on behalf of the Library, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 377 yeas with none voting ''nay'', Roll No. 557; **Pages H5742–43, H5747**

Amending the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election for Federal office to designate an individual who will be authorized to disburse funds: H.R. 406, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election for Federal office to designate an individual who will be authorized to disburse funds of the authorized campaign committees of the candidate in the event of the death of the candidate; **Pages H5743–44**

Providing funding to ensure the printing and production of the authorized number of copies of the revised and updated version of the House document entitled ''Hispanic Americans in Congress'': H. Con. Res. 132, to provide funding to ensure the printing and production of the authorized number of copies of the revised and updated version of the House document entitled ''Hispanic Americans in Congress''; and **Pages H5744–45**

Directing the Joint Committee on the Library to accept a statue depicting Frederick Douglass from the District of Columbia: H.R. 6336, amended, to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to accept a statue depicting Frederick Douglass from the District of Columbia and to provide for the permanent display of the statue in Emancipation Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center. **Pages H5745–46**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: ''To direct the Joint Committee on the Library to accept a statue depicting Frederick Douglass from the District of Columbia and to provide for the permanent display of the statue in Emancipation Hall of the United States Capitol.''. **Page H5746**

Recess: The House recessed at 5:21 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H5746**

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed:

FHA Emergency Fiscal Solvency Act of 2012: H.R. 4264, amended, to help ensure the fiscal solvency of the FHA mortgage insurance programs of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Pages H5737–40

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H5747, H5748 and H5748–49. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Committee Meetings

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs held a hearing on H.R. 6040, the "Continued Free Association with Palau Act of 2012"; and H.R. 6147, the "Ronald Wilson Reagan Exclusive Economic Zone of the United States". Testimony was heard from Anthony M. Babauta, Assistant Secretary, Office of Insular Affairs, Department of the Interior; Edgard D. Kagan, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Areas, Department of State; and David Gootnick, Director, International Affairs and Trade, Government Accountability Office.

MINNESOTA EDUCATION INVESTMENT AND EMPLOYMENT ACT; AND FISA AMENDMENTS ACT REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2012

Committee on Rules: The Committee granted, by a record vote, a structured rule for H.R. 5544. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided among and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 112–30, as modified by the amendment printed in Part A of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only those further amendments to H.R. 5544 printed in Part B of the Rules Committee report. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in Part B of the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit H.R. 5544 with or without instructions. The resolution further provides for a closed rule for H.R. 5949. The rule provides one hour of debate, with 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit H.R. 5949 with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Hastings (WA), and Representatives Marino, Ruppersberger, Grijalva, and McCollum (MN).

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, *p. D812)*

H.R. 2527, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Signed on August 3, 2012. (Public Law 112–152)

S. 1335, to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide rights for pilots. Signed on August 3, 2012. (Public Law 112–153)

H.R. 1627, to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish hospital care and medical services to veterans who were stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, while the water was contaminated at Camp Lejeune, to improve the provision of housing assistance to veterans and their families. Signed on August 6, 2012. (Public Law 112–154)

H.R. 5872, to require the President to provide a report detailing the sequester required by the Budget Control Act of 2011 on January 2, 2013. Signed on August 7, 2012. (Public Law 112–155)

H.R. 1369, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1021 Pennsylvania Avenue in Hartshorne, Oklahoma, as the "Warren Lindley Post Office". Signed on August 10, 2012. (Public Law 112–156)

H.R. 1560, to amend the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Alabama and Coushatta Indian Tribes of Texas

Restoration Act to allow the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Tribe to determine blood quantum requirement for membership in that tribe. Signed on August 10, 2012. (Public Law 112–157)

H.R. 1905, to strengthen Iran sanctions laws for the purpose of compelling Iran to abandon its pursuit of nuclear weapons and other threatening activities. Signed on August 10, 2012. (Public Law 112–158)

H.R. 3276, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2810 East Hillsborough Avenue in Tampa, Florida, as the ''Reverend Abe Brown Post Office Building''. Signed on August 10, 2012. (Public Law 112–159)

H.R. 3412, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1421 Veterans Memorial Drive in Abbeville, Louisiana, as the ''Sergeant Richard Franklin Abshire Post Office Building''. Signed on August 10, 2012. (Public Law 112–160)

H.R. 3501, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 125 Kerr Avenue in Rome City, Indiana, as the ''SPC Nicholas Scott Hartge Post Office''. Signed on August 10, 2012. (Public Law 112–161)

H.R. 3772, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 150 South Union Street in Canton, Mississippi, as the ''First Sergeant Landres Cheeks Post Office Building''. Signed on August 10, 2012. (Public Law 112–162)

H.R. 5986, to amend the African Growth and Opportunity Act to extend the third-country fabric program and to add South Sudan to the list of countries eligible for designation under that Act, to make technical corrections to the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States relating to the textile and apparel rules of origin for the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement, to approve the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003. Signed on August 10, 2012. (Public Law 112–163)

S. 270, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to Deschutes County, Oregon. Signed on August 10, 2012. (Public Law 112–164)

S. 271, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into a property conveyance with the city of Wallowa, Oregon. Signed on August 10, 2012. (Public Law 112–165)

S. 679, to reduce the number of executive positions subject to Senate confirmation. Signed on August 10, 2012. (Public Law 112–166)

S. 739, to authorize the Architect of the Capitol to establish battery recharging stations for privately owned vehicles in parking areas under the jurisdiction of the Senate at no net cost to the Federal Government. Signed on August 10, 2012. (Public Law 112–167)

S. 1959, to require a report on the designation of the Haqqani Network as a foreign terrorist organization. Signed on August 10, 2012. (Public Law 112–168)

S. 3363, to provide for the use of National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center Commemorative Coin surcharges. Signed on August 10, 2012. (Public Law 112–169)

H.R. 1402, to authorize the Architect of the Capitol to establish battery recharging stations for privately owned vehicles in parking areas under the jurisdiction of the House of Representatives at no net cost to the Federal Government. Signed on August 16, 2012. (Public Law 112–170)

H.R. 3670, to require the Transportation Security Administration to comply with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act. Signed on August 16, 2012. (Public Law 112–171)

H.R. 4240, to reauthorize the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004. Signed on August 16, 2012. (Public Law 112–172)

S. 3510, to prevent harm to the national security or endangering the military officers and civilian employees to whom internet publication of certain information applies. Signed on August 16, 2012. (Public Law 112–173)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of September 11 through September 14, 2012

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S3457, Veterans Jobs Corps Act, with a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed at 2:15 p.m.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: September 13, to hold hearings to examine holding the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) accountable, focusing on a review of the semi-annual report to Congress, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: September 12, to hold hearings to examine the path from low-Earth orbit (LEO) to Mars, 2 p.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: September 12, to hold hearings to examine S. 3469, to establish a new organization to manage nuclear waste, provide a consensual process for siting nuclear waste facilities, ensure adequate funding for managing nuclear waste, 9:30 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: September 12, with the Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety, to hold a joint oversight hearing to examine the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) implementation of recommendations for enhancing nuclear reactor safety in the 21st century, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: September 12, to receive a closed briefing on an intelligence update on Syria and Iran, 10 a.m., SVC–217.

September 12, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joseph E. Macmanus, of New York, to be Representative to the Vienna Office of the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador, and to be Representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency, with the rank of Ambassador, Sharon English Woods Villarosa, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mauritius, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Seychelles, and Walter North, of Washington, to be Ambassador to Papua New Guinea, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Solomon Islands, and Ambassador to the Republic of Vanuatu, all of the Department of State, 2:45 p.m., SD–419.

September 13, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations Stephen D. Mull, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Poland, and Dawn M. Liberi, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Burundi, both of the Department of State, 10:30 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: September 13, to hold hearings to examine improving college affordability, focusing on a view from the states, 10:30 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: September 12, to hold hearings to examine the future of the General Services Administration, 10 a.m., SD–342.

September 13, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine issues related to the quality of disability benefit awards involving 300 case files of claimants under the Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplement Security Income (SSI) programs involving initial applications and subsequent levels of appeal, 9:30 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: September 13, business meeting to consider S. 675, to express the policy of the United States regarding the United States relationship with Native Hawaiians and to provide a process for the recognition by the United States of the Native Hawaiian governing entity, S. 1345, to provide for equitable compensation to the Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation for the use of tribal land for the production of hydropower by the Grand Coulee Dam, and S. 1684, to amend the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act of 2005, to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine the impacts of the Carcieri and Patchak decisions, 2:15 p.m., SD–628.

September 14, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Kevin K. Washburn, of New Mexico, to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: September 12, to hold hearings to examine the Citizens United court and the continuing importance of the "Voting Rights Act", 10 a.m., SD–226.

September 13, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 645, to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a permanent background check system, H.R. 2471, to amend section 2710 of title 18, United States Code, to clarify that a video tape service provider may obtain a consumer's informed, written consent on an ongoing basis and that consent may be obtained through the Internet, S. 3486, to implement the provisions of the Hague Agreement and the Patent Law Treaty, S. 1894, to deter terrorism, provide justice for victims, S. 3250, to amend the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 to provide for Debbie Smith grants for auditing sexual assault evidence backlogs and to establish a Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Registry, S. 3523, Innovative Design Protection Act, and the nomination of William Joseph Baer, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: September 12, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SR–418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: September 13, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House Committees

Committee on Armed Services, September 11, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation, on Navy shipbuilding and impacts on the defense industrial base in a time of fiscal uncertainly, 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

September 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Operational Support: Learning from the Past and Preparing for the Future", 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

September 13, Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, hearing on F–22 pilot physiological issues, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

September 13, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on the Federal Voting Assistance Program, 11:30 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

September 13, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing on Y–12 Intrusion: Investigation, Response, and Accountability, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

September 14, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on Department of Defense Auditability Challenges, 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, September 12, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pension; and Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training, joint hearing entitled ''Expanding the Power of Big Labor: The NRLB's Growing Intrusion into Higher Education'', 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, September 11, Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy, hearing entitled ''The Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program—A Progress Report'', 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

September 11, Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing on H.R. 4255, the ''Accountability in Grants Act of 2012'', 10:15 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

September 11, Subcommittee on Health, markup of the following: H.R. 1206, the ''Access to Professional Health Insurance Advisors Act of 2011''; H.R. 6118, the ''Taking Essential Steps for Testing Act of 2012''; H.R. 1063, the ''Strengthening Medicare and Repaying Taxpayers Act of 2011''; H.R. 6163, the ''National Pediatric Research Network Act of 2012''; H.R. 4124, the ''Veteran Emergency Medical Technician Support Act of 2012''; and H.R. 733, the ''Pancreatic Cancer Research and Education Act of 2012'', 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

September 12, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade, hearing entitled ''Where the Jobs Are: There's an App for That'', 9:45 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

September 12, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled ''DOE's Nuclear Weapons Complex: Challenges to Safety, Security, and Taxpayer Stewardship'', 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

September 13, Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing entitled ''The American Energy Initiative'', 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

September 13, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled ''Creating Opportunities through Improved Government Spectrum Efficiency'', 10:15 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

September 14, Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing entitled ''The American Energy Initiative'', 9:45 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

September 14, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled ''Title 42—A Review of Special Hiring Authorities'', 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, September 11, Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity, hearing entitled ''TRIA at Ten Years: The Future of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program'', 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

September 12, Full Committee, markup of H.R. 2827, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to clarify provisions relating to the regulation of municipal advisors, and for other purposes; and the ''Vulnerable Veterans Housing Reform Act of 2102'', 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

September 13, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled ''Examining the Uses of Consumer Credit Data'', 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

September 14, Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity, hearing entitled ''Housing for Heroes: Examining How Federal Programs Can Better Serve Veterans'', 9:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, September 12, Full Committee, markup of H.R. 6313, to promote peaceful and collaborative resolution of maritime territorial disputes in the South China Sea and its environs and other maritime areas adjacent to the East Asian mainland; and hearing entitled ''Beijing as an Emerging Power in the South China Sea'', 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

September 12, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations; and Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights, joint hearing entitled ''Organ Harvesting of Religious and Political Dissidents by the Chinese Communist Party'', 2:00 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

September 13, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, hearing entitled ''Combating the Haqqani Terrorist Network'', 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

September 13, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights, hearing entitled ''Assessing U.S. Policy on Peacekeeping Operations in Africa'', 3 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

September 13, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled ''Conditions at Camp Liberty: U.S. and Iraqi Failures'', 3 p.m., 2255 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, September 11, Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security, hearing entitled ''Eleven Year Later: Preventing Terrorists from Coming to America'', 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

September 11, Subcommittee on Transportation Security, hearing entitled ''Eleven Years After 9/11 Can TSA Evolve To Meet the Next Terrorist Threat?'', 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

September 12, Subcommittee on Cybersecurity Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies, hearing entitled ''The EMP Threat: Examining the Consequences'', 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

September 12, Subcommittee on Emergency Prepardness, Response, and Communication, hearing entitled ''Resilient Communications: Current Challenges and Future Advancements'', 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

September 13, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications; and Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies, joint hearing entitled ''BioWatch Present and Future: Meeting Mission Needs for Effective Biosurveillance?'', 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

September 14, Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Management, hearing entitled ''Lessons From Fort Hood: Improving our Ability to Connect the Dots'', 9 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, September 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The Obama Administration's Abuse of Power'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, September 10, Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs, hearing on H.R. 6040, the ''Continued Free Association with Palau Act of 2012''; and H.R. 6147, the Ronald Wilson Reagan Exclusive Economic Zone of the United States, 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

September 11, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The Chu Memorandum: Directives Could Increase Electricity Costs for over 40 Million Families and Small Businesses'', 11:30 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

September 11, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, hearing on the ''Frank Buckles World War I Memorial Act''; and H.R. 4969, the ''California Coastal National Monument Expansion Act of 2012'', 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

September 13, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Committee Oversight of Department of the Interior: Questioning of Key Department of the Interior Officials'', 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

September 14, Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs, hearing entitled ''Per Capita Act and Federal Treatment of Trust Per Capita Distributions'', 11 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, September 12, Subcommittee on National Security, Homeland Defense and Foreign Operations hearing entitled ''Dawood National Military Hospital Afghanistan: What Happened and What Went Wrong? Part II'', 9:45 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

September 13, Subcommittee on TARP, Financial Services, and Bailouts of Public and Private Programs and the Committee on Financial Services' Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises, joint hearing entitled ''The JOBS Act: Importance of Prompt Implementation for Entrepreneurs, Capital Formation, and Job Creation'', 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

September 13, Subcommittee on National Security, Homeland Defense and Foreign Operations, hearing entitled ''SIGAR Report: Document Destruction and Millions of Dollars Unaccounted for at the Department of Defense'', 10 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, September 12, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 6213, the ''No More Solyndras Act''; the ''National Security and Job Protection Act''; and ''Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013'', 3 p.m., H–313, Capitol.

Committee on Small Business, September 11, Subcommittee on Healthcare and Technology, hearing entitled ''Medicare's Durable Medical Equipment Competitive Bidding Program: How are Small Suppliers Faring?'', 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

September 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''User Fees in the Aviation Industry: Turbulence Ahead'', 1 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

September 13, Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Capital Access and Tax, hearing entitled ''Adding to Uncertainty: Small Businesses' Perspectives on the Tax Cliff'', 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, September 12, Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, hearing entitled ''Examining NASA's Development of the Space Launch System and Orion Crew Capsule'', 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

September 12, Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, hearing entitled ''Mismanagement of Funds at the National Weather Service and the Impact on the Future of Weather Forecasting'', 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

September 14, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Recent Developments in NASA's Commercial Crew Acquisition Strategy'', 9:30 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, September 11, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''A Review of Amtrak Operations Part 2: The High Cost of Amtrak's Monopoly Mentality in Commuter Rail Competitions'', 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

September 11, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled ''Tenth Anniversary of the Maritime Transportation Security Act: Are We Safer?'', 9:30 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

September 13, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing entitled ''Evaluating the Effectiveness of DOT's Truck and Bus Safety Program'', 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

September 14, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled ''A Review of the Challenges Maintaining Legacy Assets Pose to United States Coast Guard Mission Performance'', 9 a.m., 2243 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, September 14, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled ''VA Fee Basis Care: Flawed Policies not a Fix for a Flawed System'', 9:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, September 11, Subcommittee on Oversight, hearing entitled ''Internal Revenue Service's (''IRS'') implementation and administration of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010'', 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

September 12, Subcommittee on Social Security, hearing entitled ''Direct Deposit of Social Security Benefits'', 9 a.m., B–318 Rayburn.

September 12, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled ''Implementation of Health Insurance Exchanges and Related Provisions'', 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

September 14, Subcommittee on Social Security, hearing entitled ''Securing the Future of the Social Security Disability Insurance Program'', 9:30 a.m., B–318 Rayburn.

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, September 13, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Investigation of the Security Threat Posed by Chinese Telecommunications Companies Huawei and ZTE'', 10 a.m., HVC–210.

Résumé of Congressional Activity

SECOND SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House. The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

January 3 through August 31, 2012

	Senate	*House*	*Total*
Days in session	101	103	..
Time in session	667 hrs., 40′	563 hrs., 56′	..
Congressional Record:			
Pages of proceedings	S 6,021	H 5,728	..
Extensions of remarks	..	E 1,448	..
Public bills enacted into law	22	61	83
Private bills enacted into law	..	..	..
Bills in conference	..	..	..
Measures passed, total	266	292	558
Senate bills	37	23	..
House bills	60	186	..
Senate joint resolutions	1	..	..
House joint resolutions	..	1	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	11	8	..
House concurrent resolutions	12	14	..
Simple resolutions	145	60	..
Measures reported, total	* 157	* 256	413
Senate bills	112	10	..
House bills	28	204	..
Senate joint resolutions	1	..	..
House joint resolutions	..	..	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	..	..	..
House concurrent resolutions	..	2	..
Simple resolutions	16	40	..
Special reports	5	26	..
Conference reports	3	3	..
Measures pending on calendar	358	88	..
Measures introduced, total	1,728	2,922	4,650
Bills	1,490	2,598	..
Joint resolutions	16	19	..
Concurrent resolutions	26	41	..
Simple resolutions	196	264	..
Quorum calls	..	1	..
Yea-and-nay votes	189	175	..
Recorded votes	..	** 379	..
Bills vetoed	..	..	..
Vetoes overridden	..	..	..

* These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 106 written reports have been filed in the Senate, 285 reports have been filed in the House.

** Proceedings on Roll Call No. 327 were vacated by unanimous consent.

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

January 3 through August 31, 2012

Civilian nominations, totaling 362 (including 188 nominations carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	205
Unconfirmed	140
Withdrawn	16
Returned to the White House	1
Other civilian nominations, totaling 3,764 (including 167 nominations carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	1,203
Unconfirmed	2,558
Withdrawn	3
Air Force nominations, totaling 5,767 (including 295 nominations carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	2,130
Unconfirmed	3,636
Withdrawn	1
Army nominations, totaling 4,447 (including 16 nominations carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	4,411
Unconfirmed	35
Withdrawn	1
Navy nominations, totaling 3,047 (including 1 nomination carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	1,816
Unconfirmed	1,231
Marine Corps nominations, totaling 1,310, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	1,310

Summary

Total nominations carried over from the First Session	667
Total nominations received this Session	18,030
Total confirmed	11,075
Total unconfirmed	7,600
Total withdrawn	21
Total returned to the White House	1

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, September 11

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: The Majority Leader will be recognized. At 11 a.m., Senate will conduct a moment of silence in observance of the 11th anniversary of the attacks on September 11, 2001.

At 2:15 p.m., Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3457, Veterans Jobs Corps Act.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, September 11

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of the following measures under suspension of the rules: 1) H.R. 4631—Government Spending Accountability Act of 2012, as amended; 2) H.R. 538—Government Customer Service Improvement Act, as amended; 3) H.R. 4057—Improving Transparency of Education Opportunities for Veterans Act of 2012, as amended; 4) H.R. 4305—Child and Elderly Missing Alert Program; 5) H.R. 6215—To amend the Trademark Act of 1946 to correct an error in the provisions relating to remedies for dilution, as amended; 6) H.R. 6185—Local Courthouse Safety Act of 2012, as amended; 7) H.R. 1775—Stolen Valor Act; 8) H.R. 6080—To make improvements in the enactment of title 41, United States Code, into a positive law title and to improve the code; 9) H.R. 2800—To amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 to reauthorize the Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program; 10) H.R. 6189—To eliminate unnecessary reporting requirements for unfunded programs under the Office of Justice Programs, as amended; 11) S. 3245—A bill to extend by 3 years the authorization of the EB–5 Regional Center Program, the E-Verify Program, the Special Immigrant Nonminister Religious Worker Program, and the Conrad State 30 J–1 Visa Waiver Program; 12) H.R. 6131—To extend the Undertaking Spam, Spyware, and Fraud Enforcement With Enforcers beyond Borders Act of 2006, and for other purposes; 13) S. 710—Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest Establishment Act; 14) H.R. 5865—American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act of 2012; 15) H.R. 3857—Public Transit Security and Local Law Enforcement Support Act; 16) H.R. 6028—No-Hassle Flying Act of 2012; 17) H.R. 1410—Vietnam Human Rights Act; 18) H. Res. 484—Calling on the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to respect basic human rights and cease abusing vague national security provisions such as articles 79 and 88 of the Vietnamese penal code which are often the pretext to arrest and detain citizens who peacefully advocate for religious and political freedom; 19) H.R. 1464—North Korean Refugee Adoption Act; 20) H. Res. 177—Expressing support for internal rebuilding, resettlement, and reconciliation within Sri Lanka that are necessary to ensure a lasting peace; and 21) S. Con. Res. 17—A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Taiwan should be accorded observer status in the International Civil Aviation Organization.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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